Submission No 3

Inquiry into Australia's Overseas Representation

Name:

Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto

Organisation:

Apostolic Nunciature Australia PO Box 3633 Manuka ACT 2603



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18 November 2011

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Mr Jerome Brown The Secretary Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Parliament House CANBERRA ACT. 2600

Dear Mr Brown,

I reply, on behalf of the Holy See, in respect to your letter of 18 October 2011.

The Holy See was pleased that the already established diplomatic relations with Australia were strengthened by the decision in 2008 to appoint a resident Ambassador in Rome. Furthermore, the Holy See considers it is important and useful for the Australian Government to have a direct and closer channel of dialogue over matters of mutual interest and concern. The permanent presence of a high ranking representative of the Australian Government would also allow it to be properly acquainted on a day-to-day basis with the Apostolic ministry of the Holy Father for the Universal Church and with the activities, programmes and initiatives that the Holy See undertakes within the International forum to promote peace, development and social justice.

I trust these remarks will assist your Inquiry into Australia's overseas representation.

With kind regards,

I remain, Yours sincerely.

Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto Apostolic Nuncio