



Community and Public Sector Union

State Public Services Federation • Victorian Branch

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

7 January 2025

via www.aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary

RE: Letter of Support for AFTINET Submission to Agreement between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Australia on the Promotion and Protection of Investments

The Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) Victoria wishes to submit this letter of support for the position outlined in AFTINET's submission to the above consultation.

CPSU opposes ratification of the stand-alone Investment Agreement and the broader Australia-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

The Australian Labor government has a policy of including enforceable labour rights and environmental standards in trade agreements, and of safeguarding the interests of women and First Nations peoples. While the text of the Investment Agreement addresses these issues, the commitments outlined are not enforceable through the state-to-state dispute process and represent aspirational rather than obligatory adherence to rights and standards.

For this reason, CPSU opposes ratification of both Agreements due to concerns about the UAE's history of gross violation of human rights, labour rights and poor environmental standards, summarised in AFTINET's submission.

Yours sincerely



Robert Laird
Victorian Branch Acting Secretary

