



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

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

MEDIA RELEASE
Issued: 19 May 2014

Chair: Senator David Fawcett
Deputy: The Hon Alan Griffin MP

New inquiry – Government support for Australian defence industry exports

Opportunities to expand Australia's multi-million dollar defence industry exports will be examined in a new federal parliamentary inquiry.

The Defence Sub-Committee of federal parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade will conduct the inquiry and is seeking input from stakeholders including Defence Industry as to how Government can better facilitate export of Australian defence products and services.

Chair of the Defence Sub-Committee, Senator David Fawcett (SA), said the inquiry provides an excellent opportunity to identify barriers to the export of defence goods and services by Australian companies.

"Defence industry should be seen as a fundamental input to Australia's defence capability which means we need it to be innovative and sustainable. One way to achieve this is for the Government to encourage, and where appropriate facilitate, export to suitable nations" Senator Fawcett said.

The inquiry's terms of reference include examining Government support for Australian defence industry exports, having particular regard to:

- identification of barriers and impediments to the growth of Australia's defence exports;
- how Government can better engage and assist Australian defence industry to export its products;
- the operation of the Defence Export Control Office;
- assessment of the export support given to defence industry by governments of comparable nations; and
- any other related matters.

The Sub-Committee invites public submissions addressing the terms of reference for this inquiry. The closing date for submissions is Friday, 11 July 2014.

Further details about the inquiry, including how to contribute, can be obtained from the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/jfadt or by contacting the Committee secretariat on (02) 6277 2313 or emailing jscfadt@aph.gov.au.

For media comment: please contact the Sub-Committee Chair, Senator David Fawcett, on (08) 8205 1040 (Electorate Office) or (02) 6277 3418 (Parliament House)

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