



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Trade Sub-Committee

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Issued: 16 Sept 2011

Chair: Ms Janelle Saffin MP  
Deputy: Hon Bruce Scott MP

## Defence to discuss Australia's bilateral defence relationships with Japan and South Korea

The Department of Defence will discuss the cooperation in defence equipment and hardware between Australia, Japan and South Korea at a public hearing in Canberra.

In 2001, Australia and the Republic of Korea signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Materiel Cooperation. In 2009, Australia and the Republic of Korea agreed on an Action Plan for Enhanced Global and Security Cooperation.

Australia and Japan also have established an Action Plan to implement the Japan-Australia Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation. In 2008, Australia and Japan signed an updated Memorandum on Defence Cooperation.

The chair of the Trade Sub-Committee of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, Ms Janelle Saffin, said Australia's defence relationship with both Japan and the Republic of Korea is robust and continues to grow.

"Japan and the Republic of Korea are important regional security partners. It is important for Australia's Defence capability to ensure that we build on our already strong security partnership with these two countries and look at the role of the government in identifying future defence industry and materiel cooperation in areas of mutual interest," Ms Saffin said.

Details of the public hearing are as follows:

**Wednesday, 21 September 2011**

**11.00 am to 12.00 pm**

**Committee Room 1R2**

**Parliament House, CANBERRA**

Members of the public are welcome to attend. For a program and more details, visit the Committee's website:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/japanandkoreatrade/index.htm>

Proceedings will be audio broadcast on <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

There is still an opportunity to contribute to this inquiry as the Committee will continue to accept submissions.

**For media comment:** please contact the Sub-Committee Chair, Ms Janelle Saffin on (02) 6621 9909 (Electorate Office) or (02) 6277 4323 (Parliament House)

**For further information:** please contact the Committee secretariat on **(02) 6277 2313**, via email at [jscfadt@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscfadt@aph.gov.au) or visit the inquiry website at: [www.aph.gov.au/jfadt](http://www.aph.gov.au/jfadt)