



MEDIA RELEASE

8 August 2011

Re: Victorian Government referral of organizations promoting BDS to the ACCC

The President of the ECAJ Dr Danny Lamm today said:

“We applaud the Victorian Government for having the moral fibre to stand up to the immoral and illegal BDS campaign.

Whilst the right to engage in peaceful protest is sacrosanct, anyone seeking to exercise that right must do so within the law.

The local businesses which have been targeted by BDS protesters all operate in accordance with Australian law, and the protesters must do likewise. If the protesters transgress the law, they should be punished with the same severity as any business that breaks the law.”

Dr Lamm accused the protesters of being “highly selective” about the Israeli products which they have targeted. “The BDS organizers will call for a boycott of certain Israeli cosmetics and chocolate products. But they wouldn’t dream of telling you not to use Windows operating systems developed by Microsoft Israel, or mobile phone technology that was refined in Israel by Motorola, or Israeli medical innovations,” Dr Lamm said. “They are not prepared to make any personal sacrifices. It’s a ‘Claytons’ boycott”, he concluded. “The real agenda is to defame Israel, as their slogans reveal”.

Asked whether the ECAJ would like to see the Federal government and other State governments join with Victoria in referring the major BDS organizations to the ACCC, Dr Lamm answered, “Definitely. A strong bipartisan voice saying ‘No’ to BDS will reflect the basic sentiment of most Australians that the bitterness of complex foreign conflicts should be kept out of our peaceful country”.

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