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From: Peggy Friedrichs [SMTP:pegf@bigpond.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2000 1:20 PM
To: jsct@aph.gov.au
Subject: WTO

The Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

SIR,

The relationship between the WTO and regional ECONOMIC arrangements should be a priority with the Australian Government. Australia has to compete against countries, which subsidize primary industry very heavily.

Not only can our farmers not compete with this state of affairs, but they also have to contend in many instances with much poorer soil. This in turn, causes extra cost in making the soil more productive.

Environment

We lay ourselves open to criticism when we do not abide by the environmental and social outcomes laid down by the Kyoto protocol. We will have to change our policy or our views will not be taken seriously

Accountability

There is a great need for more transparency and accountability of WTO operations and decision making..

More observers should be appointed to monitor ALL business undertaken.

Peggy Friedrichs
45 McArthur Ave
Kurralta Park
S.A.

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Peggy Friedrichs <pegf@bigpond.com <<mailto:pegf@bigpond.com>>>