



## Public hearing for agreements with the International Monetary Fund, USA, Singapore and New Zealand

Federal Parliament's Treaties Committee will hold a public hearing on six treaties in Canberra on Monday 7 September 2009. The six treaties were tabled in parliament on 20 August 2009 and include defence arrangements with the United States of America and Singapore and a taxation agreement with New Zealand.

The Committee will hear from representatives of the Department of Defence regarding amendments to the Chapeau Defence Agreement which will strengthen bilateral defence relations with the United States of America. The second defence treaty will allow the Singapore Armed Forces to continue to use the Shoalwater Bay Training Area, encouraging the mutual exchange of knowledge and expertise between Australia and the Republic of Singapore and promoting Australia's continued commitment to regional security.

Representatives of the Treasury will give evidence regarding three Agreements with the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development designed to enhance the voting rights of member states. They will also provide evidence on a new taxation agreement with New Zealand aimed at reducing double taxation of residents of both countries and promoting trade and investment by updating and modernising tax arrangements between the two countries.

### **PUBLIC HEARING PROGRAM**

**9.00am – 12.00pm, Monday, 7 September 2009**

**Venue: Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra**

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| 9.00am  | Two Agreements with the International Monetary Fund and one Agreement with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development                    |
| 9.40am  | Convention between Australia and New Zealand for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion                                  |
| 10.30am | Amendment to the Agreement between Australia and the United States of America concerning Certain Mutual Defence Commitments (Chapeau Defence Agreement) |
| 11.15am | Agreement between Australia and the Republic of Singapore concerning the Use of Shoalwater Bay Training Area  |

This hearing will be broadcast live on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/> (audio only)

Further information is available on the Committee's website: [www.aph.gov.au/jsct](http://www.aph.gov.au/jsct)

### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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