Submission No 9

Inquiry into Australia's Overseas Representation

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Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Inquiry into Australia's overseas representation Terms of Reference

1. The activities that Australia's diplomatic posts must undertake

Surabaya is the second biggest city in Indonesia and a dynamic city in East Indonesia part. Surabaya is a capitol City of East Java Province Indonesia with local potencies in agriculture, plantation, commerce and trade, fishery, horticulture, the other energy resources and the good prospect in industrial. The economic growth was 5.01% in 2009 that was outreached national growth -4.50%. Also the total foreign investment in 2009 was 39% of total investment in this province. Statistically, the number of universities in East Java is the biggest number in Indonesia. So, based on several strong points above, the activities of Australia's diplomatic posts could cover investment, trade and commerce, education.

2. Their geographic location and spread

The location of Surabaya (East Java) is a strategic location which is in between two big provinces in Indonesia, Central Java and Bali. This strategic location makes Surabaya as a centre growth of industry and trade. The population of East Java is 37,29 million people or 0.84% of total population of Indonesia. The wide area of East Java is 47.154 km², with 29 local government and 9 cities. It figure that the spread of location are wide and could cover the other province as well.

3. The appropriate level of staffing, including locally engaged staff

East Java has the biggest number of universities in Indonesia that mostly located in Surabaya. It means that the graduate numbers of university is also a big number. The potential people that could be recruited as a staff members are not to be difficult to get. It is also supported by the number of students who graduated from Australia's universities also available in prospectus numbers. The wide range of potential and capable staff that could support the Australia's diplomatic activities is supported in both quantity and quality, respectively.

4. The affect of e-diplomacy and information and communications technology on the activities of diplomatic posts.

Technology that could support the information and communication in the diplomatic posts activities is needed. As the second biggest city in Indonesia, Surabaya provides the access of technology well. It is connected local governments under Surabaya government to integrate their public services. This support will affect the diplomatic posts to support their activities in order to conduct its purposes in Surabaya.

Warm regards,

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