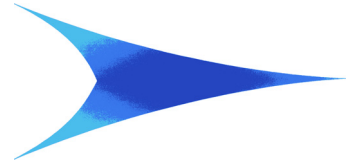


# The Southern Cross Group

*Promoting Mobility in the Global Community*



## **Can You Help the SCG with Research for the Senate Inquiry into Australian Expatriates?**

As part of its submission to the Senate's Diaspora Inquiry, the Southern Cross Group (SCG) plans to present a country-by-country analysis of how other countries relate to and support their diasporas.

We seek your volunteer help to achieve this. Although we have hard-working volunteers in many countries, we do not have a paid team of researchers working full time for the Group, so our resources are always stretched.

We are aware that a number of countries have established a set of arrangements to link with, support and/or utilise their expatriates. The arrangements have many formats including:

- Representative councils elected by expatriates with some direct form of representation in the national parliament.
- Parliamentary representatives directly elected by expatriates.
- Expatriate rights to vote in national and other elections.
- Advisory Councils with members drawn from the expatriate community with direct input to the development of Government policy.
- Government agencies and non-government organizations which have established a network of links to, and support facilities for, the expatriate community, and the nature of those links or support mechanisms.

Other issues of interest to us include:

- How, if at all, a country has formally defined the composition of its diaspora, eg only citizens living outside its borders, citizens plus those eligible for citizenship, those who can establish ancestry links to citizens or former citizens, etc, and the estimated size of the diaspora on that basis.
- How it defines citizenship, the legislative basis for this, and the rules relating to naturalisation, or loss of citizenship.
- The country's stance on dual or multiple citizenship.
- Policies relating to the repatriation of members of its diaspora.
- Formal and/or informal programs established to recognise, develop and/or utilise the diaspora as a national resource.
- Research studies and other authoritative reports on the country's diaspora.
- The policy in respect of census taking with relation to the inclusion or exclusion on the one hand of its own expatriates, and on the other hand of other countries' expatriates resident within its borders.
- Policies specific to a country's expatriates in relation to health and welfare entitlements, pensions and superannuation, education, taxation, banking and financial services, etc.

- Recognition of educational and professional qualifications gained in another country.

If you have knowledge on any of the above, or would be willing to assist our all volunteer committee by carrying out some research on any or all of the above in your country of origin, residence or previous residence, we would like to hear from you.

Of necessity, the information we are looking for needs to be presented to the Senate Committee in English, either taken direct from an original source or as an English translation of an original source. Details of the source need to be clearly stated and it would be ideal if we are able to quote a link to a website address where the information is to be found.

Your first contact with the SCG on this should be by e-mail to:

[sid@southern-cross-group.org](mailto:sid@southern-cross-group.org)

outlining how you feel you would be able to contribute. This will enable us to open a dialogue with you.

The deadline for us to present our submission to the Senate Committee is 27 February 2003, so the sooner we get started, the better.

Many thanks!

The Southern Cross Group Volunteer Committee  
[www.southern-cross-group.org](http://www.southern-cross-group.org)