

PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 25 June 2009

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

Chair: Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

New Australian Embassy planned for Jakarta, Indonesia

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the proposed construction of new Australian Embassy to be located in Jakarta, Indonesia, which is estimated to cost \$415 million.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has told the Committee that the need for a new Australian embassy in Indonesia is being driven by enhanced security requirements following the 2004 bombing outside the existing Australian embassy that killed 11 and wounded a reported 150 people.

The development, to be located in the Patra Kuningan district of Jakarta, proposes to provide working space for a range of Australian Government organisations, as well as space for official functions, exhibitions, business functions and living quarters for the Ambassador and Australian staff.

The Committee is keen to hear a wide range of views on the proposed development and public submissions on the proposal are welcome. Full details on the proposal are available on the Committee's website.

Other inquiries being currently undertaken by the Committee include the refit of the Tuggeranong Office Park and ANZAC Park West, both in Canberra.

NB the Public Works Committee is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

For interview: Contact the office of the Committee Chair, Senator the Hon Jan McLucas on (07) 4031 6009.

For further information, including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc</u> or contact the Committee Secretariat on 02 6277 4636.