The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

Report 144

Treaty tabled on 14 July 2014

Agreement between Australia and Japan for an Economic Partnership

October 2014 Canberra

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Resolution of Appointment

The Resolution of Appointment of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties allows it to inquire into and report on:

- a) matters arising from treaties and related National Interest Analyses and proposed treaty actions and related Explanatory Statements presented or deemed to be presented to the Parliament;
- b) any question relating to a treaty or other international instrument, whether or not negotiated to completion, referred to the committee by:
 - (i) either House of the Parliament, or
 - (ii) a Minister; and
- c) such other matters as may be referred to the committee by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and on such conditions as the Minister may prescribe.

List of abbreviations

ACCI Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

AFGC Australian Food and Grocery Council

AJBCC Australia Japan Business Co-operation Committee

ANIC Australian Nut Industry Council

BRTAs Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements

CMEWA Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia

DFAT Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

EPA Economic Partnership Agreement

FTA free trade agreement

FSC Financial Services Council

GATS General Agreement on Trade in Services

GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

ITO International Trading Organisation

ISDS investor-state dispute settlement

JAEPA Agreement between Australia and Japan for an Economic Partnership

JASSO Japan Student Services Organization

KAFTA Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement

MCA Minerals Council of Australia

MFN most-favoured-nation

NIA National Interest Analysis

RCEP Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

RIS Regulation Impact Statement

SPS sanitary and phytosanitary

TRQs tariff rate quotas

TPP Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement

TRIPS Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights

WTO World Trade Organisation

List of recommendations

Recommendation 1

The Committee supports the *Agreement between Australia and Japan for an Economic Partnership* and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.