



Treaties Committee supports anti-piracy treaty

The Federal Parliament's Treaties Committee has recommended, in a report tabled in Parliament today, that Australia ratify the *Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia* (ReCAAP).

ReCAAP is the result of efforts by countries which trade goods through the straits of Malacca and the straits of Singapore to address piracy and armed robbery in these waters.

ReCAAP acts as a framework for cooperation amongst signatories. It promotes information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships. ReCAAP also enables capacity building to improve responses to acts of piracy.

"Australia will benefit by increased awareness of emerging regional threats. Australia will also gain access to a regional maritime security network comprising national authorities who are also responsible for managing the threat of piracy and armed robbery in our immediate region", Committee Chair, Mr Kelvin Thomson MP, said.

The Report also sets out the committee's support for three other proposed treaties:

- *the Treaty between Australia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on Extradition;*
- *the Partial Revision of the 2008 Radio Regulations, as incorporated in the International Telecommunication Union Final Acts of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12); and*
- *the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Kingdom of Spain for the Mutual Protection of Classified Information of Defence Interest.*

Report 131 is available on the committee's website:

www.aph.gov.au/jsct or by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4002.

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