Introduction

Purpose of the report

1.1 This report contains advice to Parliament on the review by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties of treaty actions tabled in Parliament on 6, 7 and 27 February 2007. These treaty actions are:

6\(^1\) and 7\(^2\) February 2007

- Agreement between Australia and the Swiss Confederation on Social Security (Canberra, 9 October 2006)

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27 February 2007


Briefing documents

1.2 The advice in this Report refers to the National Interest Analysis (NIA) prepared for the proposed treaty actions. This document is prepared by the Government agency (or agencies) responsible for the administration of Australia’s responsibilities under each treaty. Copies of the NIA may be obtained from the Committee Secretariat or accessed through the Committee’s website at:


1.3 Copies of treaty actions and NIAs may also be obtained from the Australian Treaties Library maintained on the internet by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Australian Treaties Library is accessible through the Committee’s website or directly at:

www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/dfat/

Conduct of the Committee’s review

1.4 The review contained in this report was advertised in the national press and on the Committee’s website. Invitations to lodge submissions were also sent to all State Premiers, Chief Ministers, Presiding Members of Parliament and to individuals who have expressed an interest in being kept informed of proposed treaty

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4 The Committee’s review of the proposed treaty action was advertised in The Australian on 14 February and 14 March 2007. Members of the public were advised on how to obtain relevant information and invited to submit their views to the Committee, both in the advertisement and via the Committee’s website.
actions. Submissions received and their authors are listed at Appendix A.

1.5 The Committee also received evidence at public hearings held on 26 February and 26 March 2007 in Canberra. A list of witnesses who appeared before the Committee at the public hearings is at Appendix B. Transcripts of evidence from public hearings may be obtained from the Committee Secretariat or accessed through the Committee’s website at:

