



Treaties Committee supports listing of Basking Shark as endangered migratory species

Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, Andrew Southcott, yesterday (Wednesday 10 May) tabled *Report 73*, which includes support for amendment to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals to include the Basking Shark and other endangered migratory species.

The Basking Shark was jointly nominated for listing by Australia and the United Kingdom as an endangered migratory species. Under the Convention, Australia as a range state for the Basking Shark has obligations to protect the species and already does so through the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

“The Committee supports Australia and the United Kingdom’s joint nomination of the Basking Shark as a continuation of its efforts to protect sharks as well as a continuation of its broader efforts to protect migratory species,” Dr Southcott said.

In addition to the above treaty action, *Report 73: Treaties tabled in February 2006* outlines the Committee’s review and recommendations for binding treaty action in relation to five other treaties. These are: two safety aviation agreements; Amendments to the International Hydrographic Organization and two taxation agreements.

Report 73 is available on the Committee’s website:
<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/report.htm>
or by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4002.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Media contact:	John Deller (Dr Southcott’s Office) (mobile)	(08) 8374 0511 0439 802 767
Background:	Janet Holmes (Committee Secretary)	(02) 6277 4642