



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

Public hearing

Issue date: 13 October 2017

Solar energy initiative and air service agreements

Australia's solar expertise could be key to helping tropical countries that have little or no access to energy.

The [Joint Standing Committee on Treaties](#) will hold a public hearing on Monday to discuss Australia's membership of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

The alliance aims to strengthen cooperation on solar research and development and encourage the diffusion of solar technology amongst countries in the tropics. The ISA is seen as an opportunity to promote Australia's expertise in the solar and energy sectors.

Committee Chair, [Mr Stuart Robert MP](#), said that joining the ISA could provide opportunities for Australian businesses and research institutions.

"Large sections of the population in many of these tropical countries have little or no access to energy, including many of our neighbours in the Indo-Pacific region. Membership of the ISA will support Australia's engagement in the region," the Chair said.

The committee will also discuss three air service agreements that Australia has with Israel, Hungary and Mauritius at the public hearing. These model agreements ensure international safety regulations and security measures are adhered to.

Public hearing details:

11.30am – 1.00pm, Monday 16 October

Committee Room, 1R2, Parliament House, Canberra

11.30am: Department of Energy and the Environment

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

12.15pm: Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

1.00pm: *Close*

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

Media enquiries:

Hon Stuart Robert MP, Federal Member for Fadden

Chair Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

Contact: Sam O'Connor - 0416 925 981



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For background information:

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

02 6277 4002

jsct@aph.gov.au

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