

---

The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

# Reviewing *Troubled Waters*

**Consideration of the Government response to the 2012  
inquiry into arrangements surrounding crimes at sea**

House of Representatives  
Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs

June 2015  
Canberra

---

© Commonwealth of Australia 2015

ISBN 978-1-74366-342-4 (Printed version)

ISBN 978-1-74366-343-1 (HTML version)

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Australia License.




The details of this licence are available on the Creative Commons website:  
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/au/>.



# Contents

- Membership of the Committee ..... iv
- Terms of reference ..... vi
- List of recommendations ..... vii
  
- 1 Inquiry into crimes committed at sea ..... 1**
  - The *Troubled Waters* report ..... 1
  - The need for independent statistics ..... 2
  - International organisations ..... 4
  - Consumer protection and safety information ..... 6
  - Mandatory crime scene management and reporting standards ..... 9
  - The investigation of crimes at sea ..... 12
  - Concluding comments ..... 12
  
- Appendix A ..... 15



## Membership of the Committee

Chair            Mr George Christensen MP

Deputy Chair   Ms Sharon Claydon MP

Members       Ms Terri Butler MP

                     Mrs Louise Markus MP

                     Mr Graham Perrett MP

                     Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP

Hon Mr Mark Dreyfus QC MP

Mr Tony Pasin MP

Ms Melissa Price MP

Mr Michael Sukkar MP

# Committee Secretariat

Secretary	Dr Anna Dacre
Researcher	Mr Peter Pullen
Administrative Officer	Ms Jessica Hargreaves



## Terms of reference

On 19 December 2014, the Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs resolved to inquire into a matter arising from the 2013-2014 Annual Report of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, namely Crimes at Sea.



# List of recommendations

## Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government take the necessary steps to ensure that all data on alleged crimes at sea involving Australians in the possession of any Australian government agency (local, State, Territory or Federal) is provided to a Federal agency capable of compiling, maintaining and publishing statistics, and that the Government publish those statistics annually.

## Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government report back to the Committee by the end of 2015 on cruise operators' agreement to provide safety information to all cruise passengers departing Australia, and a timetable for the implementation of that agreement.

## Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government introduce legislation by 30 June 2016 to create mandatory regimes for:

- the implementation of the IMO *Guidelines*
- crime scene management, and
- reporting of alleged crimes at sea

as per recommendations 7, 8 and 9 from the Committee's *Troubled Waters* report.