

PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA MEDIA RELEASE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND AID SUB-COMMITTEE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE Inquiry into establishing a Modern Slavery Act in Australia

Committee to investigate supply chain transparency

The Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee of the Parliament's <u>Joint Standing Committee on Foreign</u> <u>Affairs, Defence and Trade</u> will hear from a range of key organisations and businesses at a public hearing on Friday 23 June 2017 for its inquiry into establishing a Modern Slavery Act in Australia, launched in February 2017.

The Sub-Committee is investigating whether elements of the UK *Modern Slavery Act 2015* could be introduced in Australia, particularly the UK requirement for businesses and organisations to report on how they ensure their global supply chains are free of slavery and human trafficking.

Chair of the Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee, Mr Chris Crewther MP, said the sub-committee welcomed the opportunity to meet with a range of organisations involved in combatting modern slavery in Australia and around the world, including the Walk Free Foundation, Anti-Slavery Australia and the Salvation Army.

"The Sub-Committee looks forward to hearing about the important work undertaken by these organisations to combat modern slavery, and to investigate how Australian businesses are currently addressing the risks of slavery and trafficking in their global supply chains," Mr Crewther said.

Public hearing details: 9:15 am to 5:00 pm, Friday 23 June, Jubilee Room, NSW Parliament House, 6 Macquarie Street, Sydney, NSW

The full program is available from the committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/modernslavery.

This hearing will be streamed live at www.aph.gov.au/live.

Media enquiries:

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For background:

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Interested members of the public may wish to track the committee via the <u>website</u>. Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.

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