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Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

Security and Critical **Infrastructure Division**

05/2079; 05/3035

5 May 2005

CODA The Hon David Jull MP Chairman Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

MAY 2005

BY FACSIMILE: 6277 2067

Dear Mr Jull

PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON ASIO, ASIS AND DSD - HEARING ON 2 MAY 2005

I refer to the hearing of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD on Monday, 2 May 2005, into the listing of terrorist organisations.

In particular, I refer to a request by Senator Ferguson at the hearing, for copies of correspondence from the States and Territories to be provided to the Committee. In response to Senator Ferguson's request, I took this question on notice. I will address other questions raised by the Committee in a separate letter.

The Committee has since requested that the correspondence from the States and Territories in relation to the listing of the al-Zarqawi network, be provided to the Committee by close of business on Thursday, 5 May 2005.

The correspondence concerning the listing of the al-Zarqawi network was between the Prime Minister and the Premiers and Chief Ministers of the States and Territories.

Consultations have been held with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. As the correspondence concerns Commonwealth/State and Territory relations, the preferred approach would be for the Committee to approach the State and Territory Premiers and Chief Ministers directly, regarding this correspondence.

We note that the Committee will make a further request for the correspondence from the States and Territories in relation to the re-listing of the other seven organisations, prior to completion of their report into these re-listings.

Robert Garran Offices, National Circuit, Barton ACT 2600 Telephone (02) 6250 6666 Fax (02) 6250 5900 www.ag.gov.au ABN 92 661 124 436

Yours sincerely

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orced Geoff McDonald / Assistant Secretary

Telephone: 6250 5430 Facsimile: 6250 5985 Email: geoff.A.mcdonald@ag.gov.au

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