



Review of a nuclear material transfer and a nuclear material safeguards agreement with China

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, chaired by Andrew Southcott MP, will hold a public hearing on Monday 4 September to examine two agreements between the Governments of Australia and China relating to the transfer and safeguard of nuclear material.

With an estimated 36 per cent of the world's low-cost recoverable uranium deposits, Australia is well-placed to expand its uranium exports and meet China's long-term uranium demand which is expected to quadruple by 2020.

The nuclear material transfer agreement would allow for the supply of Australian uranium to China's nuclear power program. The nuclear material safeguards agreement would provide for cooperation on various nuclear issues; including the transfer of nuclear-related material, equipment or technology. Together, the Agreements have the same effect as provisions contained in Australian safeguards agreements.

"The Committee will examine the benefits and determine whether the Agreements are in Australia's national interest," Dr Southcott said.

In addition, the Committee will receive further evidence on two treaties: Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and an Exchange of Notes; and Extradition and an Exchange of Notes with the Government of Malaysia.

The public hearing will be held in **Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra** on **Monday, 4 September 2006** from **10.00 am**. The public hearing will be broadcast on the House Monitoring Service on Channel 10, radio frequency 98.3MHz and on the Parliament House website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/live/webcast3.asp#> Further information about the inquiry is available on the Committee's website:

www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/8august2006/tor.htm
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PUBLIC HEARING PROGRAM – 10.00 am-12.30 pm, 4 September 2006

Venue: Committee Room 2R1, second floor, Parliament House, Canberra

10.00 am Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of Malaysia on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and an Exchange of Notes; and

Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of Malaysia on Extradition and an Exchange of Notes

11.00 am **Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Transfer of Nuclear Material; and**

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

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