



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

Public Hearing

Issue date: 8 February 2019

International Government Procurement Hearing

The [Joint Standing Committee on Treaties](#) is holding a public hearing into the WTO Revised Agreement on Government Procurement.

Committee Chair, [Mr Russell Broadbent MP](#), said that the Agreement will open government procurement markets in at least 47 countries.

‘Many of these countries are places Australian businesses can’t currently access,’ Mr Broadbent said.

A wide range of government procurement opportunities will be made available to Australian businesses, including in accounting, management consulting, telecommunications and construction. The WTO estimates government procurement markets to be worth over US\$1.7 trillion annually.

‘The Agreement also contains protections to ensure governments retain policy flexibility, including in the fields of public health, the environment, security and intellectual property,’ Mr Broadbent said.

The Committee will hold hearing on two other treaties, a defence cooperation treaty with France and a prisoner transfer treaty with the United Arab Emirates. Details of these treaties are available [on the Committee’s website](#).

Public hearing details: 10.00am – 12.15pm, Monday, 11 February 2019, Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, CANBERRA

10.00am: **Defence Support – France**

10.45am: **WTO Government Procurement**

11.30am: **UAE – Prisoner Transfer**

12.15pm: *Close*

The hearing will be broadcast live at aph.gov.au/live

Media enquiries:

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Chair Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
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For background information:

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