

The Senate

BUSINESS OF COMMITTEES

This document is issued as a guide to Senators
Business listed is subject to change

It should be noted that times allocated for the consideration of outcomes, items and agencies within portfolios are indicative only.

Senators, staff and departments should liaise with secretariats on the progress of portfolios during the estimates process.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE

Public Hearings: Budget Estimates for 2008–09 (Supplementary Hearings)

Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 October 2008

**Main Committee Room
Parliament House
Canberra ACT**

To be televised on Channel10/radio 92.7

<http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, 22 OCTOBER and THURSDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2008

Defence portfolio

Department of Defence

**Wednesday,
22 October
9.00am–6.00pm**

* For an expanded view and description of the marked Defence output groups, see portfolio budget statements (PBS), pp. 78–108. For a description of the outputs, see PBS pp. 72–74.

Portfolio overview and budget summary

[Budget, strategic policy, White Paper, Defence Reform, ADF operations, joint health command and military justice matters]

Opening statement: Secretary of Defence

Opening statement: Chief of the Defence Force

Outcome 1: Australia's national interests are protected and advanced through the provision of military capabilities and promotion of security and stability

Output group 1.1: Office of the Secretary and Chief of the Defence Force

Output group 1.9: Vice–Chief of the Defence Force

Output group 1.10: Joint Operations Command

Output group 1.12: Chief Finance Officer

Outcome 2: Military operations and other tasks directed by Government to achieve the desired results

* Output group 2.1: Operations contributing to the security of the immediate neighbourhood

* Output group 2.2: Operations supporting wider interests

Outcome 3: Defence's support to the Australian community and civilian authorities achieves the desired results

* Output group 3.1: Defence contribution to support tasks in Australia

[Topics relating to the above outcomes:

Sen Bob Brown: Australian defence forces in Afghanistan and Timor. Australian defence forces and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Sen Johnston: budget savings of \$939m and \$10b over next ten years; Iraq—now and future; Afghanistan—now and future; other deployments—now and future; Defence white paper.

Sen Ludlam: ADF activities in Iraq and Afghanistan; public consultation process on the Defence white paper; collaboration with the United States on missile defence systems.]

Capability development

[Unapproved major capital equipment program and Defence Capability Plan]

Outcome 1

Output Group 1.11: Capability development

[**Topics:** Sen Johnston: air combat capability; current and future naval capability; current and future land capability; network centre warfare.]

Defence Materiel Organisation

Outcome 1: Defence capabilities are supported through efficient and effective acquisition and through-life support of materiel

Output 1.1: Management of capability acquisition (including major capital equipment projects)

Output 1.2: Capability sustainment

Output 1.3: Policy advice and management services

[**Topics:** Sen Johnston: management of capability acquisition—now and future acquisitions; capability sustainment; strategic direction.

Sen Ludlam: expenditure on procurement of weapons systems.]

Capital facilities and Defence support

[Health services, personnel administration and support services, legal services, estate management, base support services, honours and awards]

Outcome 1

* Output Group 1.6: Defence Support

[**Topics:** Sen Bob Brown: the Defence property at Lawson in Belconnen.

Sen Johnston: pay arrangements—changes to systems.]

Remaining Defence output groups

Outcome 1

* **Output Group 1.2: Navy capabilities**

[**Topic:** Sen Johnston: recognition of long serving officers/troops on discharge.]

* **Output Group 1.3: Army capabilities**

[**Topic:** Sen Johnston: recognition of long serving officers/troops on discharge.]

* **Output Group 1.4: Air Force capabilities**

[**Topic:** Sen Johnston: recognition of long serving officers/troops on discharge.]

* **Output Group 1.5: Intelligence capabilities**

[**Topic:** Sen Johnston: recognition of long serving officers/troops on discharge.]

Wednesday,
22 October

6.00pm–6.30pm
[approx]

Defence Housing Australia

[**Topic:** Sen Johnston: Defence housing planning and implementation.
Please note—Department of Defence will contribute to this topic.]

Department of Veterans' Affairs

Portfolio overview

Wednesday,
22 October

7.30pm–11.00pm

Corporate and general matters

Outcome 1: Eligible persons (including veterans, serving and former defence force members, war widows and widowers, certain Australian Federal Police personnel with overseas service) and their dependents have access to appropriate income support and compensation in recognition of the effects of their service.

- 1.1: Means tested income support, pension and allowances
- 1.2: Compensation pensions, allowances etc
- 1.3: Veterans' Review Board
- 1.4: Defence Home Loans Scheme
- 1.5: Incapacity payments, non-economic lump sums ... through SRCA
- 1.6: Administer individual merit reviews of SRCA decisions
- 1.7: Incapacity payments, non-economic lump sums through MRCA
- 1.8: Administer individual merit reviews of MRCA decisions.

[**Topics:** Sen Hanson–Young: Outcome 1. Sen Johnston: general and separated partners of veterans and their entitlements.]

Outcome 2: Eligible persons (including veterans, serving and former defence force members, war widows and widowers, certain Australian Federal Police personnel with overseas service) and their dependents have access to health and other care services that promote and maintain self-sufficiency, wellbeing and quality of life

- 2.1: Arrangement for delivery of services
- 2.2: Counselling and referral services
- 2.3: Deliver medical, rehabilitation ... under SRCA and related legislation
- 2.4: Deliver medical, rehabilitation ... under MRCA.

[**Topic:** Sen Hanson–Young: war widows and widowers—access to health care services.]

Outcome 3: The service and sacrifice of the men and women who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations are acknowledged and commemorated.

- 3.1: Develop and implement commemorative initiatives
- 3.2: Maintain, construct and refurbish war graves and post war commemorations
- 3.3: Coordinate and manage the delivery of commemorative and related activities at Gallipoli.

[**Topic:** Sen Macdonald: update on the new interpretive centre on the western front; other memorials.]

Output group 6: Provision of services to the Parliament, Ministerial services and the development of policy and internal operating regulations—attributed to outcomes 1 to 5.

Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**Thursday,
23 October**

9.00am–3.00pm:
DFAT general issues

3.00pm–6.30pm:
AusAID

7.30pm–9.30pm:
Austrade

9.30pm–11.00pm:
*DFAT trade issues**

Output 1.1: Protection and advocacy of Australia's international interests through the provision of policy advice to ministers and overseas diplomatic activity.

[**Topic:** Sen Trood: Output 1.1.]

1.1.1: North Asia

1.1.2: South–East Asia

[**Topics:** Sen Bob Brown: Australian government's role in BHP mining on Gag Island, Indonesia, off coast of West Papua.

Sen Hanson–Young: The following topics will be covered in outputs 1.1.2, 1.1.5 and 1.1.9: Australian companies that import phosphate from Western Sahara; human rights in Tibet, Western Sahara and West Papua; Australia's bid for a seat on UN Security Council. International conventions to which Australia is a signatory, and whether Australia is going to ratify specific conventions; people smuggling specifically for the sex trade.]

1.1.3: Americas

1.1.4: Europe

1.1.5: South and West Asia, Middle East and Africa

[**Topics:** See Sen Hanson–Young's topics above at 1.1.2]

1.1.6: Pacific

[**Topic:** Sen Payne: Pacific seasonal worker pilot scheme.]

***1.1.7:** Bilateral, regional and multi–lateral trade negotiations

***1.1.8:** Trade development/policy coordination & Asia–Pacific Economic Cooperation

[**Topics:** Sen Bob Brown: leaking of offensive advice about New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clarke.

Sen Xenophon: The impact of an increase in foreign aid will have on trade opportunities for Australia as developing countries emerge.]

1.1.9: International organisations, legal and environment

[**TopicS:** Sen Ludlam: Output 1.1.9. See also Sen Hanson–Young's topics above at 1.1.2.]

1.1.10: Security, nuclear disarmament and non–proliferation.

[**Topic:** Sen Ludlam: Output 1.1.10; in particular, Australian Safeguards and Non–Proliferation Office.]

Output 1.2: Secure government communications and security of overseas missions.

[**Topic:** Sen Trood: Output 1.2.]

Output 1.3: Services to other agencies in Australia and overseas (including Parliament, state representatives, business and other organisations).

[**Topic:** Sen Trood: Output 1.3.]

1.3.1: Parliament in Australia

1.3.2: Services to attached agencies

1.3.3: Services to business

1.3.4: Services to state governments and other agencies overseas and in Australia

Output 1.4: Services to diplomatic and consular representatives in Australia.

1.4.1: Services to diplomatic and consular corps

1.4.2: Provision of protection advice through liaison with the Protective Security Coordination Centre

[**Topic:** Sen Trood: Output 1.4.]

Output 2.1: Consular and passport services.

[**Topics:** Sen Trood: Output 2.1. Sen Hanson–Young: Passport services in relation to transgender people who leave Australia for gender re-assignment.]

2.1.1: Consular services

2.1.2: Passport services

Output 3.1: Public information services and public diplomacy

[**Topic:** Sen Ludlam: Output 3. Sen Trood: Output 3.1.]

3.1.1: Public information and media services on Australia's foreign and trade policy

3.1.2: Projecting a positive image of Australia internationally

3.1.3: Freedom of information and archival research and clearance.

Output 4.1: Property management

Output 4.2: Contract management

[**Topics:** Sen Trood: Outputs 4.1 and 4.2.]

Enabling services.

AusAID

Thursday,
23 October
3.00pm–6.30pm

Outcome 1: Australia's national interest advanced by assistance to developing countries to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development.

1.1: Policy

1.2: Program management

Administered items: Australia's development cooperation program

[**Topics:** Sen Trood: Outcome 1.

Sen Bob Brown: Australian government funding to remove unexploded ordnance in Vietnam; consultancies and Mr Oxley.

Sen Hanson–Young: Australia's aid target for millennium development goals; reproductive health funding; aid to East Timor and Papua New Guinea.

Sen Ludlam: The resources projected for Australia's overseas development aid assistance overall, and the adequacy of funding for tackling climate change adaptation. AusAID programs in Iraq and Afghanistan and its efforts on gender, peace and security issues.

Sen Payne: African elections; report/publications/strategies regarding HIV strategy, and, Zimbabwe report on the election; election commitments—AusAID policy and funding; Fiji—overview of election process; aid contributions; Pacific seasonal worker pilot scheme; Pacific partnerships; announcements on funding committed since the election; impact of current financial climate on the aid budget.

Sen Xenophon: The impact of an increase in foreign aid will have on trade opportunities for Australia as developing countries emerge.]

Outcome 2: Australia's national interest advanced by implementing a partnership between Australia and Indonesia for reconstruction and development

2.1: Australia–Indonesia partnership for reconstruction and development management

Administered items: Australia–Indonesia partnership program

[**Topics:** Sen Trood: Outcome 2.]

Australian Trade Commission (Austrade)

Thursday,
23 October
7.30pm–9.30pm

Outcome 1: Australians succeeding in international business with widespread community support.

- 1.1: Awareness raising
- 1.2: Government advice and coordination
- 1.3: Services and opportunities
- 1.4: Austrade administered: EMDGs for small to medium sized businesses and ITES loans and advances.

[**Topics:** Sen Trood: Outcome 1.

Sen Macdonald: EMDGs for small–medium sized business and ITES loans and advances.]

Outcome 2: Australians informed about and provided access to consular, passport and immigration services in specific locations overseas.

- 2.1: Consular, passport and immigration services.

[**Topic:** Sen Trood: Outcome 2.]

Thursday,
23 October
9.30pm–11.00pm

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Trade programs 1.1.7 and 1.1.8

[**Topic:** Sen Trood: Output 1.1.]

Proposed breaks

These times are approximate and will depend on hearing proceedings

Start 9.00am	10.30am–10.45am	Morning tea
	12.30pm–1.30pm	Lunch
	3.30pm–3.45pm	Afternoon tea
	6.30pm–7.30pm	Dinner
	9.00pm–9.15pm	Tea break, as required
		Adjourn 11.00pm approx

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