



Review of tax evasion and air service treaties

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties will hold a public hearing on Monday 10 February in Canberra to examine two air services agreements and two tax information exchange agreements.

Air service agreements provide for the operation of commercial scheduled air services between the countries party to the Agreement. The two agreements under review will provide opportunities for the airlines of Australia and Vanuatu and Australia and Serbia to expand air travel options for consumers, contributing to trade and tourism.

The tax information exchange agreements between Australia and the Swiss Confederation and Australia and Uruguay will allow the Australian Taxation Office to obtain information on individuals who may be trying to avoid their tax obligations by moving their earnings to low tax countries. The Swiss agreement will also reduce incidents of double taxation on income for citizens of both countries thereby encouraging trade and investment.

Tax information exchange agreements have been developed under the auspices of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to improve the transparency of money transfers between countries.

“Australia is party to a number of these agreements. Significant amounts of unpaid tax are being recovered as a result of the information being exchanged between Australia and other countries using these agreements,” Committee Chair Wyatt Roy said.

**Public Hearing: Monday 10 February 2014, Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House
Canberra**

- 11.30am** **Air Services Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Serbia and Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu relating to Air Services**
- 12.10pm** **Convention between Australia and the Swiss Confederation for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income, with Protocol**
- 12.35pm** **Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay on the Exchange of Information with Respect to Taxes**

The hearing will be broadcast through: www.aph.gov.au/live

Copies of the treaties and submissions received can be found at:
http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=jsct/under_review.htm.

Alternatively, interested parties may email jsct@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4002.

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