

Report 89

Treaties tabled on 7 August 2007

**Agreement between Australia and Japan on Social Security
(Canberra, 27 February 2007)**

**Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the
Republic of the Philippines concerning the Status of Visiting Forces of Each
State in the Territory of the Other State (Canberra, 31 May 2007)**

**Agreement between Australia and the Hellenic Republic on Social Security
(Canberra, 23 May 2007)**

© Commonwealth of Australia 2007

ISBN 978 0 642 79011 8 (printed version)

ISBN 978 0 642 79012 5 (HTML version)



Contents

Membership of the Committee	vii
Resolution of appointment.....	ix
List of abbreviations	x
List of recommendations	xi
1 Introduction	1
Purpose of the report.....	1
Briefing documents	1
Conduct of the Committee's review	2
2 Social Security Agreement with Japan	3
Introduction	3
Background	3
The Social Security Agreement with Japan	4
Implementation and costs	6
Consultation	7
Conclusion and Recommendation	7
3 Status of Visiting Forces Agreement with the Philippines	9
Introduction	9
Background	9
Purpose of the Agreement	10
Obligations	11

Issues raised in Submissions	16
Costs	17
Entry into force and withdrawal	18
Legislation	18
Consultation	19
Similar Agreements	19
Conclusions and recommendation	19
 4 Agreement between Australia and the Hellenic Republic on Social Security (Canberra, 23 May 2007)	21
Introduction	21
Obligations	22
Australian Pensions	23
Greek Pensions	25
Other obligations	25
Implementation	26
Costs	26
Consultation	27
Entry into force and withdrawal	28
Future Treaty Action	29
Conclusion	29
 Appendix A - Submissions	31
 Appendix B – Exhibits	33
 Appendix C - Witnesses	35
 Appendix D – Report 88	37
Treaty Tabled on 7 August 2007	37
 Appendix E – Category 3 Treaty Actions	39
Treaties tabled on 15 August 2007	39
Treaties tabled on 18 September 2007	40



Membership of the Committee

Chair Dr Andrew Southcott MP

Deputy Chair Mr Kim Wilkie MP

Members Hon Dick Adams MP

Senator Andrew Bartlett

Mr Michael Johnson MP

Senator Simon Birmingham

Mr Michael Keenan MP

Senator Carol Brown

Mr Andrew Laming MP

Senator The Hon Ian Macdonald

Mrs Margaret May MP

Senator Julian McGauran

Mr Bernie Ripoll MP

Senator Glenn Sterle

Hon Bruce Scott MP

Senator Dana Wortley

Committee Secretariat

Secretary	James Rees
Inquiry Secretary	Serica Mackay
Research Officers	Sonya Fladun
	Clare James
Administrative Officers	Heidi Luschtnetz
	Doris Cooley



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

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

ACS	The Australian Customs Service
ADF	Australian Defence Force
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
Cth	Commonwealth
FaCSIA	Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
JSCOT	Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
MBS	Medical Benefits Scheme
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NIA	National Interest Analysis
SCOT	Commonwealth-State/Territory Standing Committee on Treaties
SOVFA	The Status of Visiting Forces Agreement



List of recommendations

2 Social Security Agreement with Japan

Recommendation 1

The Committee supports the *Social Security Agreement with Japan* and recommends that binding treaty action be taken

3 Status of Visiting Forces Agreement with the Philippines

Recommendation 2

The Committee supports the *Status of Visiting Forces Agreement with the Philippines* and recommends that binding treaty action be taken

