

LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends that:

1. **as a matter of urgency the Department of Industry, Science and Tourism re-establish a unit to provide advice on users' needs to the Australian Bureau of Statistics on the best approach to develop more comprehensive service statistics. (Para 2.16)**
2. **the Australian Bureau of Statistics continue its efforts to ensure that service sector data is brought into line with that of the manufacturing, mining and agricultural sectors. (Para 2.16)**
3. **the Australian Bureau of Statistics budget be adjusted to enable this to occur. (Para 2.16)**
4. **all government departments consider the extent to which relevant service statistics can be collected and published. (Para 2.16)**
5. **the Australian Taxation Office, in its work on compliance costs reduction, undertake a more comprehensive ongoing sampling of the views of individual businesses to ensure its actions are based on an accurate and realistic understanding of business problems and requirements. (Para 3.16)**
6. **the Australian Taxation Office and Treasury keep the Double Taxation Agreement with Indonesia under active review and at the earliest appropriate time the Government renegotiate a more favourable tax treaty. (Para 3.77)**
7. **the Australian Government and Australian business continue to develop the APEC Business Travel Card proposal and consult with APEC countries to widen participation in streamlining border processing for accredited business visitors. (Para 4.18)**
8. **the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs commence its promotion of the Australian qualifications framework as a matter of urgency. (Para 4.50)**
9. **Australian companies adopt a policy of recruiting and supporting students with both language and professional skills to provide an important resource for Australian businesses operating in the Asia-Pacific region in the future. (Para 4.55)**
10. **the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs, in co-operation with State and Territory Departments, keep comprehensive statistics on the number of students by each year level studying Asian languages. (Para 4.58)**

11. **the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs encourage, in conjunction with State and Territory Ministers, the availability within the Australian education system of Mandarin and Indonesian language courses. (Para 4.61)**
12. **government, business, and educational institutions provide adequate language and cultural training for their executives who work or do regular business overseas. (Para 4.66)**
13. **the Australian Government direct its agencies to develop strategies to improve the linkages between their programs and international education export activities. (Para 4.114)**
14. **Austrade and the offices of Australia's Executive Director to the World Bank and Asian Development Bank ensure that Australian business is alerted to the service export opportunities available through both the World Bank and Asian Development Bank tendering processes. (Para 4.117)**
15. **in the light of the review of Australia's aid program, the Government give consideration to improving arrangements for capitalising on the commercial opportunities arising from Australia's aid program, including new export opportunities for the services sector. (Para 4.119)**
16. **the Department of Industry, Science and Tourism advertise AusIndustry services and assistance more widely and effectively, particularly to potential and existing service exporters. (Para 4.135)**
17. **Austrade communicate its client policy more effectively to ensure that small to medium service exporters are aware of programs available to provide export assistance. (Para 4.137)**
18. **Austrade publish a brochure for potential service exporters dealing with the challenges and opportunities of individual overseas markets and outlining the various schemes that offer assistance. (Para 4.141)**
19. **the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs work with State and Territory Government authorities and professional institutions in Australia to ensure that overseas graduates undertaking courses in Australia are able to stay on for the extra time needed to gain full accreditation. (Para 5.65)**
20. **all organisations involved in international education, work to promote a cohesive Australian identity overseas and ensure that competition between Australian providers is not damaging Australia's reputation as a quality education service provider. (Para 5.74)**
21. **Australia encourage the adoption of international standards (ISO) in Hong Kong with a view to promoting freer interchange in services between Australia and Hong Kong. (Para 5.130)**

22. **the Australian Government maintain pressure through multilateral and bilateral channels for Hong Kong to open further its domestic market to Australian service providers. (Para 5.136)**
23. **Australia maintain a high profile in ensuring that the principles of the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law are upheld in Hong Kong after 1 July 1997 to enable trade and investment in Hong Kong to continue with confidence. (Para 5.148)**
24. **the Government strongly pursue negotiations in all trade forums with Indonesia to open up its markets to foreign commercial presence and service imports. (Para 6.35)**
25. **the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Austrade and the Department of Industry, Science and Tourism give a high priority to activities designed to project Australia as a high technology country. (Para 6.35)**
26. **the Treasury and the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs confirm whether there are significant inequities in allowances for students studying in Australia under World Bank funded projects and if so established, approach the World Bank with a view to redressing this situation. (Para 6.82)**
27. **the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs, in consultation with industry bodies, examine the current provision of educational advice at overseas posts with a view to avoiding duplication of effort and simplifying the process for prospective students. (Para 6.88)**
28. **Australia offer to assist Indonesia to adopt internationally recognised commercial law standards, and business standards and practices that will maintain the confidence of overseas investors. (Para 6.129)**
29. **Austrade and the Department of Health and Family Services consider ways in which medical services and health education services can focus on the needs of markets like Indonesia to improve the understanding of the high quality of medical services available in Australia. (Para 6.170)**
30. **the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs in association with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, take up with Indonesia the issue of easing restrictions for Australian business people travelling and working abroad. (Para 6.175)**
31. **the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Austrade ensure that they have the most up-to-date information on Indonesian regulations, their application and enforcement as they affect service exporters, and actively disseminate that information available to service exporters. (Para 6.177)**

32. Australia encourage the Indonesian government to accept and adopt international standards (ISO). (Para 6.182)