

# Government Releases Sustainable Development Goals Report

## Volume 2

### Government Lying to the People About So Called 'Non-binding' International Agreements

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Imported UN agendas; Energy prices through the roof!  
Stand up for Australia! Stand up for democracy!  
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#### Background

##### 'Non-Binding' Agenda 21

For a quarter of a century the Australian government, State governments, and local Councils, have been implementing the United Nations Agenda 21 program in Australia. [Agenda 21 has been implemented on a bipartisan basis](#) without the [democratic approval of the people](#). But it is the persistent and pervasive government campaign to falsely convince the people Agenda 21 is 'non-binding' ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [9](#)) and therefore innocuous, which is most alarming. Clearly, any deliberate attempt to force Australians to comply with laws which have been initiated and controlled by a foreign agency constitutes what many would consider to be treasonous activity which is most definitely counter to Australian interests.

[Far from being a 'dead' 'non-binding' agreement](#), vital provisions of Agenda 21 have in fact been incorporated into national and sub-national laws, without the democratic approval of the people. As the [Australian government admits on their web site about CSD](#), "Australia's commitment to Agenda 21 is reflected in a strong national response to meet our obligations under this international agreement." In other words, 'obligations' to the UN come first, Australians last.

And as the Australian government also admits in their "[Road to Rio+20](#)" fact sheet, they have been busy forcing Australian citizens to comply with the dictates of the UN and their 'non-binding' Agenda 21 program:

*"Australia has participated in sustainable development discussions for more than four decades. We have signed international treaties, supported regional initiatives and enacted international commitments through new laws and policies at home"*

Amazingly, in apparent violation of Section 128 of the Constitution, [The Australian government emphasises](#) that when the Commonwealth lacks Constitutional authority, international agreements such as Agenda 21 and the 2030 agenda are utilised in order to obtain constitutional justification for policies which would otherwise be unconstitutional:

*"A significant amount of the Department's work is in response to our obligations to the global community, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The 2030 Agenda includes goals that focus on health, food and agriculture, water and sanitation, human settlement, energy, climate change, sustainable consumption and production, oceans and terrestrial ecosystems. Many multilateral agreements provide the constitutional basis for the Australian Government's environmental and energy legislation, policies and programs."*

The [persistent avoidance of democratic scrutiny](#) has been of course, one of the hallmarks of the entire Agenda 21/agenda 2030 process and the importing of UN environmental policies. From 1992 to 1999, the [IGAE](#) and [NSESD](#) were utilised to coerce States and local councils (utilising COAG) into implementing the UN sustainability agenda,

and vital provisions of Agenda 21, such as the 'precautionary principle', were written into domestic legislation in order to enforce the various UN directives upon Australian citizens.

The [Australian Panel of Experts on Environmental Law \(APEEL\)](#) highlighted the 'democratic deficit' intrinsic to the COAG system and the IGAE, in their "[Environmental Governance](#)" paper:

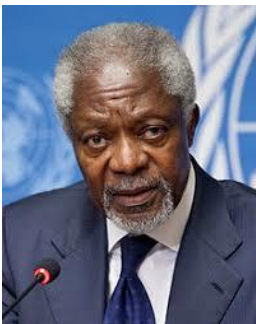
*"a consideration of COAG and the Ministerial Council system, whose operations have been criticised by some legal commentators for involving a so-called 'democracy deficit'. In particular, it has been suggested that the process involved for the development of many outputs from these bodies has been managed exclusively by senior government officials and has not allowed for regular involvement in outcomes by parliaments (both state and/or Commonwealth) or key stakeholders (including both industry and the community). These criticisms have strong relevance in the context of environmental federalism, since two key intergovernmental agreements (the IGAE in 1992 and the HOA in 1997) were developed by COAG without any form of public consultation and have not been subjected to any discussion or scrutiny within either the Commonwealth or state parliaments. The result has been a substantial reframing of the constitutional capacity of the Commonwealth on environmental matters through political accords reached behind closed doors and without any form of external scrutiny"*

John Howard's [EPBC Act](#) was introduced, not just to [further embed the principles of ESD into Commonwealth laws](#), but also to further enforce compliance with "*international obligations*" such as [the UN Agenda 21 program](#), as admitted by the "[Independent Review of the Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999](#)". As [Chapter 2 of the review points out](#), the role of the EPBC Act was to enforce allegiance to foreign agencies, NOT reinforce democracy and national sovereignty:

*"the primary role of the Act – to implement Australia's international obligation to develop in an ecologically sustainable manner."*

**There was no concern about exactly who we are internationally 'obliged to', or whether this obligation was democratic. And there was no concern whatsoever about the government's democratic domestic obligations.**

Perhaps the 'non-binding' innocuous nature of Agenda 21 was best summarised in 1997, by then [UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan](#), :



*"Failure to act now to implement Agenda 21 could damage the planet irreversibly, unleashing a spiral of increased hunger, deprivation, disease and squalor..... Stressing that Agenda 21 was unprecedented, he said Member States must act in 'unprecedented ways to implement it'."*

### **Imported Laws, Agenda 21, & the Globalisation of Environmental Law**

Unbeknown to most Australians, Agenda 21 commenced a revolutionary and shameful period in Australian politics where our politicians abandoned democracy and the Australian people and began importing our environmental laws from the UN. According to **Dr Chris McGrath** in "[Synopsis of the Queensland Environmental Legal System](#)":

*"There is a constant tension between the sovereignty of nations and their international obligations. ....the Commonwealth Government has a constitutional power to implement Australia's international legal obligations..... this gives it virtually a "blank cheque" to enlarge its legislative power within the Australian federation"*

McGrath continues in "[Does Environmental Law Work?](#)":

*"International policy documents and debate such as the Bruntland Report in 1987 and Agenda 21 in 1992 contributed significantly to the massive expansion of environmental law in Australia in the 1990s."*

As **Professor Ben Boer** points out in "[The Globalisation of Environmental Law, The Role of the United Nations](#)", Agenda 21 represents the "*globalisation of environmental law*":

*"The acceptance of the concept of sustainable development around the world is indicative of the globalisation of environmental law and policy"*

Boer continues in "[The Globalisation of Environmental Law](#)":

*"Agenda 21 is aimed particularly at the achievement of sustainable development across every sector of human activity .....Agenda 21 also explicitly recognises and promotes the globalisation of environmental law and policy"*

Boer's analysis has been further corroborated by Brian Preston and Charlotte Hanson who referred to Agenda 21 in "[The Globalisation and Harmonisation of Environmental Law: An Australian Perspective](#)":

*"There has been an incorporation of these international and national soft law instruments as policies by the governments of the Commonwealth and the states and territories. This process of incorporation has been consolidated by soft law principles becoming statutory requirements in Australia.....Agenda 21 emphasises the need to provide an effective legal and regulatory framework"*

**The facts are perfectly clear.**

### **Ending Democracy & Disenfranchising the People to Facilitate Globalism & UN Interference**

In the 1990s though, after IGAE and Agenda 21, the Commonwealth progressively moved away from domestic democratic legitimisation and expressed increasing allegiance to the United Nations and global interests. They now had the power to bypass the Australian Constitution and subvert democracy. As a result, democratic domestic obligations (ie. the Australian people) have been replaced by 'global obligations' & an undemocratic subservience to organisations such as the UN.

**Today, the Australian government quite openly admits they utilise UN agreements to bypass the Constitution instead of seeking democratic legitimisation from the people. The government openly prefers to obtain legitimisation and legalisation from the UN, and the dictators that comprise the UN, rather than seek the democratic approval of the Australian people. Politics is ideologically centred. NOT people centred.** This is the new political reality in many previously democratic sovereign states. Elections are no longer about implementing the will of the people in regard to primary agendas.

**Alarmingly, both major political parties in Australia continue to pledge their support to the UN for this entire agenda. At the same time, no doubt because of the repugnance and undemocratic nature of this entire globalist agenda, Australian politicians realise that the people must be prevented from having any democratic say regarding this agenda, and the interference of the UN in Australian domestic affairs.** Both sides of the House have shown their absolute determination to ensure the UN's global agenda is not included in the electoral agenda. The UN has even established an extensive [PR machine](#) to promote global activism and effectively bypass democratic consideration by nation states.

[As John Fonte summarises:](#)

***"Today we are at the beginning of an epic world-wide political and ideological conflict between the forces of global governance (including disaggregated elements in democracies) and the liberal democratic nation-state....."***

### **The 2030 Agenda & the Sustainable Development Goals**

Following on from Agenda 21, in September 2015 the Australian government attended the [UN SDG Summit in New York](#) where then Foreign Minister Julie Bishop signed the UNs [2030 agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals](#), an agreement which was [intended to continue, and expand, the previous Agenda 21 \(10, 11, 12, 13\)](#). The UN's post-2015 agenda was born in 2012 at the [Rio +20 Conference](#) which was [attended by then Prime Minister Julia Gillard](#). But will the government enforce the provisions of the 2030 Agenda as they have done with Agenda 21? And if so will they do so honestly and democratically by declaring their intentions during election campaigns?

In April 2015, about 6 months before Julie Bishop signed the 2030 Agenda in September 2015, [Bronwyn Bishop and Cory Bernardi](#) led an Australian delegation to the [132nd IPU Assembly in Hanoi](#). At that meeting they signed the [Hanoi Declaration](#), stating their promise to ensure the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable development Goals would be enforced by domestic laws:

*"We, parliamentarians from over 130 countries and 23 international and regional parliamentary organizations, gathered in Hanoi, Viet Nam, reviewed the emerging sustainable development goals and considered our role in attaining them.*

*This is our declaration.....*

*At this critical moment, we, the parliamentarians of the world, reaffirm our vision for people-centred sustainable development based on the realization of all human rights,,,,,,,,, All government institutions **must be representative and accessible to all**..... We commit to doing our utmost to strengthen national ownership of the goals, particularly by making them known to our constituents. People must understand how the goals are relevant to their lives. As representatives of the people, we are responsible for ensuring that each and every voice is heard in the political process without discrimination and irrespective of social status. **We commit to translating the goals into enforceable domestic laws and regulations**, including through the critical budget process. Each country must do its part to ensure that all the goals are met..... **we will do our utmost to institutionalize the goals in every parliament**, with sufficient time for discussion and monitoring. Parliamentary committees and processes must pursue all goals coherently..... We pledge to make laws and budgetary provisions in line with the national sustainable development plan..... we will support the implementation of all international commitments..... we will seek to engage with United Nations field operations in our countries to share information and explore all avenues for cooperation to advance our national plans.”*

When [Julie Bishop signed the 2030 Agenda agreement](#) in September she acknowledged the need for enforcement by domestic legislation which was an integral part of the agreement:

*45. We acknowledge also the essential role of national parliaments through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of our commitments. Governments and public institutions will also work closely on implementation with regional and local authorities, sub-regional institutions, international institutions, academia, philanthropic organisations, volunteer groups and others.*

It is hardly surprising that the UN and other experts have emphasised the fact that the 2030 Agenda must be enforced by domestic legislation ([14](#), [15](#), [16](#)), and in fact, the [UN is monitoring such legislation in countries around the world](#). As is pointed out in “[Engaging parliaments on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs: representation, accountability and implementation](#)”:

*“As an agenda spanning all areas of human activity and the environment, the SDGs may eventually need to be reflected in a country’s full legislative body. For instance, making Goal 7 – affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all – a reality may require countries to put in place legislation to speed up the roll out of renewables and increase electrification.....To align with the SDGs and the principles of indivisibility and universality, the cross-cutting themes of the 2030 Agenda may need to be systematically reflected across sectors in national legislation.....Translating the transformational promise of the 2030 Agenda and specific SDGs into actionable legislative proposals will require decision-makers to consider a range of social, cultural, gender, environmental, human rights, poverty and economic impacts.”*

Similarly, the UN produces its own [parliamentary guide, sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation](#), to guide politicians around the world in legal enforcement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. [According to Mitchell Toomey, in the Foreword](#):

*“Building political willingness and maintaining SDG momentum at the national level cannot be realised without the active participation and engagement of the nation’s law makers”.*

The UN guide continues: *“Given their legislative roles, policy oversight and budget approval, Parliaments are central to the development agenda.”*

**But the guide points out that the SDGs must be ‘institutionalised’ so they cannot be democratically rejected by a change of government:**

*“Institutionalising the SDGs in parliament and ensuring continuous and consistent engagement is crucial especially given the fact that there can be high turn-over of parliamentarians in many parliaments in the world and is therefore important that the engagement is not only based on the enthusiasm and interest of individual members but also institutionalised and built into the administrative system of parliament.....*

*Once the agenda is properly domesticated and mainstreamed into the national development process, the next step is to ensure implementation.....Localising the SDGs is a key strategy for effective implementation, so, where they exist, the engagement of sub-national parliaments should be encouraged and supported by national parliaments. Their roles are similar to the roles of national parliaments at national level....”*

The [UNDP](#) and the [IPU](#) also combined to produce “[Parliaments and the Sustainable Development Goals – A self-assessment toolkit](#)” to guide our politicians along every step of the way towards total enforcement.

*“This self-assessment toolkit, produced by the IPU and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), provides parliaments with the framework to evaluate their readiness to engage on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It further helps parliamentarians identify good practices, opportunities and lessons learned on how to effectively institutionalize the SDGs and mainstream them into the legislative process.”*

I referred extensively to the Toolkit in [my submission to the SDG Enquiry](#), citing many ‘self-assessment’ questions designed to assess parliamentary progress (see below), but the Committee failed to respond to these issues.

### **Australian Government Tells the People ‘Legislative Enforcement’ Means ‘Non-binding’**

In spite of these facts however, the Australian government has consistently mislead and misinformed the Australian people by pretending the 2030 agenda and the SDGs will be “**voluntary**” or “**non-binding**” ([17](#), [18](#), [19](#), [20](#), [21](#)). According to the government ([17](#)):

*“While non-binding, the 2030 Agenda will be highly influential, shaping development cooperation and finance flows from a range of sources, including nation states, multilateral organisations, the private sector and philanthropic entities.....The 2030 Agenda is non-binding but has unprecedented buy-in as a result of consultation and negotiations involving all 193 UN member states, the private sector and civil society.”*

[According to the Australian SDG web site:](#)

*“The Australian community has certainly started on the road to addressing the SDGs. Much is going on at all levels of government – local, state and national – and within NGOs, academia and the private sector. Leading companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange as well as smaller organisations are showing the way by using the Goals as a framework for evaluating what they are currently doing and planning for the future.”*

Will the 2030 Agenda continue the deception firmly established by Agenda 21, or will the people finally be told the truth about the government’s obsessive determination to pretend the entire agenda will be ‘non-binding’?

## **Government Report into the 2030 Agenda & the Sustainable Development Goals**

### **Media ‘Ban’ on Report?**

On the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019 the government released their [report into the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs](#). Although the 2030 Agenda is intended to ‘[transform the world](#)’ at a cost of more than [\\$6 trillion annually](#), and affect every aspect of our lives and [every aspect of government](#), like Agenda 21 it was not considered of sufficient importance to warrant a mention in the mainstream media, let alone a full media investigation.

### **Submissions to the Report**

#### **[Submission from Mr Graham Williamson \(submission 3\)](#)**

[The fact that vital aspects of the 2030 agenda will be enforced by local laws](#), as noted above, is a major issue:

*“Parliamentarians were among the many voices that helped shaped the global SDGs agenda. Now that the SDGs have officially been adopted, parliamentarians are expected to translate the SDGs into actionable legislation and policies at the national level.”*

In spite of these facts however, the Australian government consistently misleads and misinforms the people by pretending the 2030 agenda and the SDGs are “**voluntary**” or “**non-binding**” ([1,2,3](#)). This is a well established strategy of successive governments however, followed religiously for more than 2 decades following the Keating government’s introduction of Agenda 21 ([4](#), [5](#)). Like the 2030 Agenda, the people were told Agenda 21 was voluntary or non-binding even though it was always the government’s intention to force the people to comply with the dictates of this UN agreement by passing domestic legislation ([4](#), [5](#)). And like the 2030 Agenda, the people were denied any democratic choice for more than 2 decades ([4](#), [5](#)).

When I sought clarification from various government Ministers, including Foreign minister Bishop, as to whether the government intended to utilise this same legislative strategy with the 2030 Agenda, while publicly claiming the Agenda is ‘non-binding’, ALL refused to comment. [Former Foreign Minister Julie Bishop described the UNs 2030 agenda](#) as “*an ambitious, bold – and necessary – objective.....a global objective, the product of unprecedented*

consultation and negotiation”, so why is the government so determined to exclude democratic consideration by the people?.

**Obviously the first step towards ‘accountability’ is to educate and include the people, and permit them to have an informed democratic vote. Any government which prevents this is clearly NOT an open democratic government and can therefore make no meaningful claim they are dedicated to ‘sustainability’.**

### **Self-Assessment Toolkit**

In order to assist governments in this process the IPU and the UN combined to produce a “[Self-Assessment Toolkit for governments](#)” to “*equip parliamentarians to effectively institutionalize the new agenda and mainstream the various goals into the legislative process.*” It is instructive to examine the following extracts from this toolkit.

The role of the government is clear, but how does it measure up according to the following self-assessment questions posed by the toolkit?

#### **Questions 4: Making laws in support of the SDGs**

*Parliament will play a key role in supporting the implementation of the SDGs by building a legal framework that enables the goals to be achieved.*

##### **Part A: identifying your baseline**

*Has any review been undertaken to identify the legislative reforms required to support the SDGs? Is draft legislation accompanied by an assessment of the impact that it would have on implementing the SDGs?*

*Are laws tabled with an explanatory memorandum that sets out the impact of the proposed law on relevant SDGs?*

*Does the ministerial speech introducing a law usually explain whether and how the proposed law will progress the SDGs?*

##### **In the past 12 months:**

*How many laws have contained a specific reference to the SDGs?*

*How many proposed amendments have contained a specific reference to the SDGs? How many of these amendments have been adopted?*

**SOLUTION:** To *begin* to become ‘accountable’, and to introduce effective ‘governance’ measures, the government needs to answer all these questions and do so publicly and conspicuously, and cease excluding the people from the entire 2030 Agenda process. False information about proposed legislative enforcement must also cease and the people should be correctly informed that the government intends to enforce the dictates of this UN agreement. Effective governance involves including the people, but to date the government has shown no interest in this.

### **CONCLUSION**

It is clear that the government has already devoted significant time and resources to institutionalising the UN driven 2030 Agenda even though there has been no democratic foundation whatsoever. In fact, my requests to the Foreign Minister, and other Ministers, to include this matter in the electoral agenda, met with no response, and no mention of the issue during the last election. Yet, experts agree the entire sustainability agenda can only succeed if it has a solid democratic foundation. At the crux of the matter is whether the government should act as an agent of the United Nations by legislating to enforce the dictates of the UN upon the Australian people, and to do so whilst denying the people any democratic choice. Should imported international agreements prevail against democratic Australian laws? All these issues need to be taken to the people.

Not to do so is to treat democracy, and the Australian people, with utter contempt.

#### **Following the Money: From ‘Non-binding’ to Enforcement, to Compel the People to Obey the UN**

So what did the Committee, [comprised of 11 Senators](#), have to say about the ‘enforcement’ of the provisions of the 2030 Agenda? Did they continue the government’s official policy claiming the entire agenda is ‘non-binding’?

### **[According to the Report:](#)**

#### **Recommendation 1**

**7.12 The committee recommends that the Australian Government, through the interdepartmental committee, publish a national Sustainable Development Goals implementation plan that includes national priorities and regular reports of Australia's performance against the goals.**

7.15 Evidence indicates that parliaments can contribute to the implementation of the SDGs through their legislative, budgetary and oversight functions.

Now, finally, our politicians are admitting that legislative enforcement to force the people to comply with the dictates of the UNs SDG agenda may be required, directly contradicting endless government claims that the entire agenda would be 'non-binding'. The Committee's claim that "*parliaments can contribute to the implementation of the SDGs through their legislative, budgetary and oversight functions,*" sounds rather similar however, to the recommendation of the UNs [Rockefeller sponsored parliamentary SDG guide](#):

*"Given their legislative roles, policy oversight and budget approval, Parliaments are central to the development agenda."*

We are reminded by [Engaging parliaments on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs: representation, accountability and implementation](#), that one reason for legislative enforcement is to enforce renewable energy:

*"As an agenda spanning all areas of human activity and the environment, the SDGs may eventually need to be reflected in a country's full legislative body. For instance, making Goal 7 – affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all – a reality may require countries to put in place legislation to speed up the roll out of renewables and increase electrification....."*

### **Global Obligations & Reputation to Supersede Democratic Domestic Obligations**

Since the globalist agenda driving the 2030 Agenda dictates that Australian interests should come last, the deliberations of the Committee are not surprising. [According to the Report](#), and the submissions of [Strategic Sustainability Consultants](#) and the [United Nations Association of Australia \(UNAA\)](#), which they cite:

2.39 [Strategic Sustainability Consultants](#) cautioned that not adhering to the SDGs 'may damage our reputation internationally and strain our relationships with both our neighbours and our allies'.

[UNAA argued](#):

*If Australia wishes to remain prosperous, advance the rules-based international order and maintain its soft power as a good international citizen, we will need to demonstrate a more serious commitment to the SDGs than at present.*

2.40 [It warned](#):

*...Australia's commitment and leadership will not be taken seriously if it cannot demonstrate its international commitments domestically. In recent years Australia has been criticised for its failure to adhere domestically to some international norms, and Australia's decline since 2015 in meeting the SDGs brings into question its commitment to achievement domestically.*

**The United Nations is clearly warning, or threatening Australia, that the only way to remain 'prosperous' is to obey the UN.**

### **Outcome of the Government's SDG Enquiry**

#### **Commonwealth to Continue Acting as Agent of UN?**

The legislative enforcement of the provisions of UN agreements in Australia is clearly not possible unless there is a high degree of cooperation between the Commonwealth and the UN, the former acting as an agent or minion of the UN. This fundamentally undemocratic, some may say 'treasonous' relationship with the UN is clearly visible from more than half a century of precedents in regard to human rights 'law', the whole process being initiated by the 'non-binding' [UN Declaration of Human Rights](#) in 1948. A constant flow of 'non-binding' human rights agreements followed, and the acceptance of these 'rights' by countries around the world has been the fundamental factor which has converted these 'non-binding' agreements into what are now considered to be binding laws ([22](#), [23](#), [24](#), [25](#)). Of course, as noted above, this whole process accelerated significantly in the 1990s due to Agenda 21. The Enquiry indicates that the government fully intends to continue to transfer their allegiance from the people of Australia to the UN.

In fact, the government's SDG Enquiry follows UN instructions in the UN's [Rockefeller sponsored parliamentary SDG guide](#):

***“Parliamentary Mechanisms: Committees/Caucuses***

*Therefore publicity, awareness creation and extensive outreach must be undertaken within parliament to create awareness and attract interest from as wide a membership as possible. The overall aim of having such committees/caucuses in Parliament is in recognition of the vital role of Parliaments and Parliamentarians in enhancing planning, implementation, monitoring and accountability of interventions in development through legislation and resource allocation as well as through oversight and parliamentary scrutiny of the work of the executive; promoting democratic norms, people centered governance and development in Africa. Also Parliaments play critical roles in Legislation Oversight and Representation which helps in ensuring achievement of the global development agenda. Parliaments can set up either an SDG committee or a coordination committee for SDGs that does overall coordination of the work of other committees and ensure that their work supports SDG implementation. Thus coordination of SDGs in parliament could be the overall aim; if parliaments decide to set up a coordination committee, or a key role of the committee if they decide to set up an SDG committee.*

*This committee will ensure the following:*

- 1. Awareness raising of SDGs within in parliament and ensuring that there is buy-in on the SDGs among parliamentarians*
- 2. Coordination: Ensuring that the work of all committees supports SDG implementation. This requires that the committee is familiar with the SDG goals and targets relevant to each committee and the works with that committee to ensure that the work of the committee addresses these goals and targets relevant to it*
- 3. Financing: Appropriation is the work of a specific committee but the SDG committee needs to be familiar with SDG progress and so be able to work with the appropriation committee to ensure that allocation reflect the priorities in the country i.e. those sectors or geographic areas that are most lagging behind*
- 4. Data: The committee will ensure availability of data on SDG progress to inform the work of all committees in setting priorities and allocating resources for SDG implementation*
- 5. Engagement with other stakeholders: in SDG implementation: the committee will reach out to other stakeholders and coordinate their engagement with parliament in the implementation of the SDGs. They will link them up with relevant committees in parliament as well as provide a 2-way feedback; on parliamentary processes on the SDG and the feedback of stakeholders to relevant committees*
- 6. Accountability: the committee will work with the relevant committees; oversight, public accounts etc. as well as engage with citizens to gather citizen feedback on how SDG implementation is impacting on their lives to improve the accountability*
- 7. Learning and sharing: it will be the responsibility of the committee to compile, disseminate and share information on what the parliament is doing on the SDGs. Different committees will work on issues relevant to the different goals and targets based on their mandate but it is only the SDG committee that will have an overall picture of everything.”*

**As is noted by the UN, a fundamental part of this process is to [embed the details of the 2030 Agenda into the bureaucracy](#) beyond the reach of democratic considerations such as a change of government.**

**The Commonwealth has shown no desire to reverse this direction and put Australia, and Australian interests, first**

**New Domestic Laws or Global Laws, Both Controlled by the UN?**

To this point we have focussed on domestic law and the processes by which international agreements are used by the UN to coerce countries around the world to convert the provisions of such agreements into domestic laws ([6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [26](#)). This permits the UN to control domestic laws right around the world ([6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [26](#)). Various methods are used by the UN and the global community to pressure countries to become good 'global citizens', comply with their 'global obligations', and abandon their democratic domestic obligations in their own countries.

But there is yet another aspect to all this, and that is the effect of these 'non-binding' agreements upon global law.

Non-binding international agreements are used to establish international norms of behaviour which automatically transform into binding customary international law ([6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [22](#), [27](#), [28](#), [29](#), [30](#), [31](#), [32](#), [33](#), [34](#), [35](#), [36](#)). Furthermore, this process binds ALL countries, not just signatory countries, as is the case with treaties. **By utilising the term 'non-binding' to describe these agreements the UN maximises the buy-in, especially when it comes to controversial initiatives ([7](#)).** Clearly, this is a process of stealth and blatant deceit, a process made possible by our elected representatives.



As [Dinah Shelton points out](#), non-binding agreements are the preferred option when scientific evidence is lacking:

*“Non-binding instruments are faster to adopt, easier to change, and more useful for technical matters that may need rapid or repeated revision. This is particularly important when the subject matter may not be ripe for treaty action because of scientific uncertainty or lack of political consensus (Raustiala 2005: 582). In such instances, the choice may not be between a treaty and a soft law text, but between a soft law text and no action at all. Soft law may help mask disagreements over substance, overcome competing visions of organizations’ purposes and resolve institutional crises (Schäfer 2006: 194).....”*

And [as Joshua Wood indicates](#), the progressive and insidious nature of customary international law does not require consent:

#### **“Consent and International Customary Law**

*it has long been a tenet of international law that a state must expressly consent to a rule (by, for example, signing a treaty) before it can be legally bound by the rule. Customary international law not only upsets this idea of consent, it does it by stealth.”*

Wood further discusses the issue of consent from the point of view of the International Court of Justice (ICJ):

#### **“The ICJ, Consent, and Opinio Juris**

*At first, in some of its earliest decisions, the ICJ acknowledged the importance of consent when it suggested a state could exempt itself from an opinio juris rule if that state had expressly and repeatedly rejected the rule’s application from inception (“persistent objector”) ([United Kingdom v. Norway](#)<sup>15</sup>). Soon thereafter, however, the ICJ reversed position and has since frequently ruled that states cannot opt out of customary international law either in full or in part. ....Indeed, most worryingly, customary international law can render meaningless a state’s choice to join (or not join) a treaty, despite treaties being the most basic legal expression of a state’s consent.....”*

Wood draws attention to the **‘incrementalist’** nature of customary international law, and the fact the current situation has been created by nation states themselves:

*“Now it is true that it is the states themselves that allow this customary international law regime to continue. Legally speaking, were enough states willing to withdraw from or re-write the [VCLT](#) (and any other treaties like it), the states could dismantle the customary international law regime or at least give themselves greater power of consent. Instead the states have done the opposite – close to 2/3 of UN members have ratified the [VCLT](#) – and, ironically, the ICJ has deemed the [VCLT](#) itself to contain opinio juris and as such binding on all states ([Costa Rica v. Nicaragua](#)).<sup>28</sup>*

*Admittedly, therefore, it cannot be said that the customary international law regime is being forced wholesale on the states. The states did, at least to begin with, give their consent to exist under the customary international law regime in the first place. By failing to take that control back, the states have in a sense continued that consent.”*

**The bottom line is, (initially) the only power the UN has to interfere in the domestic affairs of sovereign nations is that power which has been freely surrendered by the nations themselves. And of course, the nations pay the UN for this privilege.**

As Jennifer Oriel points out in [“This is a United Nations scheme to overturn our sovereignty”](#):

*“The UN is making extraordinary efforts to suppress truth by attacking freedom of speech.....*

*The UN’s march against democracy, truth and freedom might be laughable if we weren’t funding it. But the Western taxpayer pours millions into an organisation that rejects our most fundamental values while saddling free-world states with unsustainable debt.”*

Our globalist politicians, on both sides of parliament, are committed to the [suicide of democratic Western countries](#).

## **Concluding Comments**

### **Intent Clear**

It is perfectly clear, as was the case with Agenda 21, that the government always intended the UN dictates of these agreements to be enforced upon Australian citizens so they could be penalised or gaoled for disobeying

requirements stipulated by the UN. Also clear is the fact that successive governments, over a staggering period of a quarter of a century, have gone to extraordinary lengths to conceal their intent to enforce the provisions of these agreements, pretending instead that they are 'non-binding' and innocuous. Their transfer of power and allegiance from Australians to the UN is also clear.

It should be noted that those seeking to justify these types of agreements often cite a passage in the agreement itself where it is described as 'voluntary' or 'non-binding', however, frequently these types of agreements also have contradictory passages. For instance, in the [Transforming Our World document](#) the 2030 agenda is described as 'voluntary' in paragraphs 72, 74, 84, and 90. But in paragraph 45 this is contradicted:

*"45. We acknowledge also the essential role of national parliaments through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of our commitments."*

This is a very common UN tactic which is used to increase the 'buy-in' when it comes to contentious agreements, a tactic also commonly employed in regard to issues of national sovereignty. Government negotiators must obviously be aware of this.

The SDG enquiry offered the Committee a real opportunity to bring about change and restore Australia. They had the opportunity to:

- **Reject the UN, strengthen Australian sovereignty and democracy and stand up for Australia.**  
**They completely rejected this opportunity, planning instead to further transfer power to the UN and further promote UN interference in Australia.**
- **Tell the truth and admit their intention to follow the Agenda 21 precedent and legislate to enforce the Agenda 2030 dictates of the UN upon Australians so they may be penalised or gaoled for failing to meet UN requirements.**  
**They rejected this opportunity.**
- **Restore democracy and recommend all 3 levels of government enable the people to have an informed vote on the 2030 Agenda, and also a vote on UN interference in general.**  
**They rejected this opportunity, deciding instead to continue to give the people no choice and continue to attack the democratic foundations upon which this country was built.**

["Authoritarianism is undermining the spirit of the Constitution"](#) in Australia.

["Globalism is the real authoritarianism."](#)

This is [the "War of the World"](#)

Is this the direction in which you want Australia to progress? A direction in which the end goals are so repugnant they are never mentioned.

## [Committee Membership](#)

Senator Alex Gallacher, **Chair** ALP, SA

Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz (from 10 September 2018) LP, TAS, **Deputy Chair** (from 11 September 2018)

Senator Linda Reynolds CSC (to 10 September 2018) LP, WA, Deputy Chair (from 7 February 2018 to 29 August 2018)

Senator the Hon. Bridget McKenzie (from 23 June 2017 to 5 February 2018), Deputy Chair (from 14 July 2017 to 20 December 2017) NATS, VIC

Senator the Hon. James McGrath (from 10 September 2018) LP, QLD

Senator David Fawcett (to 10 September 2018) LP, SA

Senator Kimberley Kitching ALP, VIC

Senator Claire Moore ALP, QLD

Senator Rex Patrick CA, SA

### **Participating members**

Senator the Hon. Lisa Singh (29 October 2018) ALP, TAS

Senator Sue Lines (29 October 2018) ALP, WA