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Ion Stanhope MLA

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MINISTER FOR THE ARTS

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

Mr Kelvin Thomson MP Chair Joint Standing Committee on Treaties Parliament House Kelmi CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission 10 TT 17 June 2008

Dear Mr Thomson

Thank you for your letter of 20 June 2008 regarding various treaties under consideration by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties:

- Australia Chile Free Trade Agreement
- Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United Arab Emirates Concerning Defence Cooperation
- Amendment, adopted 1 October 2007, to Annex 1 of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) International Convention Against Doping in Sport of 19 October 2005

The ACT has been involved in a series of consultations conducted before and during the Australia-Chile Free Trade Agreement (ACI-FTA) negotiations and supports the FTA that Australia will be entering into with Chile. Australia's obligations under the ACI-FTA does not require any legislative or regulatory amendments to existing ACT laws nor does it effect any change to existing roles of the Commonwealth and the States and Territories.

At this time the ACT will also not be making a submission to the Committee on the other two Treaties that were tabled on 17 June 2008.

I thank you for the opportunity to comment on these international agreements under inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Jon Stanhope MLA Chief Minister

14 JUL 2008

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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