



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TREATIES

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8 February 2012

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



Dear Mr President

Treaties tabled on 7 February 2012

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 7 February 2012

- *Protocol amending the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of India for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income (New Delhi, 16 December 2011)*
- *Resolution MEPC.193(61): Amendments to the Annex of the Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 (MARPOL) (Revised MARPOL Annex III: Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Harmful Substances Carried by Sea in Packaged Form) adopted at London on 1 October 2010*
- *Amendments to Appendices I and II to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 23 June 1979) done at Bergen on 25 November 2011*

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/jst/7february2012/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, 9 March 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.

Yours faithfully



Kelvin Thomson MP
Chair