

NOTICE OF MOTION

Australia's Role in Securing the Observance of a Global Ceasefire on 21 September 2006, the International Day of Peace

On the next day of sitting, I shall move that the Senate:

- a) Notes that, on 7 September 2001, the United Nations General Assembly declared that the International Day of Peace should be observed annually on the fixed date of 21 September, as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence;
- b) Notes that United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan has repeatedly urged member states of the United Nations to support the observance of a global ceasefire on the day, arguing that a global ceasefire would:
 - i) Provide a pause for reflection by the international community on the threats and challenges we face;
 - ii) Offer mediators a building block towards a wider truce, as has been seen in nations such as Ghana and Zambia;
 - iii) Encourage those involved in violent conflict to reconsider the wisdom of further violence;
 - iv) Provide relief workers with a safe interlude for the provision of vital services and the supply of essential goods;
 - v) Allow freedom of movement and information, which is particularly beneficial to refugees and internally displaced persons; and
 - vi) Relieve those embroiled in violent conflict from the daily burden of fear for one's own safety and the safety of others;
- c) Supports the Australian organisations that intend to hold vigils, concerts and walks on 21 September of this year, in Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Darwin and Brisbane;
- d) Calls on the Australian Government to actively support the observance of a ceasefire in Afghanistan, East Timor, Iraq and the Solomon Islands on 21 September of this year by ensuring that Australia's armed forces:
 - i) Do not engage in hostilities for the duration of 21 September, unless provoked to do so in self-defence;
 - ii) Promote the observance of a global ceasefire for the duration of 21 September; and
 - iii) Promote the practice of non-violence for the duration of 21 September; and
- e) Requests that the Australian Government encourage other nation-states to follow its lead.

Senator Lyn Allison