

The Southern Cross Group

Promoting mobility in the global community



Ms Ann Duffield
Chief of Staff
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Dear Ms Duffield,

On behalf of the members of the Southern Cross Group, thank you and Ms. Kate Wallace for the meeting on 11 December with Mr. John MacGregor and myself.

Our members appreciate the efforts by the Minister, yourself and staff with respect to updating the provisions of the 1948 Citizenship Act related to dual nationality. We were most encouraged to hear the supporting views of various government departments and business groups while in Australia. During a meeting with the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff Mr. Arthur Sinodinos we discussed the upcoming innovation statement by the Government and the need for Australia to evolve policies optimising the impact of globalization.

In this context, we have some cause for optimism on the likelihood of repeal of Section 17 of the Citizenship Act, regarding dual nationality. The Southern Cross Group shares the Government's objective of promoting the competitiveness of Australia. This innovation statement will give useful policy direction to this end.

However, if you believe that further efforts are required to convince your colleagues in the Government of the advantages of Section 17 repeal, please let us know.

The Southern Cross Group has members spread through a broad range of countries and professions. It has a large number of committed Australians and is keen to play a constructive role in promoting Australian interests globally. From this reservoir of expertise, if we can assist with your work where you consider appropriate in canvassing opinions or research for optimizing policies for Australia, do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you again for agreeing to meet us and for your efforts in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

John Russell
Member of the Management Committee