

Inquiry into Australia's involvement in peacekeeping operations

On 8 November 2006, the Senate referred the following matter to the committee for inquiry and report by 16 August 2007:

The changing nature of Australia's involvement in peacekeeping operations and the implications for the Australian Defence Force, AusAID, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Australian Federal Police and other departments and agencies likely to be called on to assist a peacekeeping operation, with particular reference to:

- (a) the policy framework, procedures and protocols that govern the Government's decision to participate in a peacekeeping operation, for determining the conditions of engagement and for ceasing to participate;
- (b) the training and preparedness of Australians likely to participate in a peacekeeping operation;
- (c) the coordination of Australia's contribution to a peacekeeping operation among Australian agencies and also with the United Nations and other relevant countries; and
- (d) lessons learnt from recent participation in peacekeeping operations that would assist government to prepare for future operations.

The Committee is seeking views from a wide cross-section of the Australian community on Australia's involvement in peacekeeping operations.

The purpose of this letter is to invite you or your organisation to make a written submission to the Committee. There is no requirement to address the full terms of reference and you may choose to comment only on the terms of reference that are of interest to you. If your organisation would like to participate in the inquiry, the Committee would welcome a written submission.

The closing date for submissions is **by 20 March 2007** though earlier lodgement would be appreciated. Submissions should be sent to:

**The Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600**