



Submission No 17

Inquiry into Australia's Overseas Representation

Name: Dr Ali Kraishan
Charge D'affairs

Organisation: Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



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The Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan presents its compliments to the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade and has the honour contribute to the feedback on Australia's overseas representations which has been requested in your letter dated 18 October 2011.

The Jordanian Government recognises the important role of Australian diplomatic missions in the Middle East both on diplomatic and consular levels. The number of diplomats and locally engaged staff of the Australian Embassy in Amman also reflect the important role of Australia's diplomatic mission in Jordan.

Australian citizens living in Jordan and Syria along with citizens of both countries can benefit from the Australian Embassy's services in Amman. In this regards, the Jordanian Government facilitates visa applications for people residing in neighbouring countries and entering Jordan to access the Embassy's services.

Although various countries have diverse perception to E-Diplomacy, Jordan government perceives it as a new method of communicating as well as a method of transferring information, and while various media resources are considered to be the most efficient method of obtaining information, which eventually influence E-Diplomacy, it is important to point that media sources currently are mainly owned and managed by independent companies and often do not reflect any government

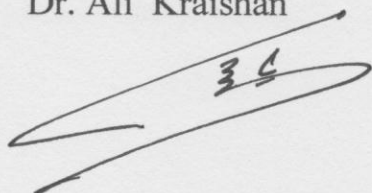
strategies or orientations. The Jordanian Government make use of various media methods, however, it also acknowledge its' diplomatic missions around the world as the most important source of information due to several reasons, some of which can be a result of the intensive training of members of diplomatic missions to reflect what usually media covers in accordance to a deep understanding of policies and legislations and with transparency which doesn't need to impress a reader.

The Jordanian Government appreciates the bilateral relationship with the Australian Government and its people and would like to explore the opportunity to emphasise the importance of economical, medical, educational and agricultural contributions of Australian Government in Jordan, thus the Jordanian Government is keen to receive developmental funds through AusAid. The decision of placing the Australian diplomatic mission in Amman to facilitate Australia's interest in neighbouring countries reflects the belief that Jordan has the stability and security along with the geographical advantage in the region. The Jordanian Embassy would like to explore the possibility of obtaining funds through AusAid to help the development in the following sectors: education, health, development of rural areas, good governance, infra-structure, and the environment in order to enhance the growth in Jordan.

The Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade the assurances of its highest consideration.

Charge D'affairs

Dr. Ali Kraishan

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AK', written over a horizontal line.