



Treaties Committee to review Singapore's helicopter deployment at Oakey

Federal Parliament's Treaties Committee will review a proposal for the continued deployment of a Republic of Singapore Air Force helicopter squadron at the Army Aviation Centre, Oakey, Queensland at a public hearing in Canberra on Monday 13 August.

"Oakey has hosted Singaporean helicopter squadrons since 1997 and this should help the Committee assess the costs and benefits of the agreement," the Committee chair, Mr Kelvin Thomson MP, said.

The Committee will also be examining two tax information exchange agreements; with Bahrain and Andorra. These treaties allow the Australian Taxation Office to obtain information on individuals who may be trying to avoid their tax obligations by moving their earnings to low tax countries.

Australia is party to a number of tax information exchange agreements. These agreements benefit Australia as significant sums of unpaid tax are being recovered as a result of information exchanged using these agreements.

In addition, the Committee will be examining whether Australia should become a party to the *Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development*.

**Public Hearing: Monday 13 August 2012, Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House
Canberra — All welcome**

- 9:30am** Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Singapore concerning the Location of a Republic of Singapore Air Force Helicopter Squadron at the Australian Army Aviation Centre Oakey
- 10:15am** The Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain on the Exchange of Information with Respect to Taxes (Manama, 15 December 2011)
and
the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Principality of Andorra on the Exchange of Information with Respect to Taxes done at New York on 24 September 2011
- 10:45am** Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

The hearing will be broadcast through:

http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament

Copies of the treaties and submissions received can be found at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=jsct/under_review.htm. Alternatively, interested parties may email jsct@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4002.

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