

Australian Institute of International Affairs

Visitor: His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC (Retd)

National President: Clive Hildebrand

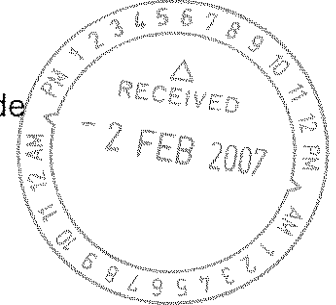
Executive Director: Melissa H. Conley Tyler

Stephen House
32 Thesiger Court
Deakin ACT 2600
Australia

Tel: 02 6282 2133
Fax: 02 6285 2334
ceo@aiaa.asn.au
www.aiaa.asn.au

31 January 2007

Dr Kathleen Dermody
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Suite S1.57, Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600



Dear Dr Dermody,

Inquiry into the nature and conduct of Australia's public diplomacy

Thank you for your invitation to make a written submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade's inquiry into Australia's public diplomacy.

The Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA) has sought, since 1924, to keep Australian citizens informed on international affairs. Through its events and publications, which provide quick and targeted expert responses on current international issues, the AIIA seeks to inform and thus improve the Australian public's understanding of current international issues.

I attach the AIIA's Annual Review 2005-2006 to assist the Committee's inquiry. This document describes the activities carried out by the AIIA to deepen knowledge of international issues within Australia and its increasing ties with its sister institutes of international affairs worldwide.

The AIIA has blossomed considerably since its beginnings. We currently have 1500 members across our seven state and territory branches and over 150 events held each year. We are also working to engage younger Australians in world issues through Youth Networks established by the New South Wales and Victorian branches. These are proving successful in providing a platform for debate and a launching pad for Australia's future leaders and professionals.

We are pleased to be able to continue our long-standing work helping Australians become better informed about Australia's interaction with the rest of the world.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa H. Conley Tyler', is written over a large, faint, stylized 'AIIA' watermark that spans the bottom right portion of the page.

Melissa H. Conley Tyler
National Executive Director