

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

The committee met on Wednesday, 5 June 2013 from 9.00 am until 10.28 pm.

The committee called:

- the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

Among other issues, the following matters were discussed:

- the detention of Mr Latif, including his arrival in Australia as an irregular maritime arrival, his detention in a low security facility, DFAT's awareness of Mr Latif and the protocols for notifying DFAT, the sharing of information between government departments and the notification of the Egyptian Government and its agencies
- China, including Australia's position on territorial claims in the South China seas, China's presence in the Indian Ocean, the modernisation of its military, its engagement in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Australia's Human Rights Dialogue with China, Australia's strategic dialogue with China and meetings associated with this dialogue, consular assistance for Australians in detention in China, issues with dual nationals and the fact that the Chinese treat Chinese passport holders as Chinese citizens for the purposes of consular assistance, and the detention of Mr Stern Hu
- Indonesia, including Australian trips to Bali, tourist numbers and Australia's relationship with Indonesia
- Syria, including the 59 registered Australians still in Syria, travel advice, Australia's concern regarding radical jihadists, the use of chemical weapons, the protection of hospitals and medical convoys, refugees, and the protection of minorities.