

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016 - 2017 Additional Estimates
2 March 2017

AGENCY: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: Gerhard Vorster/Quidni

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: AI-128

In reference to answer to question 5 of question on notice SI-150:

1. What is the contract let by the Board Strategy Adviser referred to awarded to Gerhard Vrster/Quidni?
2. What was the reason for seeking outside assistance?
3. What were the outcomes of this contract?

ANSWER

1. The contract was a consultancy contract to engage Mr Gerhard Vorster, Quidni Advisory, to support preparation and facilitate a CSIRO Board strategy workshop on 28-29 April 2016.
2. Mr Vorster was engaged to allow the Chair and CSIRO Executive to participate in, rather than facilitate, the session.
3. The Board strategy discussion engaged existing and new Board members (subsequent to the commencement of the CSIRO Strategy on 1 July 2015) to raise awareness and consistency in strategic context and intent. The workshop also contributed to management's subsequent work in producing a slightly refined Vision and Mission statement, agreed positioning and communication messages, progress assessment, ongoing and updated staff engagement and communications plan, and ongoing risk discussion.