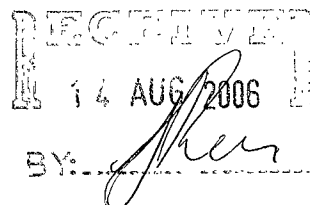




# Department of Premier and Cabinet



- 4 AUG 2006

Submission 4  
TT 20 June 2006

1 Treasury Place  
Melbourne Victoria 3002  
GPO Box 4912  
Melbourne Victoria 3001  
Telephone: (03) 9651 5111  
Facsimile: (03) 9651 5298  
DX 210753

**Dr Andrew Southcott MP**  
**Chair**  
**Joint Standing Committee on Treaties**  
**Parliament House**  
**CANBERRA ACT 2600**

Our Ref:

**Dear Dr Southcott**

**TREATIES TABLED ON 20 JUNE 2006: AGREEMENT RELATING TO SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

I refer to your letter of 21 June 2006 to the Hon Steve Bracks MP, Premier of Victoria, advising about the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties' (JSCOT) inquiry into the treaties tabled in Parliament on 20 June 2006, and inviting comment on these proposed treaties.

Victoria recognises that the *Agreement relating to Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America* offers a framework for improving scientific cooperation between Australia and the United States.

To ensure a national and coordinated approach, it is important that the implementation arrangements for the Agreement include consultation with the States and Territories and the scientific community, particularly in relation to determining areas of interest, particular activities and financial implications for participating organisations. Therefore Victoria would like to propose that arrangements for consultation be established by the Commonwealth, States and Territories Advisory Council on Innovation.

Thank you for your invitation to provide comments on the proposed treaties tabled in Parliament on 20 June 2006.

**Yours sincerely**

**TERRY MORAN**  
**Secretary**