

AUSTRALIA BRANCH

(Via CompuServe)

LLA January 8, 2002 No. 164

Governing Body
Service Committee

Re: Privacy Laws in Australia

Dear Brothers:

Thank you for your letter GAO:AT January 3, 2002, No. 223S, and the general guidelines that have been used to determine how personal information is to be handled under European privacy legislation. You refer to our letter LLA August 28, 2001, No. 354, in which we notified the Publishing Committee of the introduction of the *Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000* in Australia.

At present, the application of the law has been restricted to entities having a turnover of more than AUD 3,000,000 (about USD 1,500,000), as explained in the third paragraph of our letter No. 354. The turnover of the Australia branch is well below that figure, and we are unlikely to exceed the threshold unless we treat large transfers of funds or materials to other branches as receivables, actually billing the charges to the other branch. The Publishing Committee, in their letter LLJ:LPX December 19, 2001, No. 280P, approved our request to handle remittances and transfers to other branches as outright donations. We are, therefore, not subject to the provisions of the *Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000*.

On this basis, we had not planned at this time to implement any of the guidelines outlined in your letter No. 223S, and will not do so unless you advise otherwise.

Please accept our warm Christian love.

Your brother,
H. V. Mouritz
For the Branch Committee
AUSTRALIA BRANCH