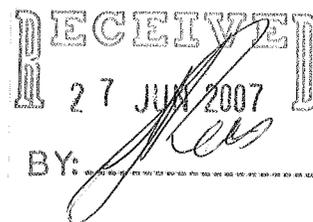


25.6.2007.

Submission 1.4  
TT 13 June 2007



NATIONAL  
EXECUTIVE

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON TREATIES.RE : TREATY  
ON SHIPS BALLAST.

DEAR SIRs.

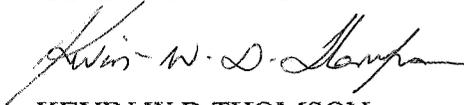
IT IS THE SUBMISSION OF THE EXECUTIVE THAT THIS TREATY BE RATIFIED, AS WE ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY WE ARE NOT EXPERTS ON THIS MATTER, HOWEVER WE WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING RECENT EVENTS IN NEWCASTLE N.S.W. AS TO THE STRANDED SHIP AT NOBBYS BEACH. AS AUSTRALIA HAS NO SHIPPING INDUSTRY OF ITS OWN WE ARE AT THE MERCY OF INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING COMPANIES, THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT WILL SUFFER THE LONGER THE SHIP IN QUESTION REMAINS STUCK ON THE BEACH. IT IS HOPED THAT OIL SPILLAGE WILL NOT TAKE PLACE BECAUSE OF THIS ACCIDENT , THE EXECUTIVE IS NOW AWARE OF FURTHER DAMAGE IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF SEDIMENTS. ANY ACTION THAT CAN BE TAKEN SHOULD BE TAKEN. PENALTIES SHOULD BE MASSIVE FOR FAILURE OF SAFETY REGULATIONS .IT IS HOPED THAT MARITIME STAFF WILL BE INCREASED TO ENSURE THAT IT WILL BE ENFORCED. AS THIS NATION IS AN ISLAND , WE TOTALLY AGREE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND NATIONAL SUMMARY IN RELATION TO THIS TREATY. THE QUARANTINE ACT 1908 SHOULD BE REVIEWED TO ENSURE THAT IT IS STRONG ENOUGH TO PROTECT AUSTRALIAN PORTS, WE ARE CONCERNED HOWEVER AT THE DISCHARGE OF BALLAST AT SEA, ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROPOSED LAWS IS OF A CONCERN OF THIS EXECUTIVE. IT IS HOPED THAT A NATIONAL COAST GUARD BE SET UP TO HELP ENFORCE MARITIME LAW,IT SHOULD NOT BECOME UNDER NAVAL RESPONSIBILITY .THIS EXECUTIVE HAS CALLED FOR THE SETTING UP OF A NATIONAL COAST GUARD IN THE PAST, WE ASK THE PARLIAMENT AGAIN. HELP PROTECT AUSTRALIA BY THE SETTING UP OF SUCH A BODY. TESTS SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT ON BALLAST WATER BEFORE DISCHARGE IS ALLOWED , ANY SHIPPING COMPANY FOUND TO BE IN BREACH SHOULD BE

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BANNED IN THE FUTURE FROM USING AUSTRALIAN PORTS. THE EXECUTIVE WISH TO THANK THE COMMITTEE FOR ALLOWING US TO COMMENT ON THIS TREATY.

YOURS IN PATRIOTISM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin W.D. Thomson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial 'K' and a long, sweeping underline.

KEVIN.W.D.THOMSON.  
NATIONAL SENIOR ADVISOR.