



**Jon Stanhope** MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

ATTORNEY GENERAL MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
MINISTER FOR ARTS, HERITAGE & INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

TT 8 February 05  
Submission No: .....6.....

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

Dear Dr Southcott

Thank you for your letter of 15 February 2005 inviting ACT Government comment on treaties under review by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.

Your letter invited comment on the following three treaties tabled in Parliament on 8 February 2005:

- *Agreement on Social Security between the Government of Australia and the Government of Malta (Valletta, 16 June 2004);*
- *Beijing Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, done at Beijing in November 1999; and*
- *Amendments, agreed at Bangkok, in October 2004, to Appendices I and II of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora of 3 March 1973.*

The ACT Government's contact with the Maltese Australian Association of Canberra and Queanbeyan has indicated that the Maltese Community has some concerns about the potential implications of the Social Security Agreement between Australia and Malta for entitlements under the Aged Pension, particularly for widows.

On other issues the ACT will not be making any comments to the Committee at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the treaties under inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Chief Minister

14 MAR 2005

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601 GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601

Phone (02) 6205 0104 Fax (02) 6205 0433

