

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 6

Question No: 200

Topic: Strengthening Office for Women

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked:

At chapter 13, point 26, of Labor's 2007 National Platform it states that it will "strengthen the Office of the Status of Women." What measures has Labor taken over the past three years to strengthen the Office for Women?

Answer:

Over the last term, the Office for Women has been strengthened through:

- fortification of the gender equality architecture across government including the establishment of a Women's Interdepartmental Committee.
- the establishment and funding of six new National Women's Alliances to act as an efficient and effective conduit between women's sector and Government, to ensure that the Office for Women has the best and most up-to-date information and networks from across Australia.
- the completion of the first portfolio gender assessment within government to provide an evidence base to support the Office for Women's work.

The Office for Women has also been supported to engage internationally in forums such as the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, APEC, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Commonwealth of Nations, as well as appearing before the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.