



The Hon Christian Porter MP
Attorney-General
Minister for Industrial Relations
Leader of the House

Mr Dave Sharma MP
Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Dave.Sharma.MP@aph.gov.au

Dear ~~Mr Sharma~~ *Dave*

I write to you in my capacity as the Minister responsible for administering Australia's extradition and mutual legal assistance (MLA) agreements with the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Hong Kong).

As you are aware, on 3 September 2020 the Minister for Foreign Affairs tabled in Parliament the National Interest Analysis documents for the suspension of the *Agreement for the Surrender of Accused and Convicted Persons between the Government of Australia and the Government of Hong Kong* (the Extradition Agreement) as well as the suspension by mutual consent of the *Agreement between the Government of Hong Kong and the Government of Australia concerning Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters* (the MLA Agreement).

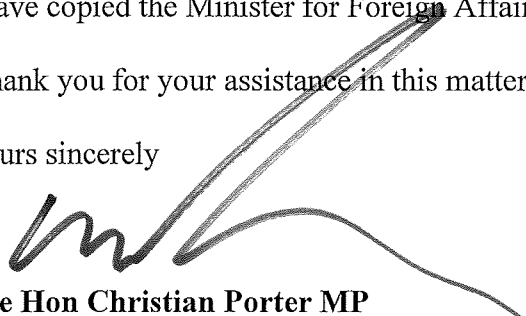
In accordance with paragraph (1)(b)(ii) of the Resolution of Appointment of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (JSCOT), I now request that the JSCOT inquire into and report on the treaty actions to suspend the Extradition Agreement and the MLA Agreement.

I further refer to my correspondence to you on 2 September 2020 in which I requested that the JSCOT expedite its consideration of these treaty actions to ensure that Australia is placed to take any necessary action to formalise these treaty actions by 9 October 2020. I trust that the JSCOT will be able to report by this time.

I have copied the Minister for Foreign Affairs into this letter for her information.

I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely


The Hon Christian Porter MP
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cc. Senator the Hon Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Women