



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Trade Sub-Committee

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 9 September
2009

Chair: Ms Janelle Saffin MP
Deputy: Hon Bruce Scott MP

Inquiry into Trade and Investment Relations with Asia, the Pacific and Latin America – Public Hearing

The Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade is conducting an inquiry into Australia’s Trade and Investment Relations with Asia, the Pacific and Latin America.

Janelle Saffin, Chair of the Trade Sub-Committee, said that “the inquiry is investigating ways to expand Australia’s trade and investment opportunities in countries that account for three-quarters of Australia’s total trade.”

Trade and investment in these regions are of growing importance to Australia and the inquiry is seeking ways to help Australian companies, particularly those in regional areas, make the most of current and developing opportunities.

Ms Saffin continued: “as the world financial crisis shows some signs of abating, it becomes all the more important to grasp new opportunities to develop our trade and investment relations. The Sub-Committee will be seeking to put some solid recommendations to the Government on ways to achieve those goals.

On Friday 11 September, the Sub-Committee will hold a further Public Hearing. It will hear evidence from several important organisations that are playing a prominent role in developing our trade and investment links with the countries covered by the inquiry’s terms of reference. The hearing will be held in Committee Room 2 R 1 commencing at 9:00am and concluding at about 1:15pm.

Submissions to the inquiry are still being accepted and may be emailed to jscfadt@aph.gov.au. Paper-based submissions should be directed to the Trade Sub-Committee, R1–120, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600 and accompanied by an electronic version on disk.

Program for Public Hearing – 11 September 2009	
9:00am	Medicines Australia
9:45am	Universities Australia
10:45am	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
11:30am	The Law Council of Australia
12:15pm	Austrade

For all inquiries, including the full terms of reference, please contact the Principal Research Officer of the Trade Sub-Committee by phone on (02) 6277 4547, via email at jscfadt@aph.gov.au or visit the inquiry website at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/reports.htm>