

## TT Nov/Dec 02. Submission 6

## Jon Stanhope MLA

PGRFA .

CHIEF MINISTER

Submission No: .....4

ATTORNEY GENERAL MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Member for Ginninderra

Ms Julie Bishop MP Committee Chair Joint Standing Committee on Treaties Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

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BY:

Dear Ms Bishop

Thank you for your letter of 3 December 2002 regarding the proposed treaties that are being reviewed by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.

Your letter invited comment on a number of treaties including:

- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA), done at Rome on 3 November 2001;
- Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, done at Vienna on 5 September 1997; and
- Amendment, done at Cambridge, United Kingdom on 14 October 2002, to the Schedule to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, done at Washington on 2 December 1946.

The ACT will not be making a submission to the Committee on these matters, other than to say that, in relation to the International Treaty on PGRFA, the ACT acknowledges the implications for Australian agriculture of failing to ratify. Australia's interests can only be protected by participating in the deliberations of the Treaty's Governing Body, to be established following the Treaty's entry into force.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the treaties under inquiry.

Yours sincerely

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Jon Stanhope MLA Chief Minister 17 JAN 7003

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY