

# **Social Security (International Agreements) Act 1999 Amendment Regulations 2000 (No. 3) 2000 No. 165**

## **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

### **Statutory Rules 2000 No. 165**

Issued by the Authority of the Minister for Family and Community Services

*Social Security (International Agreements) Act 1999*

Social Security (International Agreements) Act 1999 Amendment Regulations 2000 (No. 3)

Subsection 7(1) of the *Social Security (International Agreements) Act 1999* (the Act) provides that a Schedule to the Act that sets out the text of an agreement between Australia and another country, if the agreement relates to reciprocity in social security matters, may be amended by regulations.

Section 25 of the Act allows the Governor-General to make regulations for the purposes of the Act.

The purpose of the Social Security (International Agreements) Act 1999 Amendment Regulations 2000 (No. 3) is to amend the existing Schedule 2 (the Agreement on Social Security between Australia and the Republic of Italy signed on 13 September 1993 and added to the Act as Schedule 2 by the Social Security (International Agreements) Act 1999 Amendment Regulations 2000 (No. 1)) by adding the Exchange of Notes (the Note) done at Canberra on 31 May 2000 as Part B to Schedule 2 and specifying that the text of the Agreement is Part A.

The Agreement on Social Security between Australia and the Republic of Italy coordinates the social security schemes of the countries to give better welfare protection for people who move between Australia and Italy. Further changes to the social security systems in both countries have occurred since the Agreement was signed on 13 September 1993. These changes are contained in the text of the Note, which has been agreed with Italy.

Article 22 of the Agreement provides for the Review of the Agreement. Paragraph 3 of Article 22 allows, where one Party to the Agreement amends, supplements or replaces its legislation, for consultation on any consequences that flow from that change to the legislation and also on the continuing implementation of the Agreement. This includes amendment to the Agreement if necessary.

The Regulations specify that the commencement date is 1 October 2000. This will enable the Regulations to be tabled in both Houses of the Parliament and for the period of disallowance of the Regulations to pass before commencement.