The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Report 77

Treaties tabled on 20 June and 8 August 2006

Agreement relating to Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America

Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material

Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Japan to replace the Delineated and Recorded Japanese Nuclear Fuel Cycle Program

Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Singapore to Amend Annex 2C and Annex 2D of the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) to ensure compliance with changes to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to come into effect on 1 January 2007

Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America to Amend Annex 4-A and Annex 5-A of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA) to ensure compliance with changes to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to come into effect on 1 January 2007

The International Health Regulations (2005)

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Resolution of appointment

The Resolution of Appointment of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties allows it to inquire into and report upon:

- a) matters arising from treaties and related National Interest Analyses and proposed treaty actions presented or deemed to be presented to the Parliament;
- b) any question relating to a treaty or other international instrument, whether or not negotiated to completion, referred to the committee by:
 - (i) either House of the Parliament, or
 - (ii) a Minister; and
- c) such other matters as may be referred to the committee by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and on such conditions as the Minister may prescribe.

List of abbreviations

AHMAC	Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council
AHPC	Australian Health Protection Committee
AONM	Australian Obligated Nuclear Material
ASNO	Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office
AUSFTA	Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement
Cth	Commonwealth
DEST	Department of Education, Science and Training
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
HS	Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IDC	Interdepartmental Committee
IHR	International Health Regulation
IP	Intellectual Property
JSCOT	Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
MOX	Mixed Oxide
NIA	National Interest Analysis
SAFTA	Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement

SCOT	Commonwealth-State/Territory Standing Committee on Treaties
US	United States of America
WCO	World Customs Organization
WHO	World Health Organisation

List of recommendations

2 Agreement relating to Scientific and Technical Cooperation with the United States of America

Recommendation 1

The Committee supports the *Agreement relating to Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America* (Canberra, 28 February 2006) and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

3 Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material

Recommendation 2

The Committee supports the *Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material* and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

4 Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between Australia and Japan to replace the Delineated and Recorded Japanese Nuclear Fuel Cycle Program

Recommendation 3

The Committee supports the *Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Japan to replace the Delineated and Recorded Japanese Nuclear Fuel Cycle Program* and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

5 Amendments to the Singapore-Australia and the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreements to ensure compliance with changes to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System

Recommendation 4

The Committee supports the Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Singapore to amend Annex 2C and Annex 2D of the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) to ensure compliance with changes to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to come into effect on 1 January 2007 and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

Recommendation 5

The Committee supports the Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America to amend Annex 4-A and Annex 5-A of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) to ensure compliance with changes to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to come into effect on 1 January 2007 and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

6 International Health Regulations

Recommendation 6

The Committee supports the *International Health Regulations* (2005) and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.