

## **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**

The committee met on Thursday, 23 October 2014 from 9 am to 11.31 pm.

The committee called the department and agencies of the Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio, including the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, the Australian Trade Commission, the Export Finance Insurance Corporation and Tourism Australia.

Among other issues, the following matters were discussed:

- the attack on Canadian Parliament
- various matters relating to Ebola
- general aid policy and performance targets
- matters relating to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)
- the UN Security Council and its resolution on Malaysia Airlines flight MH17
- access to the MH17 crash site
- discussions between the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Defence regarding submarines
- matters relating to international surrogacy arrangements
- the relationship between Australia and Indonesia
- child abuse
- the treatment of Tamils
- assistance in Gaza
- the aid management system 'Aidworks'
- the Indian Ocean Rim Association
- international delegations
- the Islamic organisation Hamas
- human rights issues in Iran
- the merger of the department and AusAID, and incentives for staff to retire
- human rights issues in Sri Lanka and the Prevention of Terrorism Act
- funding for global health programs
- coal tariffs
- matters relating to free trade agreements and the Trans-Pacific Partnership
- tourists visiting Australia, funding for tourism campaigns and reports that a restaurant owned by the Minister for Trade and Investment and his family was promoted by Tourism Australia.