



Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2021-22
Thursday, 3 June 2021
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.00pm.

The committee called:

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

- repatriation of Australians stranded overseas due to COVID-19, particularly in relation to arrangements in India;
- Government response to Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade report *Criminality, corruption and impunity: Should Australia join the Global Magnitsky movement?*;
- Myanmar, including consideration of sanctions, ASEAN special summit, engagement with Burmese diaspora, redirection of development assistance;
- China, including human rights in Xinjiang, representations in relation to Tibet, independent human rights observers, potential boycott of the Beijing Winter Olympics 2022, detention of Yang Hengjun and Chang Lei;
- staff in High Commission in New Delhi;
- Australia's Foreign Arrangements Scheme, including notifications, termination of agreements, engagement with stakeholders;
- COVID-19 vaccination of DFAT staff;
- closure of Australian embassy in Kabul and processing of Australian visas for locally engaged staff;
- Australia's attendance at the G7-plus meeting in United Kingdom in June;
- Israel-Palestine conflict, including representations by the Australian Government and the Human Rights Watch Report;
- Prime Minister's address at President Biden's climate summit;
- budget measures, including COVID response package supporting Australians overseas;
- human rights in Vietnam;
- diversion of Ryanair flight over Belarus;
- Julian Assange, including discussions with US and consular assistance;
- departmental staffing;
- Taiwan and Australia's one-China policy;
- freedom of navigation operations in the South China Sea;
- International Cyber Strategy;
- treatment of Armenian prisoners of war by Azerbaijan;
- Diplomatic relationship with The Vatican in relation to the findings of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse;
- Prime Minister's speech to the United Nations on action to combat plastic ocean pollution; and
- development of the new International Strategy on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery.

The committee will continue examination of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade tomorrow at 9.00am.