



# 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

*Tabled*

24 November 2011

The Hon Barry House MLC  
President  
Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000



Dear Mr President

### Treaties tabled on 21, 22 and 24 November 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:

Treaty tabled on 21 November 2011

- *Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (Tokyo on 1 October 2011)*

Treaties tabled on 22 November 2011

- *Agreement between Australia and the Republic of Latvia on Social Security (Riga 7 September 2011)*
- *Agreement between the European Union and Australia on the Processing and Transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) Data by Air Carriers to the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service Done at Brussels on 29 September 2011*
- *Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI on Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships by Inclusion of New Regulations on Energy Efficiency for Ships (Resolution MEPC.203(62)) adopted at London on 15 July 2011*

Treaty tabled on 24 November 2011

- Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement to extend the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America concerning the Conduct of Scientific Balloon Flights for Civil Research Purposes of 16 February 2006, as amended, Done at Canberra on [date to be confirmed]

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.aprh.gov.au/house/committee/jstc/21november2011/tor.htm>  
<http://www.aprh.gov.au/house/committee/jstc/22november2011/tor.htm>  
<http://www.aprh.gov.au/house/committee/jstc/24november2011/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, 27 January 2012**. 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 [jstc@aph.gov.au](mailto:jstc@aph.gov.au).

Yours faithfully



Senator Simon Birmingham  
Acting Chair