The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Report 48

Treaties tabled in August and September 2002

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

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Membership of the Committee

Chair	Ms Julie Bishop MP
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- Deputy Chair Mr Kim Wilkie MP
- Members The Hon Dick Adams MP
 - Mr Kerry Bartlett MP
 - Mr Steven Ciobo MP
 - Mr Martyn Evans MP
 - Mr Greg Hunt MP
 - Mr Peter King MP
 - The Hon Bruce Scott MP
- Senator Guy Barnett
 Senator Andrew Bartlett
 Senator Linda Kirk
 Senator Brett Mason
 Senator Gavin Marshall
 Senator Ursula Stephens
 Senator Tsebin Tchen

Committee Secretariat

Secretary	Gillian Gould
Inquiry Secretary	Julia Morris
Research Officer	Glenn Worthington
Administrative Officers	Frances Wilson
	Kristine Sidley

List of recommendations

2 Oil Pollution Damage Conventions

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that improved departmental procedures be implemented such that the Committee is advised in a timely fashion of International Maritime Organization amendments proposed to take effect through a 'tacit acceptance' procedure.

3 Two protocols amending double tax agreements with Canada and Malaysia

Recommendation 2

The Committee supports the Protocol amending the Convention between Australia and Canada for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

Recommendation 3

The Committee supports the Protocol and Exchange of Letters amending the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Malaysia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income as amended by the First Protocol of 2 August 1999 and recommends that binding treaty action be taken. 4 Agreement between Australia and the USA concerning Security Measures for the Reciprocal Protection of Classified Information

Recommendation 4

The Committee, concurring with the views expressed in the National Interest Analysis, recommends that the Agreement be ratified.

Recommendation 5

The Committee recognises that responses to questions on notice and requests to amend the Hansard record must receive security clearance and Ministerial approval prior to their release.

The Committee recommends that the Department of Defence ensures that these measures do not inhibit its ability to provide requested information to the Committee within an acceptable timeframe.

5 Treaty between Australia and the Hellenic Republic on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters

Recommendation 6

The Committee concurs with the views expressed by the Attorney-General's Department in the National Interest Analysis and recommends ratification of the treaty.

6 Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand relating to Air Services

Recommendation 7

The Committee recognises that responses to questions on notice must receive Ministerial approval prior to their release.

The Committee recommends that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ensures that these measures do not inhibit its ability to provide requested information to the Committee within an acceptable timeframe.

Recommendation 8

The Committee agrees that by facilitating the development of the single aviation market between the two countries, the Agreement will promote benefits for inbound tourism, freight operations and greater air travel options for Australian consumers, and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

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