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

Report 147

Treaties tabled on 18 June, 24 November, 2 December 2014 and 25 February 2015

World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade Facilitation (Bali, 7 December 2013)

First Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) (Nay Pyi Taw, 26 August 2014)

Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between Australia and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Sydney, 2 July 2014)

World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade Facilitation: Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (including the Agreement on Trade Facilitation annexed to that Protocol) (Geneva, 27 November 2014)

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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

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

AANZFTA Australia and New Zealand Free Trade Agreement

ACBPS Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

ACCI Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

AFGC Australian Food and Grocery Council

AFP Australian Federal Police

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

ATF Agreement on Trade Facilitation

CCES Centre for Customs and Excise Studies

COAG Council of Australian Governments

COO Certificates of Origin

CTC Change in Tariff Classification

DFAT Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

FOB Free-on-Board

FTA Free Trade Agreement

GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

HS Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System

IFIS Imported Food Inspections Scheme

IGAB Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity

JSCOT Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

MFN Most Favoured Nation

NIA National Interest Analysis

OCP Operational Certification Procedures

PSR Product Specific Rules

RIS Regulation Impact Statement

ROO Rules of Origin

RVC Regional Value Content

SPS Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

TBT Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

USD United States Dollars

WCO World Customs Organization

WTO World Trade Organization

List of recommendations

2 World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade Facilitation

Recommendation 1

The Committee supports the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation: Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (including the Agreement on Trade Facilitation annexed to that Protocol) and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

3 First Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area

Recommendation 2

The Committee supports the *First Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN–Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Area* and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

4 Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between Australia and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

Recommendation 3

The Committee supports the *Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between Australia and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam* and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.