

15<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Letter to the Editor, Age & SMH



Dear Editor

Re: **International broadcasting cut | 'ABC to cut 80 'international' jobs'** (Age 16 July) / **'Eighty jobs to go at ABC News and Australia Network'** (SMH 14 July)

In shutting down Australia Network, the country's international television service, the Government is shutting down an important outlet for the promotion of Australia's interests in the Asia Pacific region. (*ABC to cut 80 'international' jobs*, Age 15 July / *Eighty jobs to go at ABC News and Australia Network*, SMH 14 July). The withdrawal of funds for the Australia Network system will also impact heavily on the highly respected Radio Australia service.

International broadcasting is a relatively cheap means to increase awareness of our nation and build positive relations with people in other countries, with all the flow-on effects that has for trade and diplomacy.

It has taken many years of the ABC providing a trusted and reliable service to establish an Australian international broadcasting presence in our region. The Federal Government is set to squander it.

Yours sincerely

Glenys Stradijot  
National Spokesperson  
ABC Friends GS: media folder

*ABC Friends is a national campaign. It comprises ABC Friends and Friends of the ABC organisations across Australia.*