



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade  
Foreign Affairs Sub Committee

Chair: Senator Alan Ferguson  
Sub Comm. Chair: Senator Marise Payne

# Australia's relations with Korea

## Public hearings in Sydney and Melbourne

Parliament's Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee continues its review of Australia's relationship with the Republic of Korea, and developments on the Korean peninsula at public hearings in Sydney and Melbourne on Tuesday, 20 September and Wednesday, 21 September.

The Committee is reviewing the extent of the political, strategic, economic, social and cultural relationship, and is considering both the current situation and future opportunities.

Announcing the public hearings, the Sub-Committee Chair, Senator Marise Payne said, "The Republic of Korea is Australia's fourth largest trading partner and Australia ranks sixth in the list of Korea's principal suppliers of imports. The strength of this bilateral trade may warrant the consideration of a Free Trade Agreement with the Republic of Korea."

The Sub-Committee expects discussion to include issues such as Australia's anti-dumping policy as it affects Korean imports, and the impediments to exporting primary produce to Korea."

The Australia–Korea Business Council is concerned at the number of Korean exporters involved in anti-dumping cases and advocates that 'the national interest' should be considered in anti-dumping. The Australian Customs Service has been called to answer these concerns.

The inquiry's cultural interactions theme will be continued with the appearance of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance, and the Australian Film Commission.

"The Sub-Committee will explore the cultural links between Australian and South Korean arts institutions and the potential for them to be developed further."

The situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will be covered in the latter part of the hearings with the appearance of Caritas and the Australian Red Cross.

"Australian charities deliver substantial aid to the DPRK and will be able to provide information on the humanitarian situation in that country," Senator Payne said.

The program for the two days of public hearings is attached.

The public hearing program will continue with a hearing in Canberra on Friday, 14 October. Submissions received by the Committee and transcripts of the public hearings will be available on the Committee's website.

**For media inquiries**, contact the Sub Committee Chair, Senator Marise Payne, on 02 6277 3810 or 02 9893 5151.

**For all other inquiries**, contact the Sub Committee Secretary, John Carter, on 02 6277 4306 or visit the inquiry website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/korea/index.htm>

**Inquiry into Australia's relationship with the Republic of Korea;  
and developments on the Korean peninsula**

Conference Room A, Commonwealth Offices, Level 8 Charterbridge House  
70 Philip Street, Sydney

**Tuesday, 20 September 2005—Public Hearing Program**

<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Korean Education Centre</b>
<b>10.10 am</b>	<b>Overseas Korean Traders Association</b>
<b>10.50 am</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>Australia-Korea Business Council</b>
<b>11.45am</b>	<b>Australian Customs Service</b>
<b>12.20 pm</b>	<b>Korea-Australasia Research Centre</b>
<b>1.00 pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>2.00 pm</b>	<b>Australian Broadcasting Corporation</b>
<b>2.30 pm</b>	<b>Media, Entertainment &amp; Arts Alliance</b>
<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>Australian Film Commission</b>
<b>3.30 pm</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>3.40 pm</b>	<b>Meat &amp; Livestock Australia Ltd</b>
<b>4.20 pm</b>	<b>Caritas Australia</b>
<b>5.00 pm</b>	<b>Close</b>

Legislative Council Committee Room, Parliament House  
Spring Street, Melbourne

**Wednesday, 21 September 2005—Public Hearing Program**

<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Australian Red Cross</b>
<b>9.40 am</b>	<b>North West Shelf Australia LNG</b>
<b>10.20 am</b>	<b>The Korean Society of Victoria Australia Inc</b>
<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11.10 am</b>	<b>Australia Wine and Brandy Corporation</b>
<b>12.00 nn</b>	<b>Close</b>