

## PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TREATIES

Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600 | Phone: (02) 6277 4002 | Fax: (02) 6277 2219 | Email: jsct@aph.gov.au

6 July 2011

The Hon Barry House MLC

President

Legislative Council Parliament House

PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr President





Treaties tabled on 5 July 2011

I am writing to advise of the most recent tabling of treaties, and to invite comments as part of the review process undertaken by the Commonwealth Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.

Before action is taken to bind Australia to the terms of treaties, the Treaties Committee considers and reports on whether the proposals are in Australia's national interest. The Committee is currently inquiring into the following proposed treaties tabled in both Houses of the Parliament this week:

Treaties tabled on 5 July 2011

- Instrument Amending the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) and Instrument Amending the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) as amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994), by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998), by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) and by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) Amendments adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Guadalajara, 22 October 2010)
- Measure 1 (2005) Annex VI to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty: Liability arising from environmental emergencies (Stockholm, 17 June 2005)
- Measure 4 (2004) Insurance and contingency planning for tourism and non governmental activities in the Antarctic Treaty area (Cape Town, 4 June 2004)
- Measure 15 (2009) Landing of persons from passenger vessels in the Antarctic Treaty area (Baltimore, 17 April 2009)

The subject matter of international treaties can be of interest to State and Territory Governments and Parliaments and we are keen to provide an opportunity for comment on any issues arising from proposed treaties. Treaty texts and copies of the

National Interest Analysis (which accompany each treaty tabled) are available from the Committee's website at

http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/5july2011/tor.htm.

As the Treaties Committee has periods of 15 and 20 sitting days in which to complete its reviews, it would be helpful if you could forward any comments you might wish to make to the Committee Secretariat by **Friday**, **29 July 2011**. If substantial issues of concern are raised about the proposed treaties and the Committee's usual period of review is extended, it may be possible to arrange for a submission to be lodged after this date. Your comments may be accepted as a submission to the review and authorised for publication.

Should your officials have any questions about the treaties or about our review procedures, they should contact James Catchpole, Committee Secretary on telephone (02) 6277 4002, facsimile (02) 6277 2219 or e-mail jsct@aph.gov.au.

Yours faithfully

Kelvin Thomson MP

Chair