

Australian Government response to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security report:

Report on the review of the re-listing of five organisations as terrorist organisations under the Criminal Code

Al-Shabaab, Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hamas' Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades and the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)

Recommendations

Recommendation 1:

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government give consideration to extending the listing of Hamas' Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades as a terrorist organisation to the entirety of Hamas.

Response:

The Government accepts this recommendation.

Recommendation 2:

The Committee recommends that Australian Government agencies continue to engage with the Kurdish community in relation to the listing of the Kurdistan Workers' Party and provide advice on the conduct and communications which would fall under the ambit of criminal conduct in the Criminal Code.

Response:

The Government accepts this recommendation.

The Australian Government agrees that engagement with the community is important to ensure there is an understanding of Australia's Counter-Terrorism laws and the rights of individuals and organisations. As Government agencies are unable to provide legal advice, individuals and organisations should seek independent legal advice in relation to their specific circumstances.

Recommendation 3:

The Committee recommends that, within 18 months of tabling this report, the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security receive a briefing, either orally or in writing, from the Department of Home Affairs on its continuing engagement with the Kurdish community on the listing of the Kurdistan Workers' Party.

Response:

The Government accepts this recommendation.