

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TREATIES

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE ON 5 DECEMBER 2006

Chair of the Committee, Dr Andres Southcott MP – Could you take it on notice to provide how much time the five Australians have left to serve, whether they have exhausted their appeals and what offences are they in prison for?

Response:

As of December 2006, the five Australians in prison in Cambodia have periods of 17, 16, 16, 11 and 9 years remaining to serve on their sentences.

Currently all five prisoners are appealing their sentences. Three of the five have not yet had their appeals heard in the Cambodia Court of Appeal. Two of the five have had their appeals heard in the Court of Appeal and are now appealing to the Supreme Court of Cambodia. The Supreme Court of Cambodia is the final avenue of appeal.

Three of the five prisoners were convicted on drug trafficking offences and the remaining two prisoners were convicted of debauchery (child related offences).