



## **Australian Government**

**Australian Government response to the Parliamentary  
Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security report:**

**Review of the declaration of al-Raqqa province, Syria**

June 2015

**Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security**

*Review of the declaration of al-Raqqa province, Syria*

**Tabled 18 March 2015**

**Government's Response to Committee's Recommendations**

**Recommendation 1:**

The Committee recommends that, at the time a declaration is made, the Minister for Foreign Affairs provide to the Committee a document outlining the process underpinning the declaration of the area for the purposes of section 119.2 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995*.

**Response:**

The Government agrees with the recommendation. The Government notes that, at the time the Minister for Foreign Affairs declared al-Raqqa province, Syria on 4 December 2014, certain processes for publicising the declaration widely had not yet occurred. These processes were listed in the document provided to the Committee at the time of its review of the declaration of al-Raqqa province, Syria, which is included at Appendix B to the Committee's report. To ensure the Committee has a complete list of all the relevant processes at the time of its review, the Government will provide the Committee with a document outlining the process underpinning a declaration as soon as practicable following the making of a declaration by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

**Recommendation 2:**

The Committee recommends that the legislative instrument declaring al-Raqqa province, Syria for the purposes of section 119.2 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* not be disallowed.

**Response:**

The Government agrees with the recommendation.