

Government Response  
to the  
Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
Defence and Trade  
Defence Sub-Committee Report

*'Report of the 2003 New Zealand Parliamentary  
Committee Exchange 6-11 April 2003'*

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE  
TO  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
DEFENCE AND TRADE**

**DEFENCE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

*REPORT OF THE 2003 NEW ZEALAND PARLIAMENTARY  
COMMITTEE EXCHANGE 6-11 APRIL 2003*

**RECOMMENDATION 1**

The Australian Strategic Policy Institute and the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at ANU should be encouraged to examine with their NZ counterparts opportunities for joint research projects. The Ministers for Defence and Foreign Affairs should consider whether any additional resources are needed for this activity. (Paragraph 4.36)

**Government Response:**

**Agreed.** This useful suggestion would contribute to strengthening bilateral cooperation on strategic and defence issues. The Department of Defence provides ASPI with most of its funding. It is a decision of the ASPI Council (on which representatives from the Departments of Defence and Foreign Affairs and Trade are ex officio members) to determine priorities for ASPI activities and approve its work program. Defence also contributes some funding support to SDSC, including for mutually agreed research priorities.

**RECOMMENDATION 2**

The Presiding Officers should give consideration to the proposal that some members of the Committee attend, as observers, General Conferences of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP). (Paragraph 4.37)

**Government Response:**

**Noted:** This is a matter for the Presiding Officers.