AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY (CANBERRA, 2 DECEMBER 2005) [2005] ATNIF 35

Documents tabled on: 10 May 2006

- National Interest Analysis [2006] ATNIA 20 with attachment on consultation
- Text of the proposed treaty action

Background Information:

- Norway political brief and country fact sheet
- List of other treaties with Norway
- List of Social Security treaties with other countries

NATIONAL INTEREST ANALYSIS – CATEGORY 1 TREATY

SUMMARY PAGE

Agreement on Social Security between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway

(Canberra, 2 December 2005)

[2005] ATNIF 35

Nature and timing of proposed treaty action

- 1. It is proposed that Australia enter into a Social Security Agreement with Norway. This treaty was signed in Canberra on 2 December 2005.
- 2. Pursuant to Article 32, the Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the month in which notes are exchanged by Australia and Norway through diplomatic channels. It is proposed that the exchange of notes take place in October 2006 to enable entry into force on 1 January 2007.

Overview and national interest summary

- 3. Australia's social security agreements are bilateral treaties which close gaps in social security coverage for people who migrate between countries. They do this by overcoming barriers to pension payment in the domestic legislation of each country, such as requirements on citizenship, minimum contributions record, past residence record and current country of residence.
- 4. The Agreement provides for enhanced access to certain Australian and Norwegian social security benefits and greater portability of these benefits between countries. Portability of benefits allows for the payment of a benefit from one country into another country. This is an underlying principle of Australia's bilateral social security agreements where the responsibility for providing benefits is shared. Under the Agreement, residents of Australia and Norway will be able to move between Australia and Norway with the knowledge that their right to benefits is recognised in both countries.
- 5. The Agreement will bring economic and political benefits to Australia. It will assist in maximising the foreign income of Australian residents and there will be flow-on effects of these funds into the Australian economy. The Agreement will serve to reinforce Australia's political, business and strategic interests. The Agreement will also further strengthen bilateral relations between Australia and Norway and provide choices in retirement for individuals who have migrated (or will migrate) to Australia or Norway during their working lives.

Reasons for Australia to take the proposed treaty action

- 6. Australia's network of bilateral social security agreements improves access to income support for people whose adult lives are, or have been, split between Australia and the country with which Australia has entered into a social security agreement. Most of the people benefiting from these agreements are age pensioners. Such agreements also improve income support coverage for people with disabilities.
- 7. The Agreement with Norway incorporates the same principles as Australia's other agreements on social security. A key element of this Agreement, and the other social security agreements, is the sharing of responsibility between the Parties in providing adequate social security coverage for former residents of their countries.
- 8. The Australian Government currently pays pensions under the *Social Security Act* 1991 (the Act) to around 650 Norwegian-born pensioners, the vast majority of whom are resident in Australia. Under domestic portability provisions in the Act, Australia pays pensions to approximately 16 people (not necessarily Norwegian born) residing in Norway.
- 9. Norwegian legislation requires a person to have a minimum period of residence and contributions before they can qualify for a pension, and puts limits on continued payment when a person moves abroad. The Agreement will help overcome these restrictions.
- 10. The Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs estimates that, through the Agreement, approximately 500 people residing in Australia and Norway will benefit by being able to claim payments from Australia and Norway to which they currently do not have access.
- 11. The Agreement provides that both countries will share the financial responsibility for providing benefits covered by the Agreement. This means that individuals may be eligible for benefits from both countries if they meet certain eligibility criteria and they have lived and/or worked in both countries during their working lives. Residents of Australia and Norway will be able to move between Australia and Norway knowing that their right to benefits is recognised in both countries and that each country will contribute fairly to support those who have spent part of their working lives in both countries.
- 12. Double coverage provisions have also been included to ensure that Australian and Norwegian employers do not have to make compulsory (superannuation) contributions into both countries' systems when an employee is seconded to work in the other country temporarily. Under current arrangements the employer would be required to make contributions under both Australian and Norwegian legislation. The new Agreement will provide that, generally, the employer and employee, where compulsory employee contributions are required, have to contribute only to the relevant superannuation scheme in their home country.

Obligations

13. Article 1 defines the terms used in the Agreement and in some cases limits Australia's obligations under the Agreement.

- 14. Article 2 sets out the scope of the legislation covered by the Agreement. For Australia, it includes social security law relating to age pension, disability support pension, and the law concerning the Superannuation Guarantee. For Norway, it includes benefits provided for in the National Insurance Act of 28 February 1997 relating to old-age pension, disability pension, rehabilitation benefits, pensions for survivors, supplements for a supported wife and children of recipients of old-age and disability pensions, and the Family Allowance Act of 8 March 2002.
- 15. Article 3 describes the group of people to whom the Agreement applies. It provides that the Agreement shall apply to any person who is or has been an Australian resident, or is or has been subject to the legislation of Norway. The Agreement also applies to other person's who accrue benefits as a result of their relationship with the person to whom the Agreement applies.
- 16. Article 4 is a statement of principle, common to all bilateral social security agreements. It ensures that all persons to whom this agreement applies shall be treated equally in relation to rights and obligations regarding Australian social security benefits.
- 17. Article 5 allows for the payment of benefits under the Agreement in both countries. The exception to this is Australian disability support pension, which can be paid to people outside Australia only if they are severely disabled. This Article also allows the payment of additional amounts, such as rent assistance and pharmaceutical allowance, outside Australia only if Australian legislation allows for this.
- 18. Article 9 is aimed at avoiding double coverage of Australia's superannuation guarantee legislation and relevant Norwegian legislation. This Article specifies that in certain circumstances only one country's legislation relating to coverage will apply. The general rule is that only the legislation of the country in which the employee is working will apply. The main exception to this rule is where the employee has been seconded to work temporarily in that country (a three year limit applies for non-Government employees). In those situations, only the relevant legislation of the employee's home country will apply. If the employee is working on a ship that is flying the Norwegian flag or for a Norwegian airline company on board an aircraft in international traffic, the employee is subject to Norwegian legislation. However, if the employee is an Australian resident working for an Australian resident employer, then Australian legislation also applies in both instances. To avoid double coverage in these situations, the Parties may mutually allow for exception under Article 11 so that only one country's legislation applies.
- 19. Article 10 applies to employees working on the Norwegian continental shelf. These employees shall be subject to Norwegian legislation unless they are seconded, in which case the rules in paragraph 3 of Article 9 apply.
- 20. Article 11 provides that the competent authorities may agree to extend the three year period and also may agree to make exceptions to the above rules in particular cases or for a class of employees or a particular type of work. This provision is designed to permit the competent authorities to correct anomalous coverage situations that may arise to the disadvantage of employers/employees or to eliminate double coverage in unforseen circumstances.
- 21. Article 15 deems a person in Norway to be an Australian resident and in Australia for the purposes of lodging a claim for a benefit so long as he or she was an Australian resident at some time. For persons in Norway claiming Australian disability support pension, this Article is limited to those who are severely disabled. This is consistent with Australia's other bilateral social security agreements which limit claims for disability support pension to those people who

are severely disabled.

- 22. Article 16 establishes the circumstances in which periods of insurance in Norway can be used to satisfy the minimum residence requirements for an Australian benefit (as defined in Article 1). Under this Article the claimant is able to add these 'deemed' periods to actual periods of Australian residence in order to help them qualify for an Australian benefit.
- 23. The method of calculating the rate of Australian benefits is set out in Article 17. This Article obliges Australia, when calculating a person's entitlement, to modify the method of calculation of the person's income under the social security law, both inside and outside Australia. Paragraphs 1 and 2 specify that certain Norwegian benefits will be disregarded under the Australian income test. This is consistent with concessions given in other Agreements and with the principle of shared-responsibility. Paragraph 3 provides that when an Australian benefit is paid outside Australia only a proportion of Norwegian benefit will be assessed as income. That proportion is calculated according to the person's period of Australian working life residence, in months, divided by 300. Paragraph 6 provides that a person in Australia who must use the Agreement to qualify will have any Norwegian benefit deducted from their Australian pension. Paragraphs 4 and 7 specify that the method of calculating the rate paid will remain unchanged for the first 26 weeks of a temporary visit to, or departure from, Australia. Paragraph 8 provides that, if the rate calculated under paragraph 6 is less than the rate that would be payable under paragraph 3, then the higher rate will apply.
- 24. Article 22 requires a Party to provide documents proving a person's double coverage under Article 9 in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Arrangement to be made under Article 29.
- 25. Article 23 deals with the lodgement of claims, notices or appeals, and enables these documents to be lodged in either country in accordance with the Administrative Arrangement to be made under Article 29.
- 26. Article 24 allows a claim for a benefit in one country to be considered as a claim for a similar benefit under the legislation of the other country provided the other country receives the request within 6 months. This does not apply if the person states that they are claiming a benefit from the first country only, or this is apparent from the claim form that it is a claim for the benefit of that country.
- 27. Article 25 provides that, when determining the eligibility or entitlement of a person to a benefit under the Agreement, all events and periods that have a bearing on the entitlement are to be taken into account. Paragraph 2 ensures that benefits granted under the Agreement will not be paid in respect of any period prior to the date the Agreement enters into force.
- 28. Article 26 provides a mechanism by which a Party may recover an overpayment of a benefit from the other Party. Where an overpayment occurs because a person is entitled to benefits from both Parties and the amount received from one of the Parties has not been reduced as a result of this dual entitlement, the person overpaid owes a debt to the Party that has overpaid him or her. Such a provision is particularly necessary for Australia's income tested social security system and is a standard provision in most of Australia's bilateral social security agreements. The Party owed the debt may recover it from the arrears the first Party owes the person. Any shortfall may be recovered by the Party owed the debt in accordance with its legislation. A Party to whom a debt is owed cannot seek the other Party to recover it from continuing payments made by the other Party.

- Article 27 protects the rights of people to receive a benefit under the Agreement when administrative or legal restrictions are placed on the transfer of its currency abroad by a Party. The Article requires the Parties to take steps to guarantee the right to payment of benefits derived under the Agreement. When a Party introduces such legal or administrative restrictions, it is obliged to advise the other Party within a specified time. Failure to do so or a failure by one Party to adopt measures that guarantee persons the right to benefits under the Agreement may be invoked by the other Party as a ground for terminating the Agreement or suspending its operation in whole or in part. Article 27 also protects persons entitled to benefits under the Agreement from the imposition of government fees and charges which may be associated with processing and paying the claim when that person is in the territory of the other Party.
- 30. Article 28 sets out the areas, subject to relevant domestic laws, regulations and policies, in which the relevant authorities will co-operate in order to implement the Agreement and ensure its effective operation. It also provides for the exchange of information so that the Agreement and social security laws of either Party can be applied. Any information transmitted under the Agreement in relation to an individual is to be treated as confidential and used only for the purposes of implementing the Agreement and the social security laws of Australia and Norway.
- 31. Article 29 provides that the competent authorities shall make whatever administrative arrangements that are necessary in order to implement this Agreement.
- 32. Article 30 provides for the resolution of disputes in relation to the application of the Agreement to be resolved by consultation and negotiation between the competent authorities.
- 33. Article 31 allows for either Party to request a review of the Agreement. When one Party requests a review, the Parties shall meet within six months of the request being made in the territory of the Party to which the request was made.

Implementation

- 34. A new Schedule containing the full text of the Agreement will be added to the *Social Security (International Agreements) Act 1999*. The regulation making powers contained in Sections 8 and 25 of that Act will be used to implement the Agreement.
- 35. The legislative instruments necessary to bring this Agreement into force are being tabled prior to the completion of the JSCOT process. This is necessary in order to meet the required number of sitting days for implementation to occur on 1 January 2007.
- 36. An amendment has been made to the *Superannuation Guarantee* (*Administration*) Regulations dealing with bilateral social security agreements to eliminate double superannuation coverage. The Regulations were gazetted on 17 August 2001. The Regulations provide that payment of salary or wages to an employee who has been sent temporarily to work in Australia will not give rise to a superannuation guarantee obligation for the overseas employer (provided an appropriate agreement is in place).

Costs

37. The Agreement is expected to result in a reduction in administered outlays of \$0.740 million over the period ending 2009-2010. The Department of Families, Community Services

and Indigenous Affairs, and Centrelink departmental costs of \$2.466 million over the same period represent the cost of implementing this Agreement and the Agreement with Switzerland, which is under negotiation.

Regulation Impact Statement

38. The Office of Regulation Review (Productivity Commission) has been consulted and confirms that a Regulation Impact Statement is not required for this Agreement.

Future treaty action

- 39. The Agreement does not specifically provide for the negotiation of any future legally binding instruments although Article 31 obliges the Parties to review the Agreement when requested to do so by either Party. While the Agreement does not specifically deal with amendments, it may be amended at any time by agreement between the Parties in accordance with Article 39 of the Vienna Convention.
- 40. Any future treaty action would be subject to Australia's domestic treaty-making process, including tabling and consideration by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.

Withdrawal or denunciation

- 41. Article 32(3) provides that the Agreement shall remain in force until the expiration of 12 months from the date on which either Party receives from the other a note through diplomatic channels indicating its intention to terminate the Agreement. In the event of termination, Article 32(4) preserves the rights of those people who are receiving benefits or who have lodged claims and would have been entitled to receive benefits under the Agreement, and those people affected by double coverage provisions of paragraphs 2 or 3 of Article 9.
- 42. Any withdrawal by Australia from this treaty would be subject to Australia's domestic treaty-making process.

Contact Details

International Agreements
International Branch
Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

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CONSULTATION

- 1. Three separate groups (listed below) were consulted as part of the treaty process. These were Norwegian community groups, Welfare organisations and State/Territory Governments.
- 2. Letters and an information sheet outlining the Agreement were sent to each group on 31 January 2006 seeking their views and asking for a response by 28 February 2006.
- 3. Two formal responses were received. These were from the Multicultural Communities' Council of South Australia (MCCSA) and The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Council of Australia (FECCA).
- 4. MCCSA supported the proposed Agreement.
- 5. FECCA did not comment on the Agreement itself, but did raise concerns regarding the treatment of overseas pensions as income for the purposes of determining the rate of Australian pension payable to a person. A letter was sent to FECCA explaining the rationale behind the assessment of overseas pensions as income.

The Norwegian Community groups consulted were:

| Norwegian Groups | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| The Norwegian Club of Victoria | Scandinavian Australian Association | | | |
| The Norwegian Club of NSW | Norwegian War Veterans | | | |
| The Norwegian Club of QLD | Scandinavian Association of SA | | | |
| The Scandinavian Club of WA | | | | |

The Welfare Organisations consulted were

| Welfare | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| ACROD (National Office) | ACT Multicultural Community Council | | | |
| Association of Independent Retirees | Australian Council of Social Services | | | |
| Combined Pensioners & Superannuants | COTA National Seniors | | | |
| Association | | | | |
| Council of Intellectual Disabilities Agencies | Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW | | | |
| Ethnic Communities' Council of QLD | Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria | | | |
| Ethnic Communities' Council of West | FECCA | | | |
| Australia | | | | |
| Multicultural Council of NT Inc | Multicultural Council of Tasmania | | | |
| National Ethnic Disability Alliance | National Seniors Association | | | |
| Physical Disability Council of Australia Ltd | Southern Cross Group | | | |
| Welfare Rights Group | Multicultural Communities' Council of SA | | | |

The State and Territory Governments Contacted were:

| ACT Chief Minister's Department |
|--|
| QLD Department of Premier and Cabinet |
| VIC Department of Premier and Cabinet |
| NT Department of Chief Minister |
| SA Department of Premier and Cabinet |
| TAS Department of Premier and Cabinet |
| WA Federal Affairs |
| NSW Intergovernmental & Regulatory Reform Branch |

Political Brief – Norway

Bilateral relations: Australia and Norway enjoy friendly bilateral relations and share similar views on a wide range of international issues. As one of the three European Antarctic claimants, Norway is an important interlocutor for Australia on Antarctic issues. A bilateral arrangement allowing for working holiday visas for people aged under 30 came into effect in August 2001.

Trade relationship: Norway was Australia's 44th largest merchandise trading partner in 2005. Two-way merchandise trade was valued at A\$397 million, with the balance being A\$155 million in Norway's favour. Total goods and services trade with Norway in 2005 was valued at A\$751 million. This represents a growth of over 60 per cent in total goods and services trade over 5 years. Major Australian exports to Norway (totalling A\$121 million in 2005) include alumina, alcoholic beverages (wine), gold, base metal manufactures, medical instruments and preserved fruit preparations. Imports from Norway in 2005 totalled A\$276 million and included pumps for liquids, telecommunication equipment, paper products, arms and ammunition and cheese/curd.

Two-way trade in services was valued at A\$354 million in 2005 and marginally (A\$32 million) in favour of Australia. In 2005 there were 3,332 Norwegian students in Australia, of which 2,641 were undertaking higher education courses, making Australia one of the top destinations for Norwegian students overseas. Norway has a significant level of investment in Australia, totalling just over A\$2 billion, and ranked 16th. In 2004 Norway was the 27th largest destination for Australian investment, with A\$807 million invested, predominantly in the mining sector. Norway and Australia share common expertise in various industrial sectors, including oil and gas, mining, chemicals, and marine and shipping, providing further opportunities for Australian investors.

Political overview: Norway is a constitutional monarchy with legislative powers vested in the Storting (Parliament). The Head of State is H.M. King Harald V, who acceded to the throne in 1991. The Storting is made up of 165 members directly elected for four-year terms by proportional representation. When the Storting considers legislation it divides itself into two chambers – the Lagting (25 per cent of the members) and the Odelsting (75 per cent of the members) by internal election. Parliamentary elections are mandatory every four years at specific dates.

The centre-right coalition Government led by Prime Minister Mr Kjell Magne Bondevik was defeated at national elections held in September 2005 by a Centre-Left coalition lead by Mr Jens Stoltenberg. The "red-green" alliance, as it is being called, represents the first majority government in Norway for 20 years. The Labour Party (which in previous times ruled in its own right) had never before taken part in a coalition, the Socialist Left Party had never been in government and the Centre Party will be working for the first time with the political left. The coalition won 87 seats in the 169 member Storting (Parliament). The Labour Party, which has dominated the political scene in Norway since the 1930s, continues to be the largest party in the Parliament with 36 per cent of the seats. The next general election is scheduled for September 2009.

Foreign policy: The new Norwegian government has stated that its foreign policy would remain essentially unchanged. NATO is the cornerstone of Norway's security policy and the government has stated that it will remain in NATO. However, Norway will not be seeking EU membership. The main priorities in Norwegian foreign policy include strengthening relations with the EU and maintaining good relations with Russia. Norway has also been active in the Sri Lankan and Middle East peace processes, participating in UN peacekeeping operations and providing a high

level of development assistance (0.87 per cent of GNP). More recently it has been facilitating talks between the Philippine Government and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines. It is the Government's aim to increase development assistance to 1 per cent of GNP. The government will also step up its civil and military support in UN operations and will contribute considerable resources to the establishment of an emergency aid fund in the UN. It also aims to prioritise conflict-prevention and conflict-solving. Norway also adopts a high profile on environment and disarmament issues.

Norway is not a member of the EU, having voted twice (1972 and 1994) to remain outside. Successive governments have, however, endeavoured to establish the closest links possible with the EU. Cooperation with the EU will continue to be based on the Europe Economic Area (EEA) agreement, although the new government will consider using its "reservation rights" in the agreement if "essential" interests are threatened. Norway has good access to the single market for most of its products through the EEA agreement and participates in regular consultations.

Economic indicators: Norway has a small, open economy with a floating exchange rate. Norway has a sound macroeconomic policy framework which has underpinned the country's strong economic performance in recent years. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s Human Development Index which measures quality of life based on longevity, education levels and GNP, rated Norway as highest in the world in these areas in 2004, followed by Sweden and Australia.

Norway's emergence as a major oil and gas producer in the mid-1970s transformed its economy. The petroleum sector accounts for 44 per cent of exports and 17 per cent of GDP. Norway's per capita income is now one of the highest in the world due to the large influx of investment capital into its North Sea oil and gas fields and its substantial oil revenues. Revenue from taxes on oil and gas exports which are channelled into the Government Petroleum Fund and invested in overseas equity and bond markets (including in Australia).

GDP growth in the mainland economy in 2006 is estimated by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) to have been around 2.6 per cent, and is expected to slow marginally in 2007 to 2.2 per cent before falling to 2.1 per cent in 2008. The latter is due to higher interest rates and an expected de-celeration in investment growth. Employment levels remain high in Norway. Unemployment is relatively low by international standards – being around 4.6 per cent in 2005, and is forecast to fall from 4.1 per cent in 2006 to 4.0 per cent in 2007. Norway's inflation was forecast (EIU) to average 2.3 per cent in 2006 and possibly rising to 2.6 per cent in 2007. The Norwegian Government's main long-term challenge is regarded as the financing of pension obligations for its aging population. The general rate for VAT was raised to 25 per cent from 24 per cent on 1 July 2005.





NORWAY

General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; May and September

Capital: Oslo

Surface area: 324 thousand sq km

Official language: Norwegian (Bokmål and Nynorsk)

Population: 4.6 million (2004)

Exchange rate: A\$1 = 4.9754 Kroner (Jun 2005)

Head of State:

HM King Harald V/HRH the Crown Prince Regent

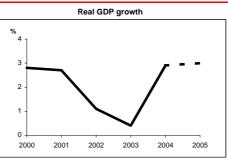
Head of Government:

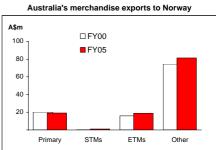
Prime Minister Mr Jens Stoltenberg

Recent economic indicators:

| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004(a) | 2005(b) |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| GDP (US\$bn): | 166.9 | 169.7 | 190.3 | 220.6 | 250.4 | 309.0 |
| GDP per capita (US\$): | 37,272 | 37,695 | 42,060 | 48,463 | 54,711 | 67,330 |
| Real GDP growth (% change YOY): | 2.8 | 2.7 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 2.9 | 3.0 |
| Current account balance (US\$m): | 25,850 | 26,170 | 24,470 | 28,330 | 34,440 | 45,740 |
| Current account balance (% GDP): | 15.5 | 15.4 | 12.9 | 12.8 | 13.8 | 14.8 |
| Goods & services exports (% GDP): | 46.7 | 45.7 | 41.1 | 41.3 | 43.7 | 41.9 |
| Inflation (% change YOY): | 3.1 | 3.0 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 2.3 |
| Unemployment rate (%): | 3.4 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 4.2 |

Australia's merchandise trade with Norway A\$m 250 150 100 **Exports** 50 FY01 FY02 FY03 FY04





Australia's trade relationship with Norway:

| Major Australian exports*, 2004-05 (A\$m): | |
|--|--|
| Alcoholic beverages | |
| Non-monetary gold | |

7 Non-monetary gold 4 Arms & ammunition 3 Medicaments (incl. veterinary) Preserved fruit and preparations

*Includes A\$69m of confidential items, 58% of total exports.

Major Australian imports, 2004-05 (A\$m):

Pumps for liquids 34 Telecommunications equipment 26 Paper & paperboard 24 Arms & ammunition 22 Measuring and controlling instruments 16

Australian merchandise trade with Norway, 2004-05:

| Australian merchandise trade with Norway, 2004-05: | | Total share: | Rank: | Growth (yoy): |
|--|-----|--------------|-------|---------------|
| Exports to Norway (A\$m): | 121 | 0.1% | 52nd | 50.3% |
| Imports from Norway (A\$m): | 271 | 0.2% | 41st | 37.1% |
| Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m): | 391 | 0.1% | 42nd | 40.9% |
| Merchandise trade deficit with Norway (A\$m): | 150 | | | |

Australia's trade in services with Norway, 2004-05:

| Australia's trade in services with Norway, 2004-05: | | Total share: |
|---|-----|--------------|
| Exports of services to Norway (A\$m): | 193 | 0.5% |
| Imports of services from Norway (A\$m): | 163 | 0.4% |
| Services trade surplus with Norway (A\$m): | 30 | |

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Norway's global merchandise trade relationships:

| Norway's principal export destinations, 2004: | | Norway's principal import sources, 2004: | | | |
|---|----------------|--|----|----------------|-------|
| 1 | United Kingdom | 22.3% | 1 | Sweden | 15.7% |
| 2 | Germany | 12.9% | 2 | Germany | 13.6% |
| 3 | Netherlands | 9.9% | 3 | Denmark | 7.3% |
| 4 | France | 9.6% | 4 | United Kingdom | 6.5% |
| 5 | United States | 8.4% | 5 | China | 5.0% |
| 31 | Australia | 0.2% | 44 | Australia | 0.2% |

List of other Treaties with Norway

- Exchange of Notes [between United Kingdom and Norway] relative to the Agreement for the Mutual Relief of Distressed Seamen of 12 July 1881
 [1908] ATS 5
- Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement [between United Kingdom and Norway] for the Reciprocal Exchange of Information concerning Persons of Unsound Mind [1926] ATS 9
- Convention [between United Kingdom and Norway] regarding Legal Proceedings in Civil and Commercial Matters
 [1933] ATS 6
- Exchange of notes constituting an Agreement concerning the release of property in the Commonwealth of Australia belonging to persons resident in Norway [1947] ATS 12
- Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Norway regarding Visas and Visa Fees
 [1951] ATS 16
- Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement to amend the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Norway regarding Visas and Visa Fees of 10 October 1951
 [1958] ATS 8
- Treaty between Australia and Norway concerning Extradition [1987] ATS 3
- Agreement with the Kingdom of Norway on Medical Treatment for Temporary Visitors
 [2004] ATS 6

List of Bilateral Social Security Treaties Australia has with Other Countries

- 1. Agreement with the Republic of Austria on Social Security [1992] ATS 35
- 2. Agreement on Social Security with Canada [2003] ATS 4
- 3. Agreement on Social Security with the Republic of Chile [2004] ATS 18
- 4. Agreement with the Republic of Croatia on Social Security [2004] ATS 19
- 5. Agreement on Social Security with the Republic of Cyprus [1993] ATS 5
- 6. Agreement with the Kingdom of Denmark on Social Security [2001] ATS 2
- 7. Agreement on Social Security with the Federal Republic of Germany [2003] ATS 7
- 8. Agreement on Social Security with the Republic of Italy [2000] ATS 29
- 9. Agreement with Malta on Social Security [2004] ATNIF 8
- 10. Agreement with the Kingdom of the Netherlands on Social Security [2003] ATS 12
- 11. Agreement on Social Security with New Zealand [2002] ATS 12
- 12. Exchange of Notes amending the Agreement on Social Security with New Zealand of 28 March 2001 [2002] ATS 12
- 13. Agreement with Portugal on Social Security [2002] ATS 21
- 14. Agreement on Social Security with Slovenia [2004] ATS 2
- 15. Agreement between Australia and Spain on Social Security [2003] ATS 3
- 16. Agreement with the United State of America on Social Security [2002] ATS 18
- 17. Agreement on Social Security with the Kingdom of Belgium [2002] ATNIF 31 (not yet in force)