

PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA MEDIA RELEASE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND AID SUB-COMMITTEE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE Inquiry into establishing a Modern Slavery Act in Australia

Committee to discuss modern slavery with the Freedom Fund

The Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee of the Parliament's <u>Joint Standing Committee on Foreign</u> <u>Affairs, Defence and Trade</u> will meet with Mr Nick Grono, CEO of the <u>Freedom Fund</u>, at a public hearing on 16 August in Canberra.

The Sub-Committee is investigating whether elements of the UK *Modern Slavery Act 2015* could be introduced in Australia, particularly the UK requirement for businesses and organisations to report on how they ensure their global supply chains are free of slavery and human trafficking.

The Sub-Committee will hear from Mr Grono about the important work the UK-based Freedom Fund is undertaking to invest in measures to combat modern slavery around the world.

Chair of the Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee, Mr Chris Crewther MP, said the Sub-Committee welcomed the opportunity to discuss the work of the Freedom Fund in the UK and around the world. "The Sub-Committee looks forward to meeting with Mr Grono to hear further about the important initiatives of the Freedom Fund, and to identify ways to better combat modern slavery."

Public hearing details: 3:30pm to 4:30pm, Wednesday 16 August, Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra

The full program is available from the committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/modernslavery.

This hearing will be streamed live at www.aph.gov.au/live.

Media enquiries:

Mr Chris Crewther MP (Dunkley, Victoria), Chair of the Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Contact: Matthew Head or Nathan Hersey, (03) 9781 2333

For background:

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (02) 6277 2313 jscfadt@aph.gov.au

Interested members of the public may wish to track the committee via the <u>website</u>. Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.

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