

## INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 1)

Ms Lisa Chesters asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 30 October 2024:

How do member states terminate the Security Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Organisation (Organisation Conjointe de Coopération en Matière d'Armement) (OCCAR) for Joint Armament Cooperation on the Protection of Classified Information?

**Defence provides the following answer:**

A decision by the Organisation Conjointe de Coopération en Matière d'Armement (OCCAR) to terminate the Security Agreement between the Government of Australia and OCCAR on the Protection of Classified Information (the Agreement) would need to be made pursuant to the Convention on the Establishment of the Organisation for Joint Armament Cooperation 2001 (OCCAR Convention).

The decision would be referred to the Board of Supervisors, and any decision to terminate would be made on the basis of a reinforced qualified majority. A reinforced qualified majority means that no one Member State could terminate the Agreement on its own and a decision cannot be taken if there are 10 voting rights opposed. Each founding Member State has 10 voting rights and new Member States voting rights are determined by the existing Member States. Accordingly, any termination decision could not proceed if one or more Members States with at least 10 voting rights object to termination.