

Issues raised at the Bills Committee Meeting on 17 June 2002

At the Bills Committee meeting on 17 June 2002, the Administration was requested to provide information on similar offences to Clause 10 of the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Bill in overseas legislation (other than Singapore). The relevant provisions of some overseas legislation are set out below:

- (a) Section 114 of the U.K. Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 deals with hoaxes involving noxious substances or things. It criminalizes a person who communicates any information which he knows or believes to be false with the intention of inducing in a person anywhere in the world a belief that a noxious substance is likely to be present in any place and thereby endanger human life or create a serious risk to human health. It also makes it an offence if a person places anything in any place or sends any substances with the intention of inducing a belief that it is likely to be (or contain) a noxious substance.
- (b) Section 317A of the Australia Crimes Act 1958 deals with bomb hoaxes and prohibits a person from making a statement or conveying information which he knows or believes to be false with the intention of inducing in another person a belief that a substance liable to explode or ignite etc. is present in any place in Victoria. It also criminalizes the placing of an article in any place with intent to induce a false belief that the article is likely to explode etc.
- (c) Section 12(a) of the Irish Criminal Law Act 1976 criminalizes a person who knowingly makes a false report or statement tending to show that an offence has been committed, whether by himself or another person, or tending to give rise to apprehension for the safety of persons or proper.

Security Bureau
21 June 2002