



Ministerial Submission

16-143
08/02/2016

FOR: MS J BISHOP
(ACTION)

From: Jon Philp, s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Anne Moores, s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Assistant Director, s 22(1)(a)(ii)
s 22(1)(a)(ii) Executive Officer, s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: JULIAN ASSANGE; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Urgency: 10 February 2016

Key Issues:
Mr Assange's lawyers s 22(1)(a)(ii)

The request follows an opinion of a UN working group that Mr Assange has been arbitrarily detained. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Recommendation:

That you:

- (a) s 22(1)(a)(ii)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

Decision:

Noted
Noted
Noted
Agreed/Not Agreed
Agreed/Not Agreed
↓
Please Discuss

Domestic/Media Considerations: Yes, Significant media coverage.

Action:

Julie Bishop
12/2/16

Information:

Noted

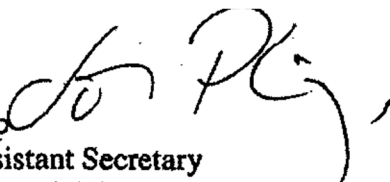
Background:

On 5 February 2016, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) released its opinion that restrictions on Julian Assange's movement in the UK amounted to arbitrary detention. The UK and Swedish governments have publicly disagreed with the finding.

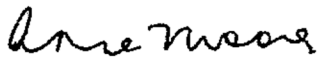
In a meeting with you in London the day before the WGAD opinion's public release, Julian Assange's lawyers [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) They want Australia to intervene on Mr Assange's behalf if the UK and Sweden do not address WGAD findings. [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

We recommend we not seek to 'resolve' Mr Assange's case following the WGAD opinion, as we are unable to intervene in the due process of another country's court proceedings or legal matters, and we have full confidence in the UK and Swedish judicial system. [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

[s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)


Jon Philp
First Assistant Secretary
Consular and Crisis Management Division,

[s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)


Anne Moores
A/g Executive Director
Australian Passports Office, PBB