

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016, 20 October 2016

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 1

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question on Notice

Page: 9

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: How much did the conference cost?

Ms Adamson: I will ask Mr Fisher to take that question.

Mr Fisher: We do not have total costs on that. The costs are decentralised. Each area that sends a presenter will allot costs to that activity.

Senator WONG: The papers say \$215,000, so I am giving you the opportunity to respond to that figure.

Mr Fisher: We do not have the total costs. We are seeking to do the Canberra-based costs, so we will endeavour to get those costs; whether we need to give those to you on notice or whether we can do that through the day, I am not quite sure.

Senator WONG: Let us break this up, shall we? Are you talking about costs for travel?

Mr Fisher: I am talking about costs for travel, there will be allowances involved and accommodation, essentially.

Answer

The total cost of 22 A-based staff from Canberra attending the Regional Management Conference in Paris was AUD192,081.

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Question No 2

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: What is the standard room rate at the Mercure Eiffel Tower? Is that the name?

Mr Fisher: That is right.

Senator WONG: Or the Mercure Tour Eiffel.

Mr Fisher: I do not have that but I will get it for you.

...

Senator WONG: How long was the conference?

Mr Fisher: The conference was held for three days, so typically people would stay for three nights; but some may have stayed for a bit longer than that and some may have stayed for a shorter period.

Senator WONG: Can you provide that as well?

Mr Fisher: Sure.

Answer

A. The room rate at the Mecure Tour Eiffel was EUR188.50 per night including all taxes and breakfast.

B. The Regional Management Conference (RMC) ran from 7 to 9 September. A separate professional development workshop for locally engaged employees preceded the RMC from 5 to 6 September. In addition, several officers undertook other official business in Paris. One officer stayed one night, five officers stayed three nights. Ten officers stayed four nights, two officers stayed five nights, three officers stayed six nights, one officer stayed seven nights.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 3

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question on Notice

Page: 13-14

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Did people fly direct to Paris?

Mr Fisher: Most of the people who attended would have flown direct to Paris. Some of them would have been doing other business and come to Paris as part of a broader trip.

Senator WONG: That is another question for you to try to come back to me on.

Mr Fisher: Sure.

Answer

Eleven officers travelled directly to Paris. Eleven officers travelled on an indirect route either to Paris or on return to Australia to undertake official business in other locations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 4

Program: DFAT

Topic: Gender Equality Fund

Question on Notice

Page: 15

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Can you give a budget allocation for the priority area of gender equality and empowering women and girls?

Mr McDonald: I can. I am happy to take that on notice, but can I say that it will be extensive when we have a budget of \$3.8 billion. A large proportion of that will cover initiatives that cover gender-specific activities in terms of integrating those into our investments.

Senator RHIANNON: Can you provide a breakdown of that by country and by program?

Mr McDonald: I am happy to take that on notice.

Senator RHIANNON: What I am trying to understand here—and I imagine that it is a challenge for you, considering the range of programs that you are responsible for—is, when you get to the specific project, how you determine the gender aspects and the empowering aspects of that. How do you ensure that they happen and how do you then decide what the percentage is? Can you provide that level of detail regarding how you make those determinations?

Mr McDonald: As I said we will take that on notice and provide it to you.

Answer

An estimated 56.4 per cent of DFAT's aid spend in 2015-16 addressed gender equality and empowering women and girls. This is compared to 55.9 per cent in 2014-15. A final breakdown of the 2015-16 expenditure on gender will be provided in Australian Engagement with Developing Countries: Part 2: Official Sector Statistical Summary 2015-16.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 5

Program: DFAT

Topic: Gender Equality Fund

Question on Notice

Page: 16-17

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: I understand there was a pilot program to provide curriculum materials on forced marriage. Can you provide any feedback on that? Where is this program going? Has more funding been provided for it and does it continue?

...

Dr Strahan: Senator, would you like me to close the loop on the specific project which you asked about—the forced marriage? The information I have at hand does not cover that particular project, so we will come back to you with information about what we do on forced and child marriage. We see that as a very important theme and we work broadly, through the Commonwealth and the UN and with bilateral partners, on that issue. Lastly, just last week we had an extensive series of consultations on eliminating violence against women where we reached out to a whole series of NGOs and think-tanks. A very important element to this question is data, and capturing good data. So we are putting a lot of extra work into capturing good data. On your specific question, I will make sure that we come back to you, hopefully today; if not, later.

Answer

The Australian Government recognises that child, early and forced marriage is a violation of human rights. In Pakistan DFAT funds the Challenging Gender Based Violence Program. Within that program, information material has been developed on the issue of child and forced marriage to raise awareness among communities, community groups, leaders, and as a capacity building resource for pro-bono lawyers and district bar councils. The material has been printed and displayed at relevant local institutions that have a role in responding to gender based violence in a number of districts in Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces where the program operates.

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Additional funding for this Challenging Gender Based Violence Program was recently secured under DFAT's Gender Equality Fund 2016 for use over the next 2 years. This funding will enable the continued use of these awareness raising materials on child and forced marriage, along with other activities under the program.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 6

Program: DFAT

Topic: Water and Sanitation

Question on Notice

Page: 18-19

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Mr Exell: In regard to the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, my understanding is that there have not been any cuts to the contribution to that organisation. DFAT provided approximately \$2.4 million in 2015-16. That runs through to 2018. DFAT also has an agreement with UNICEF to support the sanitation of water for all, through the secretariat for total of \$1.1 million. That runs through to December 2019.

Senator RHIANNON: So there have been no cuts?

Mr Exell: That is correct.

Senator RHIANNON: I had figures here that it was moving from \$3 million per year that ran from 2012-15 to \$1.5 million per year from this year to 2019. Is that inaccurate or are we just looking at the figures in different ways?

Mr Exell: We could be. I am happy to take that on notice. If you add those two figures I quoted, 2.4 and 1.1, you get close to the \$3 million that was the previous funding. But I am happy to take that on notice, the difference from the previous period to this period. I do not have a comparison here.

Senator RHIANNON: If you could take it on notice, because what I have from our calculations is that over four years the council is looking at a drop in funding from \$12 million to \$6 million. If you could just look at the figures?

Mr Exell: And you are referring to specific Australian funding?

Senator RHIANNON: Yes.

Mr Exell: Not total donor funding?

Senator RHIANNON: Yes.

Mr Exell: I will take that on notice.

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Answer

There have been no cuts to Australian funding of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). DFAT has met all undertakings made to WSSCC as set out in each funding agreement since 2008. The annual funding amount provided through each Agreement does vary as funding priorities are determined through the budget process.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 7

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vietnam

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Are you able to tell me—you obviously will need to consult—how many meetings occurred between staff or the ambassador at the embassy or the consul general and the Vietnamese government in the preceding 18 months? You have asserted, and so has the minister, we have had a period of 18 months to prepare. So I would like to know how many meetings was this raised at.

Ms Adamson: I will endeavour to get that information for you.

Answer

The then Australian Ambassador in Hanoi first raised the arrangements for the 2016 Vietnam Veterans Day with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Hanoi on 9 March 2015, and has followed up regularly with the MFA as part of the broad bilateral agenda over the past 18 months.

Successive Australian Consuls-General in Ho Chi Minh City held meetings with senior officials of the Ba Ria-Vung Tau Provincial (BRVT) Government – which has responsibility in Vietnam for the practical arrangements at Long Tan – on four occasions in 2016 and once in 2015 to discuss arrangements for the 2016 Vietnam Veterans Day. The then Australian Ambassador participated in one of the 2016 meetings with BRVT senior officials. Consulate-General staff had regular contact with working level BRVT officials over the course of 2016.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 8

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vietnam

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Given what you have said, which is that there was, I suppose, a historical understanding of concerns about numbers of visitors and that that might elevate concern about a ceremony or a commemoration, was that view expressed to any of the organisations or tour operators organising visits? Was that passed on?

Ms Adamson: I would have to take that on notice, Senator.

Senator WONG: Do you see my point? If DFAT knew that, historically, if the numbers get too big there is a risk that there may be a negative response, was the management of that risk communicated to those organising the event?

Ms Adamson: I would need to take that on notice, Senator.

Answer

A. DFAT advised the public (including tour operators) via our websites – as did Department of Veterans' Affairs – about the conditions for commemorations at Long Tan. These conditions are: acting respectfully, no medals or flags, and register with local authorities if intending to visit the site. There were no conditions on the number of visitors set by the Vietnamese Government.

B. In June 2016, based on the figures received from the Department of Veterans' Affairs, DFAT advised the Vietnamese authorities by a Third Person Note that we could expect up to 1500 (in the end there were an estimated 1200). No concerns were raised by Vietnamese authorities at this point.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 9

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vietnam

Question on Notice

Page: 23

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: I want to know: did the government, via DFAT, communicate Vietnamese sensitivities to tour operators and others involved in organising the event?

Ms Adamson: As I have said, we will check that for you, Senator.

Senator WONG: Mr Smith also told the *Sydney Morning Herald*:

The way it's turned out is that Long Tan has been advertised on tickets and advertised on brochures and various things, which is what the Hanoi government said not to happen. It's happened and therefore they've pulled the blind down.

At any point prior to the 16th was DFAT aware of the risk of cancellation for the reasons that Mr Smith describes—that there was a risk that if the numbers were too big the event might be cancelled by the Vietnamese government?

Ms Adamson: Can I get back to you on that also? I would simply like to say that, as a matter of routine planning, any post organising a significant event, including an event of this kind, would normally go through a careful risk assessment process.

Senator WONG: Did such a risk assessment occur in relation to this?

Ms Adamson: I will need to check that but it would be normal, as I have said.

Answer

A. DFAT advised the public (including tour operators) via our websites – as did Department of Veterans' Affairs – about the conditions of commemorations at the Long Tan site. These conditions are: acting respectfully, no medals or flags, and register with local authorities if intending to visit the site. There were no conditions on the number of visitors set by the Vietnamese Government.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

B. DFAT and DVA were not involved in the organisation of any of the private events (such as the concert and dinners) scheduled to be held that week.

DFAT was not aware of the cancellation risk prior to the 16 August 2016.

Vietnamese authorities did not express concern about the numbers attending the event before then, including in response to DFAT's Third Person Note in June 2016.

C. Arrangements for Long Tan commemoration services, including risks, are the topic of regular discussion between Posts in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City and DFAT and DVA in Canberra. The Australian Consulate-General in Ho Chi Minh City recorded the risk of a cancellation of a Long Tan commemoration service in the risk register of its Business Plan for 2015-16 and 2016-17. The likelihood of a cancellation was rated as "unlikely" based on our regular engagement with Vietnamese authorities.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 10

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vietnam

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Prior to the 16th on how many occasions was the foreign minister briefed about the preparations for this event?

Senator Brandis: That really goes to the question of advice to ministers, Senator.

Senator WONG: There are two points about that. One is that I refer you to what the chair read out first—that there is not a blanket proposition against advice to ministers. But I do not want to get into that big argument. I do not actually know what the advice was. I just want to know on how many occasions she was briefed.

Senator Brandis: We will take that on notice, Senator.

Answer

Prior to 16 August 2016, the Foreign Minister was not briefed on the preparations for 50th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan commemorations in Vietnam.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 11

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vietnam

Question on Notice

Page: 23

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Is there any record of the post advising Canberra that this was a risk or that this was likely to happen?

Ms Adamson: That is part of what I said earlier that we would check, Senator.

Answer

There were no concerns about cancellation of the 2016 commemoration service raised with Canberra by Australian posts in Vietnam in advance of 16 August 2016.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 12

Program: DFAT

Topic: China

Question on Notice

Page: 26

Senator Di Natale

Question

Senator DI NATALE: On the specific issue of those two political prisoners, could you undertake, on notice, to see whether there has been any discussion, and, if not, whether there is any intention to raise either of those cases with the Chinese government?

Mr Fletcher: Yes, I can. I can confirm that we have not raised those two cases specifically. But every time we have a human rights dialogue with China we do talk about specific cases. We do think about which cases we are going to mention in particular on those occasions.

Answer

We confirm that the Department has not previously raised the cases Shokjang and Tashi Wangchuk directly with the Chinese Government. The Australian Embassy in Beijing has undertaken to raise these cases with relevant Chinese officials at the next appropriate opportunity as part of their routine human rights meetings.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 13

Program: DFAT

Topic: China

Question on Notice

Page: 26

Senator Di Natale

Question

Senator DI NATALE: My understanding is that the initial approach was made to the then Chinese ambassador in Canberra in 2014. Are we aware as to whether there has been another approach to the new ambassador?

Mr Fletcher: By the parliamentary group?

Senator DI NATALE: Yes; or indeed by the foreign minister?

Mr Fletcher: I will take that on notice.

Answer

In May 2014, Foreign Minister Bishop wrote to then Chinese Ambassador Ma Zhaoxu to outline her support for a visit to the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) by the Australian All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet (AAPGT). Since then, DFAT officials have raised this issue with Chinese authorities on several occasions. During her visit to the TAR in August 2013, former Australian Ambassador to China, Secretary Frances Adamson encouraged TAR officials to enable a future visit by an Australian Parliamentary delegation. The request was reiterated in her farewell correspondence to high level TAR officials in 2015. The same request was also made by our former Deputy Head of Mission (DHOM) in China, during his visit to the TAR in April 2015, and reiterated in November 2015 by the acting DHOM during a call on a Deputy Director General for the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress. Most recently, DFAT Assistant Secretary Jason Robertson raised the request with a Deputy Director General of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, during a visit to Beijing in October 2016. The proposed visit has not been raised directly with the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador Cheng Jingye, who commenced his appointment in June 2016, but we have raised the proposal with other staff at the Chinese Embassy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 14

Program: DFAT

Topic: Pacific

Question on Notice

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Senator Fawcett

Question

Senator FAWCETT: There was also some specific activities investment in water sanitation for some of the quite disadvantaged communities living in very high density with very poor facilities. We saw some specific investment there. I am imagining, given what occurred to the country and the lack of substantial structure for that community, that much of that was destroyed. Have there been any specific efforts to try and restore or help that community recover?

Mr Sloper: I would have to take on notice the detail of that question but I am happy to come back. I will try to do that this afternoon, if I can.

Answer

The answer to this question was provided by Mr Sloper (First Assistant Secretary, Pacific Division) to Senator Fawcett during the afternoon session of Supplementary Budget Estimates on 20 October 2016 (Hansard, p.72).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 15

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vietnam

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: I want to briefly finish on Long Tan and then move on to another area, if I may. I understand you have taken a range of things on notice, Secretary, so I do not propose to re-traverse them. I do want to ask you first: Minister Bishop gave a press conference on 19 August in which she referenced her conversation with Foreign Minister Minh:

I spoke with him the night before last when we were informed, for the first time, that the Vietnamese government intended to cancel the commemorative service, and he said to me that the concerns and tensions over the presence of a significant number of Australian veterans and their families had been rising. They were concerned at the reaction of local people, the sensitivities that the conflict in Vietnam, all those years ago, still brings to the communities in Vietnam.

In the context of that I do want to ask you: in your answers to the questions you have taken on notice, when was DFAT aware of the concerns and tensions rising as per the minister's statement? Second, I want to ask you: who was the lead agency for the consultation? Who do you say was the lead agency for the consultation with the Vietnamese government on this matter?

Ms Adamson: My understanding is that DFAT was the lead agency for the consultations but worked closely with Veterans' Affairs here in Australia who were obviously the main contact point for veterans, as you would expect.

Answer

A. There were no concerns about cancellation of the 2016 commemoration service raised with DFAT in advance of 16 August 2016.

B. DFAT was the lead agency for consultation with the Vietnamese Government. Department of Veterans' Affairs was the lead agency for consultation with Australian stakeholders.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 16

Program: DFAT

Topic: Former PM travel

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator Brandis: Senator Wong, I can give you some additional information that will help to contextualise this. During the same period DFAT provided assistance to Mr Rudd on 15 occasions, to Ms Gillard on 16 occasions, to Mr Howard on two occasions, to Mr Hawke on one occasion, and none to Mr Keating.

Senator WONG: Thank you for raising that. Ms Logan, I have now been provided with the additional estimates information. Do you have an update that you can table?

Ms Logan: There is the travel he did in late 2015, but I am assuming you are not referring to that?

Senator WONG: I would like this document updated to date.

Ms Logan: This is the information that we have.

Senator Brandis: We do not have up-to-date figures, Senator.

Senator WONG: The document includes the information that the minister just read out?

Ms Logan: About all the other former prime ministerial travel?

Senator WONG: Correct.

Answer

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Former Prime Minister travel – The Hon Tony Abbott - February 2016 onwards

2016			
Date of Travel	Countries Visited	Assistance Requested	Assistance Provided
26 January – 2 February	United States	Airport facilitation (Los Angeles and New York, Washington) Assistance with arranging meetings Ground transport	United States - Airport facilitation (Los Angeles and New York, Washington) Assistance with arranging meetings Ground transport
26 – 28 February	Japan	Airport facilitation, assistance with arranging meetings, ground transport	Japan - Airport facilitation, assistance with arranging meetings, ground transport
18 – 20 March	Ukraine	Airport facilitation Assistance with arranging meetings	Ukraine - Mr Abbott was a guest of the Ukrainian Government. As hosts, the Ukrainian Government initiated and provided airport facilitation and ground transport (no post involvement). Post helped with arranging program and HOM/DHOM accompanied on most calls.
20 – 24 March	United Kingdom	Request for private dinner with HOM	United Kingdom - Airport facilitation Ground transport Assistance with arranging meeting with the FCO Minister of State for Europe
28 – 30 September	United States	Airport facilitation, ground transport	United States - Airport facilitation (Los Angeles), Airport facilitation and airport ground transport (New York)
Total			5

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

**Former Prime Minister travel – The Hon Kevin Rudd –
February 2016 onwards**

2016			
Date of Travel	Countries Visited	Assistance Requested	Assistance Provided
13 January	Germany	Ground transport	Germany - Ground transport
14 January	Denmark	Assistance with arranging meetings	Denmark - Assistance with arranging meetings Airport facilitation Ground transport
15 and 16 January	France	NIL	France - Limited ground transport HOM briefing
15 - 17 February	Korea	Airport facilitation, assistance with arranging meetings, assistance with arranging accommodation , ground Transport.	Korea - Airport facilitation, Assistance with arranging meetings, accommodation (HOM Residence), ground transport
17 - 24 February	Russia	Airport facilitation, assistance with arranging meetings	Russia - Airport facilitation, assistance with arranging meetings, Embassy briefing, lunch at HOM residence
5 – 8 April	India	Ground transport and facilitation	India - Ground transport
25 - 29 April	Russia	Airport facilitation	Russia - Airport facilitation, dinner at HOM residence

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25 – 27 May	South Africa	Airport facilitation, ground transport, arranging meetings and attendance at Archbishop Tutu's service, TPN's to South African, Angolan and Botswana MFA's seeking meeting facilitation, request to arrange meeting with South African President Zuma	South Africa - Airport facilitation, ground transport, arranging meetings and attendance at Archbishop Tutu's service. TPN's to South African, Angolan and Botswana MFA's seeking meeting facilitation. Due to short notice, a meeting with President Zuma was not sought.
29 May – 1 June	Russia	Airport facilitation (Moscow)	Russia - Airport facilitation
8 – 10 June	France	Assistance with arranging meetings, ground transport	France - Assistance with arranging meetings, ground transport
20 – 22 June	Japan	Assistance with arranging meetings, ground transport	Japan - Assistance with arranging meetings, ground transport
22 – 23 June	Malaysia	Assistance with arranging meetings, airport facilitation.	Malaysia - Briefing, assistance with arranging meetings, ground transportation, airport facilitation.

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23 - 25 June	Vietnam	Airport facilitation, ground transport, arranging meetings with Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phye, and Vice Minister Ha Kim Ngoc, briefing by Charge d’Affaires	Vietnam - Airport facilitation, ground transport, arranging meetings with Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phye, and Vice Minister Ha Kim Ngoc, briefing by Charge d’Affaires
16 - 17 July	France	Briefing	France - Briefing
7 October	United States	Airport facilitation	United States – Airport facilitation
Total			15

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

**Former Prime Minister travel – The Hon Julia Gillard –
February 2016 onwards**

2016			
Date of Travel	Countries Visited	Assistance Requested	Assistance Provided
17 - 22 January	United States	Airport facilitation (San Francisco)	United States - Airport facilitation (San Francisco)
23 - 26 January	United Kingdom	Airport facilitation	United Kingdom - Airport facilitation
31 January - 23 February	South Africa, Zambia, Rwanda, Mauritius	Attendance by DHOM (in HOM's absence) at a dinner and a lunch for the delegation (Pretoria) Advice on possible meetings and HOM attendance for the visit (Zambia) Airport facilitation; assistance with arranging meetings; accompany to meetings (Rwanda)	South Africa - Attendance by DHOM (in HOM's absence) at a dinner and a lunch for the delegation, airport facilitation, briefing on Zambia at dinner, ground transport, assistance with organizing government meetings, attendance at functions by HOM/DHOM (including alumni event). Rwanda - Airport facilitation in Kigali; assistance with arranging meetings; accompany to meetings (Nairobi). Mauritius - Airport facilitation and transport (provided by MFA, including security) assistance with arranging some meetings (Prime Minister and President) and events. HOM attendance at some meetings and events, including hosting a lunch and dinner (Mauritius)
29 Feb – 16 March	United States	Airport facilitation (San Francisco and Washington)	United States - Airport facilitation (San Francisco and Washington)
11 – 26 April	United States	Airport facilitation	United States - Airport facilitation in Dallas coordinated by Washington, airport facilitation and ground transport on arrival (Washington airport)
15 – 19 May	Denmark	Airport facilitation (Copenhagen)	Denmark - Airport facilitation and ground transport (to and from airport / to and from embassy function).
19 – 20 May	Sweden	Airport facilitation and ground transport (to and from	Sweden - Airport facilitation and ground transport (to and from hotel)

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		hotel)	
23 – 24 May	Turkey	Advice on aspects of the program of the UN World Humanitarian Summit and consultation with Turkish hosts on participation in one Summit event.	Turkey - Advice on aspects of the program of the UN World Humanitarian Summit and consultation with Turkish hosts on participation in one Summit event.
27 May – 12 June	Italy	Airport facilitation and facilitation of tours of the Vatican	Italy - Airport facilitation (coordinated by Rome post) Facilitation of tours of the Vatican and ground transport (coordinated by Holy See post)
12 – 16 June	Norway	Airport facilitation (Oslo)	Norway - Airport facilitation provided by the Norwegian MFA.
16 – 17 June	Belgium	Airport facilitation and ground transport	Belgium - Airport facilitation and ground transport
22 and 25 June	United States	Airport facilitation	United States - Airport facilitation (Los Angeles)
2 – 5 July	Norway	Airport facilitation (Oslo)	Nil (airport facilitation was not required and request was withdrawn)
5 – 8 July	United Kingdom	Airport facilitation (Heathrow)	United Kingdom - Airport facilitation
17 – 25 July	United States	Airport facilitation (Los Angeles and Philadelphia)	United States - Airport facilitation (Los Angeles and Philadelphia)
12 – 30 September	United States	Airport facilitation, ground transport	United States - Airport facilitation Dallas and Washington, ground transport on departure (Washington) Airport facilitation and ground transport on arrival(New York)
Total			17

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

**Former Prime Minister travel – The Hon John Howard –
 February 2016 onwards**

2016			
Date of Travel	Countries Visited	Assistance Requested	Assistance Provided
27 January - 9 February	United States	Airport facilitation (Washington and Los Angeles, Miami and Dallas coordinated by Washington)	United States - Airport facilitation (Washington and Los Angeles, Miami and Dallas coordinated by Washington)
12 – 16 June	China	Airport facilitation	NIL (request withdrawn because facilitation was arranged by the organisers of the JP Morgan Global China Summit)
Total			1

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

**Former Prime Minister travel – The Hon Bob Hawke –
February 2016 onwards**

2016			
Date of Travel	Countries Visited	Assistance Requested	Assistance Provided
19 - 26 March	China	Airport facilitation (Hong Kong)	China - Airport facilitation
12 – 16 June	China	Airport facilitation	NIL (request withdrawn)
9 – 13 October	China	Meeting facilitation	China - Meeting facilitation
Total			2

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 17

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Did the deputy reiterate the advice that had been previously provided in relation to 'do not travel'—the danger et cetera—in that conversation?

Mr Innes-Brown: I will have to take that on notice. The detail that I gave you on that conversation is all that I have at this stage.

Answer

No, because the email exchange was with Mr Coates not Mr Roy. Mr Roy was already in Erbil and had been made aware of the travel advice before travelling to Iraq.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 18

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Who did he communicate the conversation to?

Mr Innes-Brown: I do not know. You asked: 'Did he communicate to anyone?' He could have communicated it to the head of mission or another member of staff—

Senator WONG: You do not have any information about what he did with that?

Mr Innes-Brown: No, I do not know. That is why I would need to take it on notice; I would need to get further information on his conversation with Mr Coates.

Answer

The deputy head of mission advised the head of mission on 20 September following the email from Mr Coates.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 19

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Just to get the geography right, how far is Erbil from the Mosul district, the Mosul declared area?

Mr Innes-Brown: As the crow flies, it could be about a hundred miles, but I would like to take that on notice. It is not a huge distance.

Answer

The centre of Erbil city is just over 70km from the nearest point of the Mosul declared area by road.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 20

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid

Question on Notice

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Senator Lambie

Question

Senator LAMBIE: As part of our foreign policy, Australia effectively borrows billions of dollars each year so that we can give it away to many different countries in foreign aid. Often that foreign aid is expressed as a percentage of our GDP. I have found that that percentage cleverly hides the true cost of Australian foreign aid from the average worker who is struggling to pay their bills. Firstly, in dollar terms, can you detail Australia's foreign aid budget for the last 10 years and also for the following 10 years, if you can go that far? I do know that you have done it for five years forward, but do you have it for 10 years?

Mr McDonald: We can certainly provide, on notice, information over the last 10 years. We can certainly advise you what the budget is this year and what the budget is scheduled to be over the forward estimates—the next three years beyond this year. It is \$3.8 billion this year. I will ask Mr Wood to add the others.

Answer

Australian actual ODA over the previous 10 years:

Year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
ODA (\$m)	2,979	3,115	3,737	3,864	4,301

Year	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
ODA (\$m)	4,822	5,052	5,049	5,028	4,052

Estimated ODA for the current year and over the Forward Estimates:

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
ODA (\$m)	3,828	3,912	4,010	4,110

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 21

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid

Question on Notice

Page: 39

Senator Lambie

Question

Mr McDonald: I am happy for Ms Klugman to come up and talk about our program in Pakistan. But as I said, in terms of the approach that we take to aid, I have just run through it in terms of the priority around those countries. In relation to Pakistan, it will be some of the requirements that they have around poverty, conflict and fragility, and there are consequences from that in terms of—

Senator LAMBIE: No, I do not need to know that. But I do need to know that it is not in our region; it has a bigger military and is nuclear. So I will just move along.

Mr McDonald: Ms Klugman can give you the detail of the program, if you wish.

Senator LAMBIE: Actually I will just take that on notice; thank you.

Answer

Australia has a longstanding relationship with Pakistan in areas which support our interests such as security, border control and counter-terrorism.

Australia's aid to Pakistan (AUD 47 million in 2016-17) is reducing poverty and is helping to address the root causes of terrorism and instability in our region. By reducing poverty in Pakistan Australia's aid is helping to address the underlying causes of instability – such as poor education, poor health and lack of economic productivity.

Australia's aid to Pakistan is contributing to poverty reduction and sustainable, inclusive economic growth by:

- supporting some health and education programs with a focus on areas affected by conflict
- assisting Pakistan's agriculture sector with a focus on rural livelihoods, market development and inclusive growth
- building resilience through humanitarian assistance in areas of Pakistan affected by conflict and natural disasters

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- working to strengthen Pakistan's provincial government capacity, service delivery and citizen-state relations in the provinces bordering Afghanistan.

Australia is also providing assistance to build Pakistan's capability to deal with terrorism and extremism:

- together with the UK, we supported a program to develop the Pakistan judiciary's capacity to deal with terrorism-related offences
- Australia has also provided funding support to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to build the capacity of forensic and counter-terrorism officers
- we support Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) programs to identify, counsel and re-train radicalised youth and their mothers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 22

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid

Question on Notice

Page: 40

Senator Lambie

Question

Senator Brandis: Just to clarify: you want to know over each of the last 10 years what percentage of the total foreign aid that Australia has given has been by way of transfer payment or cash payment and what percentage has been in goods or services?

Senator LAMBIE: Yes. Thank you for clearing that up.

Mr Wood: We can also highlight in that some of our humanitarian assistance we are providing supplies to regional crises or disasters, obviously.

Answer

The Department does not currently have reporting mechanisms to obtain this information.

To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 23

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid

Question on Notice

Page: 40

Senator Lambie

Question

Senator LAMBIE: Thank you. Do we have rules, policies or guidelines which ensure that food, goods or products provided in foreign aid must be Australian made or grown, or is it from other countries that we buy foreign aid to give?

Mr McDonald: We do not have tied aid; so we do not require it to be Australian made or to come from Australia. Identifying what is the best, most efficient way to deliver the aid is how we determine it.

Senator Brandis: But a lot of it is that there is no absolute rule that 100 per cent of it has to be Australian made, when we are talking about goods and services, but in fact a very substantial amount of it is.

Senator LAMBIE: Would I be able to get that information on notice too?

Mr Wood: Yes.

Answer

The Department does not currently aggregate information on Australian goods and services provided in foreign aid.

To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 24

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq

Question on Notice

Page: 41

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Can I ask this also: the Prime Minister has said on a couple of occasions and on 3AW on 30 September, 'I've got no doubt that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade will be taking an interest in his travels.' He also said, 'I expect there will be a debrief from Mr Roy when he returns.' Has that occurred?

Mr Innes-Brown: Not to my knowledge—not to my division and not to the department, I do not think.

Senator WONG: Secretary, across government, has there been a debrief?

Ms Adamson: I would need to check for you.

Answer

A. No.

B. AFP Commissioner Colvin told Senate Estimates on 17 October that his agency “did not believe any offences had been committed” based on public reporting and that there was no active investigation.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 25

Program: DFAT

Topic: Nuclear Disarmament

Question on Notice

Page: 43

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Mr Sadleir: Australia has been lobbied by many states in terms of their positions in respect of the negotiations.

Senator RHIANNON: Which ones have lobbied?

Mr Sadleir: I would have to take that on notice.

Answer

Australia has been lobbied by many countries, with a range of positions on a nuclear weapons ban treaty, over an extended period. For example, there were more than 100 countries involved in the Open-Ended Working Group and many of these made representations to Australia on their positions. So too were representations made by countries outside the Open-Ended Working Group.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 26

Program: DFAT

Topic: Intelligence

Question on Notice

Page: 45-46

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Sure. I will ask the minister representing the minister. Can the minister explain why it is appropriate for the foreign minister to disclose on the record to a journalist details of ASIS's operations?

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: Senator Wong, the Secretary has made comments. I accept what she says. I shall take it on notice and I shall refer it to the Foreign Minister.

Senator WONG: Thank you. I appreciate that. Secretary, you might need to take this on notice. On how many occasions in the last 12 months has the department sought advice from the Solicitor-General?

Ms Adamson: I will indeed need to take that on notice.

Answer

A. It is not appropriate for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to comment on matters which relate to another agency.

B. In the relevant 12-month period, the department sought the Solicitor-General's advice on two occasions.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 27

Program: DFAT

Topic: HOM/HOP

Question on Notice

Page: 46

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: I am reading from an article of 15 July entitled 'Joe Hockey the ambassador of fun at Lindsay Fox birthday'. It states that Mr Hockey was one of 450 guests on a Mediterranean cruise on a luxury liner. I want to know if there was a declaration. You might have to take it on notice.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: Senator Wong, it would be helpful if you kindly gave us a copy of *The Australian* article. Do you have a copy of that article? It would be really helpful for the officers to know what was said, thank you.

Senator WONG: Sure. I have one here.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: We could perhaps get it copied, thank you. We will take it on notice.

Senator WONG: Thank you. I would like to know whether there were any other DFAT officers who were on that cruise.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: We will take that as a package of questions on notice.

Answer

Refer to response to question on notice 87.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 28

Program: DFAT

Topic: HOM/HOP

Question on Notice

Page: 47

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Can I also on notice have a list of all envoys, special envoys and special ambassadors, rapporteurs and the like in the portfolio? In relation to each of them, can I have the names of current appointees and the date and terms of their appointments?

Ms Adamson: Yes.

Thematic Ambassadors and Special Envoys

Thematic ambassadors

Position title	Name of appointee	Date commenced
Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism	Paul Foley	August 2016
Ambassador for Cyber Affairs	Tobias Feakin	Commences January 2017
Ambassador for the Environment	Patrick Suckling	February 2016
Ambassador for HIV/Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria	James Gilling	October 2012
Ambassador for People Smuggling and Human Trafficking	Andrew Goledzinowski AM	December 2014
Ambassador for Women and Girls	Natasha Stott Despoja AM	December 2013 (term ends 30/12/16)

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Special envoys

Position title	Name of appointee	Date commenced
Special Envoy for Human Rights	Philip Ruddock	February 2016

As with Heads of Mission and Heads of Post, special envoys and thematic ambassadors are appointed by the Government.

- The duration of these appointments is a matter for the Government.
- There is no usual term of office for these positions.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 29

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

Page: 51

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Thank you for that. I would like to ask some questions about the sequence of discussions in which the department was involved with the Secretary-General position of the United Nations. Is DFAT aware of meetings between the foreign minister and Mr Rudd in relation to the UN Secretary-General position? If so, are you able to provide me with the dates of those meetings?

Mr McDonald: No. I am not aware of those meetings. I can take on notice to check within the department, but we are not aware, no.

Senator WONG: Did anyone from the department attend any of these meetings?

Mr McDonald: Well, not to my knowledge, no. We are happy to take it on notice and check.

Senator WONG: Yes. I would like you to. You have given me a long list in the previous session of times when Mr Rudd's travel was facilitated. For example, Ms Bishop held talks with Mr Rudd on the margins of the UN General Assembly in 2015. Is that correct?

Mr McDonald: Again, I cannot say yes that did occur. I am happy to follow up and take that on notice.

Answer

DFAT is not aware of meetings between the Foreign Minister and Mr Rudd in relation to the UN Secretary-General position. In 2015, during the UN General Assembly high-level segment, the Foreign Minister spoke at an Asia Society/UNESCO-hosted event on the trafficking of antiquities chaired by Mr Rudd.

Mr Rudd also attended an informal function hosted by the Foreign Minister in New York, as one of around 15 guests from the business, NGO and foreign policy/diplomatic communities.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 30

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

Page: 52

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: It has been publicly reported that DFAT prepared a cabinet submission in relation to this matter. When did this matter first go to cabinet?

Mr McDonald: In relation to that date, I would have to take that on notice.

Answer

As Cabinet deliberations are confidential, it would not be appropriate to reveal what may or may not have been considered by Cabinet and when.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 31

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

Page: 52

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Did the foreign minister advise Mr Rudd that she had agreed with the Prime Minister—this is in May—that the government would consider the Secretary-General issue after the election?

Mr McDonald: I do not have any knowledge of that. You would have to ask the Prime Minister.

Senator WONG: To you, Minister?

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: I will take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Sure. You will probably want to do this one too. Did the foreign minister tell Mr Rudd in early May she would authorise DFAT and Australia's mission to the UN to take soundings from other missions about Mr Rudd's candidature?

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: I will take that on notice.

Answer

This matter should be directed to the Foreign Minister's office.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 32

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

Page: 52

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: I ask the secretary: was there any such authorisation to DFAT and Australia's mission to the UN?

Ms Adamson: Mr McDonald can answer that question.

Mr McDonald: Yes. In terms of the UN mission, the former secretary of the department asked the head of mission in UN New York to undertake soundings in relation to the prospects of a Rudd candidature to inform the briefing we would provide to an incoming government for its cabinet deliberations.

Senator WONG: Okay. So when did Mr Varghese do that?

Mr McDonald: I will say 10 May 2016, and I will check that date for you.

Senator WONG: Okay. What led Mr Varghese to do that? Was that at the minister's request?

Mr McDonald: I do not know. I was only informed by Mr Varghese that he had authorised that. I do not know. I do know he had a discussion with Mr Rudd, but I do not know why he authorised that.

Senator WONG: Were there regular meetings between Mr Rudd and Australia's permanent representative in New York?

Mr McDonald: I am aware of two. I can check, but I am aware of two. As I say, there were no discussions before that week of 10 May 2016 that I am talking about.

Senator WONG: But on 10 May the authorisation is provided.

Mr McDonald: Yes.

Senator WONG: Which is consistent with what Mr Rudd has said publicly. Did the foreign minister authorise DFAT to have embassies facilitate introductions in international capitals for Mr Rudd?

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Mr McDonald: Not to my knowledge. I am happy to take that on notice and check. Certainly the undertakings as provided to me by the previous secretary were for us to take soundings, as I mentioned earlier.

Answer

On 9 May 2016 New York time, former DFAT Secretary Peter Varghese authorised the Australian Mission to the UN in New York to explore the prospects of a Rudd candidature with a view to providing the incoming Government with the best possible analysis of Mr Rudd's prospects.

On 9 May 2016 New York time, former DFAT Secretary Peter Varghese also authorised our Head of Mission, Gillian Bird, to meet and discuss with Mr Rudd how this analysis could best be done.

Mr Rudd met with senior representatives of our mission to discuss his candidacy on three occasions in May and June.

DFAT is not aware of the Foreign Minister authorising introductions to be facilitated. However, with or without such an authorisation, it would be normal practice for our embassies to facilitate introductions for a former Prime Minister if requested.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 33

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

Page: 53

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Hang on. When I ask you questions, I am asking you as a departmental officer: was the minister's office advised by the department of the discussion the secretary had with the former Prime Minister about his candidature for the Secretary-General position?

Mr McDonald: I would have to take that on notice. I am certainly not aware of it.

Senator WONG: Was there any discussion, or communication of which DFAT was aware, between Mr Varghese and the minister's office about that instruction?

Mr McDonald: I am not aware of it.

Senator WONG: It would be unlikely, would it not, for the secretary of the department to instruct the head of mission in New York to take soundings on a candidature without the foreign minister's knowledge?

Mr McDonald: I would say yes. My answer would be yes. I can only work on the information that was provided to me. I would like to check whether that information also went to the foreign minister's office as well and I can then answer that question.

Senator WONG: Thank you. And a range of other questions you have taken on notice.

Mr McDonald: Yes.

Senator WONG: You will probably want to take these on notice. Was a cabinet submission considered on 28 July 2016?

Mr McDonald: I will take that on notice.

Senator WONG: I would like to point out that the Prime Minister actually announced it on 29 July 2016 following a discussion in cabinet, so it is probably

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not, you know, super secret. Can you confirm the cabinet submission contained a recommendation that the government nominate Mr Rudd?

Mr McDonald: I cannot confirm that. I would like to take it on notice, please.

Senator WONG: Sure. Did DFAT undertake any assessment of Mr Rudd's qualification for this position?

Mr McDonald: Again, I will take that on notice. As I said earlier, we took soundings to inform our advice.

Answer

The former DFAT Secretary, Peter Varghese, advised the Foreign Minister's Office that he had discussed Mr Rudd's candidature for the Secretary-General position with him.

The instruction to take soundings in New York was discussed by the former Secretary and the Foreign Minister's Office.

As Cabinet deliberations are confidential, it would not be appropriate to reveal what may or may not have been considered by Cabinet and when.

DFAT did undertake an assessment of Mr Rudd's chances of securing the position of UN Secretary-General.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 34

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

Page: 54

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: And what was the advice as a result of those soundings from the permanent representative to the UN?

Mr McDonald: I will have to take that on notice. It was part of the cabinet deliberations I talked about earlier.

Senator WONG: I am not asking which of the soundings went into the cabinet process. I am asking what the soundings were.

Mr McDonald: I will take that on notice.

...

Senator WONG: He is an ambassador. He is not writing as Joe Hockey—you know, good bloke.

Mr McDonald: It is a letter to the foreign minister. I am aware of that letter, but I do not believe that I am in a position to divulge the contents of that letter. I am happy to take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Does the department have a copy of the letter?

Mr McDonald: The department has a copy of the letter.

Senator WONG: Thank you. I am asking for a copy of the letter.

Mr McDonald: I am happy to take that on notice.

Senator FAWCETT: Can I ask a question on this same line?

Senator WONG: I am nearly finished. Do you want jump in?

Senator FAWCETT: Just on this. Did the previous ambassador to the US, who would have been there through much of the period we are discussing, provide advice to the foreign minister or the Prime Minister?

Mr McDonald: I will have to take that on notice. I cannot answer that question.

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Answer

It would not be appropriate to pass on information or comments provided in confidence by other Governments.

The letter from Australia's Ambassador to the US was addressed to the Foreign Minister and not DFAT. It is therefore not appropriate for DFAT to provide a copy of this letter.

DFAT is not aware of any advice provided to the Prime Minister or the Foreign Minister by the previous Ambassador to the US, Mr Kim Beazley.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 35

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: And what about the high commissioner to the United Kingdom? Did he put forward any views to the government about Mr Rudd's nomination?

Mr McDonald: I will need to take that on notice.

Answer

DFAT is not aware of any views put forward to the Government by Australia's High Commissioner to the UK about Mr Rudd's nomination.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 36

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

Page: 55

Senator Fawcett

Question

Senator FAWCETT: I appreciate the approach and the efforts to bring that balance. Could you just explain to the committee, then, in practical terms the impact of a resolution such as the one that has just been passed? Does that bind member states to any particular course of action or priority for funding? Is there a practical impact of a resolution such as that?

Dr Strahan: Frankly, I have to take on notice the practical implications of this particular resolution. I do not know in enough detail to know what kind of an impact it has. Many of the resolutions that are passed in these international organisations, of course, are more about putting down general statements and trying to reinforce particular norms and positions. I am not sure if this resolution was linked to practical outcomes. I do not think it was, but I will double-check that and make sure that we give you an answer.

Answer

The passing of the resolution has no practical impact. It does not bind member states to any particular course of action.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 37

Program: DFAT

Topic: SDG

Question on Notice

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Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: So on notice, Mr McDonald, can I get a list of the departments that were in the original group?

Mr McDonald: Yes. Actually, I can give it to you

Answer

The departments invited to the first Inter-Departmental Committee on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, co-chaired by the Departments of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Prime Minister and Cabinet, are listed:

1. Attorney-General's Department
2. Australian Bureau of Statistics
3. Australian Federal Police
4. Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
5. Department of Communications
6. Department of Education and Training
7. Department of Employment
8. Department of Environment and Energy
9. Department of Finance
10. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
11. Department of Health
12. Department of Immigration and Border Protection
13. Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
14. Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development
15. Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
16. Department of Social Services
17. Treasury
18. Apologies: Department of Defence

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 38

Program: DFAT

Topic: HOM/HOP

Question on Notice

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Senator Moore

Question

Dr Strahan: Two of the thematic ambassadors work out of my division. One is the ambassador for women and girls. Currently, that is Natasha Stott Despoja. Her term is due to finish at the end of the year.

...

Dr Strahan: The second position in my division is the special envoy for human rights, Phillip Ruddock. His appointment continues until October next year. So they do not run on a set schedule.

Senator MOORE: So there is no schedule because they have come on at different times?

Dr Strahan: No. They are all one by one.

Senator MOORE: Right. If I can get a list on that term, there will be subsequent questions that come from that.

Answer

Refer to response to question on notice 28.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 39

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG

Question on Notice

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Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Can you specifically outline what types of corruption pose the most risk in Bougainville.

Mr Sloper: I would have to take that on notice if there were specific issues relating to Bougainville as opposed to other provinces.

Answer

Transparency International's 2015 'Corruption Perceptions Index' ranked PNG, including its Autonomous Region of Bougainville, 139 out of 168 countries. Specific types of corruption pose no greater risk in Bougainville than in other parts of Papua New Guinea.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 40

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG

Question on Notice

Page: 70

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: So are some of the bilateral programs, leaving NGOs alone for a moment, with Bougainville addressing corruption through ways to monitor and prosecute corruption?

Mr Sloper: Based on the briefing, I cannot answer that question, but I can take it on notice. Our governance program includes advisory support. It covers project management, HR, legislation drafting and financial management. Projects outside of government include support for community radio. Then it goes into general recruitment and others for the government. But I can take it on notice.

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Justice Services and Stability for Development program (\$90m, 2016-19) assists Papua New Guinea government agencies and provinces, including the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, to improve their capacity to detect, investigate and prosecute corruption.

As part of this, support and advice to the Autonomous Bougainville Government helps address corruption by strengthening public financial management processes, including budget formulation, execution, monitoring and reporting.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 41

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG

Question on Notice

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Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Take it on notice, thank you. In the *Aid investment plan Papua New Guinea: 2015-16 to 2017-18*, the department states:

We will expand our economic assistance for Bougainville to support private sector engagement in agriculture. As part of a new program of research for development on transformative agriculture and enterprise development in PNG, we will support the strengthening of rural communities through the restoration of profitable cocoa production on Bougainville.

Could you elaborate on the particular approach to private sector engagement the department will be using to help build agricultural production in Bougainville.

Mr Sloper: I might take that on notice. I do know we have a project relating to cocoa on the island. It is reinvigorating or rehabilitating, if you like, some previous plantations and working with local owners to improve that. But I can take on notice and come back to you with more details.

Senator RHIANNON: Thank you. Take this on notice too. I am trying to understand if your assistance will be directed towards small-scale, smallholder production led by local people using customary land tenure systems and rural management structures, or do you plan greater emphasis on foreign investments and larger plantations, or a mix?

Mr Sloper: I think it is a mix.

Senator RHIANNON: If it is a mix—take it on notice—could you provide the details. If it is a mix, what is the proportion between small and big?

Mr Sloper: I can do that. Senator, you asked earlier about corruption. Just to give you examples of some of the projects we do support across Papua New Guinea, we have the Justice Services and Stability for Development Program. That works with both agencies I mentioned and at provincial levels directly to work against corruption.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

A. Australia's development assistance to Papua New Guinea supports the private sector in the agricultural sector in Bougainville in a number of ways, including through: the Commodity Support Facility, which provides economic opportunities for local farmers and producers (\$2.5m in 2016-17); the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research's program to improve village cocoa production and food security (\$0.5m in 2016-17); support for domestic and international trade missions to expand Bougainvillean markets (\$0.2m in 2016-17); and support to the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) Department of Economic Development (\$0.2m in 2016-2017).

B. Australia's support to Bougainville's agricultural sector aims to generate economic benefits for all Bougainvilleans. It invests in both smallholders, who make up the bulk of the sector, and larger ventures.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 42

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG

Question on Notice

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Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Thank you. At the 23rd Papua New Guinea Australian ministerial forum, the ministers agreed to establish a bilateral task force to coordinate Australia's assistance. Could you provide information on the terms of reference of the task force and its membership?

Mr Sloper: Can I confirm that, with regard to APEC 2018, you are referring to the task force?

Senator RHIANNON: Yes, please.

Mr Sloper: That is actually a Papua New Guinea task force. It is part of their own planning and operations to host APEC 2018. They have invited Australia to participate in that. It is called a security policy working group. Within that forum we deal with a range of PNG agencies. On our side, I think in addition to DFAT, we have representatives from the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Defence Force, both of which have programs running in Papua New Guinea. Our Attorney-General's Department from time to time is involved. But they are the three key agencies.

Senator RHIANNON: Can you supply the terms of reference and the membership of the task force, please?

Mr Sloper: It is not an Australian government task force. We would need to seek the permission of the Papua New Guinean government to do so because they constitute the task force chair and determine who they wish to invite.

Senator RHIANNON: I understood the key reason for the bilateral task force is to coordinate work with Australia.

Mr Sloper: I understand that the statement referred to a bilateral task force. Subsequently, the Papua New Guinea government decided that the structure they would prefer to proceed with was part of their overall APEC planning authority.

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So there is, if you like, a security policy working group to which we have been invited. We are not involved in the—

Senator RHIANNON: Okay. Take that on notice, please.

Mr Sloper: I will need to consult with the Papua New Guinea government.

Answer

As advised during the Estimates hearing and recoded in Hansard (p. 71), the Papua New Guinea Government decided subsequent to the 23rd Papua New Guinea Australia Ministerial Forum to establish its own taskforce. Australia has been invited by the Papua New Guinea Government to participate in its APEC 2018 Security Partners working Group. The composition and conduct of the Security Partners Working Group are the responsibility of the PNG Government.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 43

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG

Question on Notice

Page: 71

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Is the Australian government aware of any contributions it has made to the Asian Development Bank or the World Bank that has gone to the Paga Hill estate development that is going to be central to the APEC operations in PNG? I understand that is where the whole event will possibly be held.

Mr Sloper: Can I take that on notice? We fund a range of activities from the ADB and World Bank throughout the region, including Port Moresby. I just need to determine whether that is one of them.

Senator RHIANNON: Thank you. Has the Australian government engaged Curtain Bros or Curtain Bros Pty Limited or its subsidiaries in an Australian aid program?

Mr Sloper: I will need to take that on notice. Curtain Bros is a well-known business operation within Papua New Guinea. I do not think we are directly engaged with them on the aid program, but I can confirm that and come back to you.

Answer

A. No.

B. Our records indicate that the Australian Aid program held a direct contract with Curtain Brothers in 2006.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 44

Program: DFAT

Topic: 4

Question on Notice

Page: 76

Senator 90

Question

Senator REYNOLDS: Thank you. That is very good to hear. Is it possible on notice to provide the committee with more information about that process of your work with them and about where that is going forward in terms of compliance checking and auditing to make sure that they are doing the right thing? Would you mind taking that on notice?

Mr Isbister: Yes. We can take that on notice.

Answer

DFAT and the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission (ACNC) collaborate around their shared interest in charity compliance with conduct standards. The ACNC monitors charity compliance and can revoke a charity's registration and will refer matters to law-enforcement agencies if required. Should concerns with a DFAT funded charity be identified, the ACNC and DFAT will work together to ensure a thorough investigation and appropriate response. For example, DFAT and the ACNC have recently shared information relating to an investigation of a charity. Both agencies are currently contributing to a risk assessment of the charities and not-for-profit sector. Outcomes of this risk assessment will assist in the development of appropriate and targeted outreach to ensure high-risk charities have effective governance in place.

Through our partnership with the Australian NGO peak body, the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), DFAT collaborates on improvements to the Sector's code of conduct which has clear standards around agencies' operations overseas, including on child protection. DFAT takes an active role in educating the Sector on child protection. For example, on 15 August last, DFAT's Child Protection Compliance section conducted a seminar on the internet for NGOs on DFAT's child protection policy which can be found on the ACFID website.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 45

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid

Question on Notice

Page: 77

Senator Reynolds

Question

Senator REYNOLDS: Yes. The last question. The next aspect of this is in terms of the knowledge and experience you have just outlined to the committee in dealing with NGOs who deal with children in these facilities. In my experience, and even just in WA, there are so many service groups—church groups and school groups—that go over and support these facilities with very little due diligence. Again, take this on notice. You have a fantastic Smarttraveller site and information. Is it possible to do a similar thing for being a smart volunteer? People need to do their due diligence. Are they registered? Have they got the relevant certification to deal with children? How long are they keeping the children in the facilities? Do they have contact with the parents? Are they community based programs? So all of those things would be able to be much more visible. I know there is some information, but it is really hard to find.

Mr McDonald: On that, Senator, I think we can. We have information on the website on the accredited NGOs and the like and the process we go through to accredit them. So I think there is an opportunity to look at those links to make it easier to find, because we do want people to know those NGOs that are accredited and how they are accredited and the volunteer organisations.

Answer

There is an opportunity to better link information on how DFAT accredits NGOs, including those who participate in volunteering overseas, and the due diligence individuals should undertake before volunteering overseas. DFAT has its own volunteer program standards that stipulate how the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) program recruits and selects volunteers, identifies hosts organisations and then supports the in-country assignments. Currently, information on responsible volunteering is contained on SmartTraveller, the DFAT and ACFID websites.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

DFAT will ensure better accessibility by linking this information and will look at how to better provide clearer information on the issues and risks any Australian needs to consider if they are thinking about volunteering overseas.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 46

Program: DFAT

Topic: Philippines

Question on Notice

Page: 77

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Philippines? Given the timeframe, I might just ask you to take this on notice. Is the department monitoring the reports of fatal shootings by police and others in the Philippines? Have concerns been raised with the Philippines government? I know that the minister has made some public comments. Does the department agree with the assessment of a range of human rights groups that the policy amounts to judicial executions of suspected drug dealers and users? What other representations has the department or the government made? I am fine with them being taken on notice if you are all right with that, Secretary?

Ms Adamson: I am happy to take them on notice, but Mr Cox has stepped up to the table.

Answer

The Australian Government continues to monitor the reports of extrajudicial killings by police and others in the Philippines. The Minister for Foreign Affairs has raised the issue with her Philippine counterpart, Foreign Secretary Yasay, on two occasions. In public comments on 2 October, the Foreign Minister said that the Australian Government was concerned about the human right violations in the Philippines. The Minister urged the Philippines Government 'to ensure the cessation of extrajudicial killings and offer all Filipino citizens their rights according to the country's criminal system'.

The Australian Embassy in Manila has also used appropriate opportunities to make representations to the Philippine Government to raise the issue.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 47

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN

Question on Notice

Page: 77-78

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: And was any communication from the foreign minister to the Prime Minister undertaken?

Mr McDonald: Not that I am aware of. I am happy to take that on notice.

Answer

This matter should be directed to the Foreign Minister's office.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 48

Program: DFAT

Topic: United States

Question on Notice

Page: 78-79

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Can you confirm what has been publicly reported—that ministers Payne and Bishop visited Washington for the counter-ISIL coalition Foreign and Defence Ministers Meeting on 21 July 2016 and Mr Hockey was not in attendance?

Ms Adamson: I am aware that both senators, as you said, visited Washington in July. The point that I have is that ministers Bishop and Payne were met by senior officials of the embassy, which for us is a standard practice in some circumstances.

Senator WONG: Some circumstances?

Ms Adamson: As to the question, that was a question specifically in response to a greeting on the party's arrival. But Mr Hackett, who is acting First Assistant Secretary of the Americas Division and may know more about the broader element of your question, has just joined us.

Mr Hackett: Senator, I am not aware of the detail of that. But I can check that out.

...

Senator WONG: On notice, how long was the ambassador at the Republican convention? How long was he at the Democratic convention? What are the sideline meetings he held at each convention?

Ms Adamson: I am happy to take those on notice.

Answer

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Defence attended the Foreign and Defence Ministers' Meeting of the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL on 21 July in Washington. Ambassador Hockey did not attend.

Ms Bishop was met on arrival by Elisabeth Bowes, Minister-Counsellor (Trade), acting as Deputy Head of Mission. Ms Payne was met by RADM Steve Gilmore, Australian Defence Attaché to the United States.

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Ambassador Hockey attended the Republican Party Convention from Sunday 17 to Friday 22 July 2016.

Ambassador Hockey attended the Democratic Party Convention from Sunday 24 to Wednesday 27 July 2016.

While at the Conventions, Ambassador Hockey participated in a formal program of briefings, panel discussions, meals with guest speakers, and networking receptions organised for the Washington-based diplomatic corps by the US Department of State and the Republican National Convention and the National Democratic Institute, respectively. The Ambassador had a number of brief informal encounters with other Convention attendees in the margins of these programs and associated social events.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 49

Program: DFAT

Topic: Nuclear Disarmament

Question on Notice

Page: 80

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Is there anywhere in the government, other than in your answers in estimates, where this petition has been articulated by the minister or by a member of the government?

Mr Sadleir: The foreign minister made remarks on a ban treaty some time ago. I believe I have that reference here. Just bear with me for a moment.

Senator WONG: But not subsequent to this vote? Correct?

Mr Sadleir: Senator, I would have to check that and get back to you.

Answer

The Minister for Foreign Affairs outlined Australia's position on a nuclear weapons ban treaty in an op-ed in the Sydney Morning Herald on 14 February 2014 titled "We must engage, not enrage nuclear countries".

<http://www.smh.com.au/comment/we-must-engage-not-enrage-nuclear-countries-20140213-32n1s.html>

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 50

Program: DFAT

Topic: Nuclear Disarmament

Question on Notice

Page: 80

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Okay. Did we move to force a vote?

Mr Sadleir: Yes. Australia, along with 13 other countries.

Senator WONG: Thirteen?

Mr Sadleir: Yes. That is correct. So Australia, along with Belgium, Italy, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Romania, Slovakia and Turkey. All of those countries indicated that they could not agree with the text at that time. Subsequently, there was a vote in which 22 countries voted against and there were 13 abstentions. I can read out the list of those who voted against, if you would like.

Senator WONG: Could you provide that on notice, given the time?

Mr Sadleir: Yes.

Senator WONG: Did that result in an amendment being moved to change a key sentence in the report from 'the working group recognised that there was a recommendation which received widespread support' to 'the working group recommended with widespread support an amendment which was carried'?

Mr Sadleir: There was a subsequent Guatemalan amendment, which we would be happy to provide on notice.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

A.

The following 22 countries voted against the adoption of the final report of the Open-Ended Working Group taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations on 19 August 2016.

Countries voting against the report were:

Australia, Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Poland, ROK, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey.

B.

Guatemala's amended para 67 of the Open-Ended Working Group final report was as follows:

67. The Working Group recommended with widespread support for the General Assembly to convene a conference in 2017, open to all States, with the participation and contribution of international organizations and civil society, to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, as outlined in paragraph 34. The Working Group recognized that other States did not agree with the above recommendation and that they recommended that any process to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations must address national, international and collective security concerns and supported the pursuit of practical steps consisting of parallel and simultaneous effective legal and non-legal measures to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, as outlined in paragraphs 40 and 41 for which there was no agreement. The Working Group further recognized the views expressed on other approaches.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 51

Program: DFAT

Topic: Special Envoy for Human Rights

Question on Notice

Page: 81

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: How many meetings since his appointment has Mr Ruddock had with the foreign minister to update her on what he is doing? You might need to take that on notice.

Dr Strahan: I think I will have to take it on notice, yes.

Answer

The Foreign Minister has met with Philip Ruddock once in his capacity as Special Envoy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 52

Program: DFAT

Topic: Special Envoy for Human Rights

Question on Notice

Page: 82

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: And travel entitlements?

Dr Strahan: He gets the normal travel entitlements when he travels.

Senator WONG: Could you provide them on notice?

Dr Strahan: Yes.

Answer

The contract DFAT has with Mr Ruddock contains the following provisions for payment of travel entitlements:

- Reimbursement for the following expenses upon receipt of invoice and substantiating evidence of the amount claimed: taxi charges; use of private vehicle; parking; passports, visas and associated photograph costs; and telephone usage as per departmental guidelines. Reimbursement amounts will be calculated net of any input tax credits to which you may be entitled on the relevant expense; and
- Travel allowance as per DFAT's Senior Executive Service (SES) rates to cover meals and incidentals. The standard of air travel will be provided as per DFAT's SES entitlement

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 53

Program: DFAT

Topic: Special Envoy for Human Rights

Question on Notice

Page: 82

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: So he sought legal advice as to whether or not his pension needed to be reduced?

Dr Strahan: What I will do is take on notice exactly how the legal advice was sought. I do not want to verbal Mr Ruddock or ourselves.

Senator WONG: But the net result is he gets paid both his pension and, without reduction, gets paid taxpayers' money for his position as a special envoy?

Dr Strahan: That is the legal advice that we received.

Senator WONG: It is bizarre, because I always understood—and my recollection is—when we appointed former parliamentarians to various positions on boards of GBEs or CAC entities or whatever, their pension was reduced to reflect their payment for those positions. So how does he get around it?

Dr Strahan: All that I can say is that the legal advice that we were given was along those lines.

Mr McDonald: I think we should take that on notice and give you a full answer to that question

Answer

This is a matter for the Department of Finance.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 54

Program: DFAT

Topic: Special Envoy for Human Rights

Question on Notice

Page: 83

Senator Wong

Question

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: Just before going back to Mr Ruddock, we will also take on notice former senator Stott Despoja because, as a former member of parliament, she—

Senator WONG: Well, I did not ask that question. If I wish—

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: No. But I am just saying—

Senator WONG: Well, he is not taking it on notice. If you want to put that on the public record, it is a matter for you. I only asked about one of them.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: No. But I suspect that they are in a similar position. But we will take the whole issue on notice.

Answer

This is a matter for the Department of Finance.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 55

Program: DFAT

Topic: 64

Question on Notice

Page: 84

Senator 81

Question

Senator WONG: What I would like is the names of all the nongovernment members for each completed NCP round.

Mr Tranter: We can provide that to you on notice.

...

Senator WONG: Has there ever been an occasion where the program delegate is anyone other than a deputy secretary of one of those two departments?

Mr Tranter: Not to my recollection. All decisions on selections have been made by senior officials, not ministers. But I will take on notice whether it has been an SES band 3 officer.

Senator WONG: And are there occasions on which the program delegate's decision is at variance with the recommendations of the interview panel?

Mr Tranter: Not to my knowledge, but I will take that on notice.

Senator WONG: I do not want names.

Answer

A. 2017 New Colombo Plan Scholarships – Non-government Interview Panellists

China

Mr David Irvine AO, former Ambassador to China

Ms Belinda Robinson, Chief Executive, Universities Australia

Ms Fiona Lawrie, Sustainability Manager, Wesfarmers

Indonesia, PNG, Vanuatu

Mr Bill Farmer AO, former Ambassador to Indonesia

Ms Lydia Santoso, NSW Chair, Australia Indonesia Business Council

Ms Rebecca Mohr, Senior Legal Counsel, AdventBalance

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Japan

Mr Murray McLean AO, former Ambassador to Japan

Mr James South, Corporate Affairs Advisor, Mitsui & Co (Australia) Ltd

Professor Jenny Corbett, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training)

Australian National University

Rest of South East Asia, Pakistan and Nepal

Ms Ruth Pearce, former Ambassador to the Philippines

Mr Raj Logaraj, President, Australia Singapore Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Ms Susan Bennett, former Branch Manager, International Mobility Branch,

Department of Education and Training

Hong Kong

Dr Sue Boyd, former Consul General in Hong Kong and Ambassador to Vietnam, Fiji and Bangladesh

Ms Stephanie Elliott, QBE Australia & New Zealand

Mr Rob Malicki, AIM Overseas and Member of the New Colombo Plan Reference Group

Korea and Taiwan

Mr Peter Rowe, former Ambassador to South Korea

Mr Doug Ferguson, KPMG Asia Business Group and NCP Business Champion

Ms Jenny McGregor, Asialink CEO

India, Sri Lanka, Fiji, Samoa

Mr Christian Bennett, GE Vice President

Dr Raji Ambikairajah, Chief Operating Officer, Women in Banking and Finance

Ms Susan Bennett, Former Branch Manager, International Mobility Branch,

Department of Education and Training

Singapore

Mr Miles Kupa, former High Commissioner to Singapore

Mr Brad McKay, Director, Client Solutions and Advisory, NAB

Professor Michele Ford, Director, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre, The University of Sydney

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2016 New Colombo Plan Scholarships – Non-government Interview Panellists

China and Mongolia

Mr Tom Podeu, Senior Manager Migration and International Banking, ANZ
Mr John Owens, National Business Development Manager, PSG Holdings
Ms Marie Grealy, former Manager of International Scholarships Section,
Department of Education and Training

Hong Kong

Mr Les Luck, former Consul General to Hong Kong
Ms Kate O'Loughlin, Head of Government Relations & Industry Affairs, QBE
Australia & New Zealand
Ms Fiona Lawrie, Executive Director, Australia-China Youth Dialogue
Ms Susan Bennett, former Manager International Mobility Branch, Department of
Education and Training

Korea and Taiwan

Mr Peter Rowe, former Ambassador to Republic of Korea
Mr Doug Ferguson, National Leader, Asia Business Group and China Business
Practice, KPMG
Ms Jenny McGregor, Group CEO, Asialink
Ms Margaret Proctor, former Manager of International Scholarships Section,
Department of Education and Training

Singapore

Mr Miles Kupa, former High Commissioner to Singapore
Mr Raj Logaraj, Chairman, Singapore Business Circle
Dr Sharon Winocur, Executive Director, Business/Higher Education Round Table
(B/HERT)

South Asia and the Pacific

Mr Ian Kemish AM, Executive Director, Asia Pacific, ExxonMobil Corporation, and
former High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea
Dr Raji Ambikairajah, Chief Operating Officer, Women in Banking and Finance
Mr Rob Malicki, Director, AIM Overseas, and member of the NCP Reference Group
Ms Susan Bennett, former Manager International Mobility Branch, Department of
Education and Training

Indonesia

Mr Bill Farmer AO, former Ambassador to Indonesia
Ms Lydia Santoso, NSW Chair, Australia Indonesia Business Council
Professor John Ingleton, President, Asian Studies Association of Australia

Japan

Mr Murray McLean AO, former Ambassador to Japan
Mr James South, Corporate Affairs Advisor, Mitsui & Co (Australia) Ltd
Professor Tessa Morris-Suzuki, Professor of Japanese History, School of Culture,
History and Language, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific
Ms Margaret Proctor, former Manager of International Scholarships Section,
Department of Education and Training

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Rest of South East Asia

Ms Penny Richards, former Ambassador to Cambodia

Mr Cameron Harvey, Partner, Norton Rose Fulbright

Mr Greg Earl, Asia Pacific Editor, Australian Financial Review

2015 New Colombo Plan Scholarships – Non-government Interview Panellists

China, India, Taiwan

Mr David Irvine AO, Former Ambassador to China

Dr Sharon Winocur, Executive Director, Business/Higher Education Round Table

Mr Grant Dooley, Head of Asia, Hastings

Japan and Korea

Mr Murray McLean AO, Former Ambassador to Japan

Ms Wendy Holdenson, Director & Executive Vice President, Mitsui & Co (Australia) Ltd

Dr Bronwen Dalton, Director Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Research Centre

Indonesia, Fiji, Vanuatu

Mr James Batley, Former Ambassador to Fiji, Timor Leste, Solomon Is

Professor John Ingleson, President, Asian Studies Association of Australia

Ms Lydia Santoso, Chair, NSW Australia Indonesia Business Council

Hong Kong, Nepal, Mongolia

Mr Les Luck, Former Consul General Hong Kong

Ms Kate O'Loughlin, Head of Government Relations and Industry Affairs, QBE

Ms Fiona Lawrie, Executive Director, Australia-China Youth Dialogue

Rest of South East Asia

Mr Miles Kupa, Former High Commissioner to Singapore

Mr Raj Logaraj, President, Australia Singapore Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Ms Tamerlaine Beasley, Managing Director, Beasley Intercultural

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2014 New Colombo Plan Scholarships – Non-government Interview Panellists

Indonesia

Prof Ronny Rachman Noor, Education and Cultural Attaché, Indonesian Embassy
Ms Rebecca Mohr, President, Australia Indonesia Business Council

Japan

Mr Kensuke Yoshida, Political Minister, Embassy of Japan
Mr Yasushi Takahashi, Chairman and MD, Mitsui and Co (Australia) Ltd

Singapore

Mr Miles Kupa, former Australian High Commissioner to Singapore
HE Mr Michael Teo, High Commissioner of Singapore to Australia
Mr Raj Logaraj, President, Australia Singapore Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Professor Marian Simms, Executive Director Social Behavioural and Economic Sciences, Australian Research Council

Hong Kong

Mr Les Luck, former Australian Consul General in Hong Kong
Mr Bernard Lo, Deputy Director, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office
Ms Rosalind Coffey, Division Director, Human Resources, Macquarie Group

B. **Senator WONG:** Has there ever been an occasion where the program delegate is anyone other than a deputy secretary of one of those two departments?

No

Senator WONG: And are there occasions on which the program delegate's decision is at variance with the recommendations of the interview panel?

No

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 56

Program: DFAT

Topic: Gender

Question on Notice

Page: 85

Senator Wong

Question

Mr McDonald: Senator, can I respond to your question?

Senator WONG: Which one?

Mr McDonald: The one on the empowering women conference in Copenhagen. You asked whether other members of parliament had attended. Sharman Stone did attend in a private capacity. That is the only one.

Senator WONG: Was there facilitation or something provided?

Mr McDonald: No.

Senator WONG: Nothing provided by DFAT?

Mr McDonald: I will definitely check, but my advice is no.

Answer

No facilitation or other support was provided by DFAT to Senator the Hon Sharman Stone when she attended the Women Deliver 4th Global Conference in Copenhagen in May 2016.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 57

Program: DFAT

Topic: Gender

Question on Notice

Page: 90

Senator Wong

Question

Senator MOORE: I just want to follow up briefly on the reproductive health element. I am very grateful for the briefing, so I will take you up on that, Minister, at some time. Were there any specific programs that were expected to be funded out of the 2012 process that are now are not being funded?

Mr McDonald: I will need to take that—

Senator MOORE: And you can take that on notice.

Mr McDonald: I will take that on notice. I will clarify that I got mixed up in the colours. I referred to the *Orange book* but it is actually the *Green book*.

Senator MOORE: It was the one this morning you mentioned. When you mentioned it, I wrote it down and now I have got it.

Mr McDonald: In here, reproductive health care, \$43.2 million for 2014-15.

Senator MOORE: So if I could find out where the programs that had expected to be funded have been?

Mr McDonald: I will. I am happy to take that on notice.

Answer

There were no specific programs identified to be funded under the 2012 pledge that were subsequently not funded.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 58

Program: DFAT

Topic: White Paper

Question on Notice

Page: 91

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: I am not going to put you in a difficult position by comparing and contrasting the position this morning to now. I think people can make their own judgement. But I am interested in the process. So when was the decision made that the government would have a white paper? When was that decision finalised? Was that finalised today?

Ms Adamson: I will need to take that question on notice.

Senator WONG: Was it a decision of the cabinet?

Ms Adamson: I need to take that question on notice.

Answer

Refer response to Question on Notice number 84. It would not be appropriate to comment on Cabinet deliberations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 59

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG

Question on Notice

Page: 91

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: So not specifically about PNG, despite the fact of the high levels of corruption that have been identified in that country? Nothing special for that country?

Mr Sloper: Well, we have a zero tolerance for fraud and corruption throughout the program, so it is the same procedures.

Senator RHIANNON: But I was after specifics. The key word in the question was 'safeguards'?

Mr McDonald: What we do, as Mr Sloper said, is we have safeguards around a whole range of risks, including children, corruption and the like. We have a zero tolerance. We apply that to all our investments. Depending on our risk assessment, that informs us what sort of requirements we put around that, including how we distribute the money out as a result of that. So that applies across all our programs and projects. And depending on the country and what is happening within that country, that will vary in the application of those safeguards.

Senator RHIANNON: Could you take on notice and provide what those safeguards are and what you actually do?

Mr McDonald: Yes. Absolutely.

Mr Sloper: Can I confirm whether that is in regard to APEC 2018 or all programs in PNG?

Senator RHIANNON: APEC 2018. Did DFAT express any concerns to the PNG government about any alleged human rights abuses at the Paga Hill estate development, including the destruction of homes or other potentially illegal practices?

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

- A. Information on how the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade manages risk and safeguards is available on the website at <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/safeguards-risk-management>. These approaches apply to all aid programs including in Papua New Guinea.
- B. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 60

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question on Notice

Page: 93

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: This is a general question. Are Australian owned companies operating overseas bound to any Australian environmental, IR, business, social or other standards?

Mr McDonald: As I said earlier, all our partners, and through the way that we put our investments in place, are required to apply the safeguards that we have within our program.

Senator RHIANNON: The question was actually about whether they are done by any Australian standards. I understand the one about paedophilia. Are they bound by any other Australian standards with regard to how Australian companies operate, particularly in low-income countries?

Mr McDonald: Unless Mr Gilling or Mr Sloper can help on this, I would have to take that on notice.

Mr Sloper: It is not an area of my expertise, but there are obligations on Australians and Australian companies operating overseas with regard to corruption and reporting of corruption and those activities. Australian legislation does apply offshore in some regards, but it is not an area of my expertise.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: I think, Senator Rhiannon, we will take that question on notice. It does have a number of complexities associated with it. Certainly we would prefer to take it on notice to give you the best answer that we can.

Senator RHIANNON: One of your colleagues has just joined the table. I wonder if he has a response.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Mr Gilling: The minister's response there was an accurate one because the safeguards provisions that we are required to take relate to the partners that we work with and where they work. Those safeguard provisions sometimes have to apply Australian rules and sometimes do not. It depends on things like international agreements. So it is indeed a complex area.

Answer

Australian owned companies operating overseas contracted to the Commonwealth of Australia to deliver the Australian Aid Program are bound by numerous standards.

A list of the main laws, rules, guidelines codes and policies for contractors undertaking aid activities for DFAT can be found on the website: <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/list-of-laws-rules-guidelines-codes-and-policies-for-contractors-undertaking-aid-activities-for-dfat.aspx>

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 61

Program: DFAT

Topic: Green Climate Fund

Question on Notice

Page: 94

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: So our commitment is \$200 million specifically to this fund.

...

Senator Fierravanti-Wells: I think, Senator Moore, what would be useful for you is to provide to you what we have done under the two separate commitments and the projects that we have contributed to under both of them.

Senator MOORE: Good. That would be useful.

Answer

Australia has committed funding to the Green Climate Fund and separately through lifting its investment in actions to address climate change and disasters in the Pacific.

Australia has committed AUD200 million to the Green Climate Fund over four years (2014-15 to 2017-18). Of this, Australia has so far made payments of AUD70 million in 2014-15, and AUD60 million in 2015-16.

Australia's contributions to date have helped to support the following 27 projects, approved by the GCF Board:

- USD36 million for a coastal adaptation project in Tuvalu
- USD31.04 million to improve urban water supply and wastewater management in Fiji
- USD29.52 million to improve the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities to climate change related impacts in Vietnam
- USD6.24 million to improve the resilience of wetlands in Peru
- USD12.29 million to scale up climate information in Malawi
- USD7.61 million to restore salinized lands in Senegal

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- USD40 million for climate resilient infrastructure in Bangladesh
- USD25 million to support investment in off-grid solar power in East Africa
- USD22 million for an energy efficiency green bond programme in Latin America and the Caribbean
- USD23.64 million to support water shortage management in the Maldives
- USD21.7 million for an energy savings insurance scheme for private energy efficiency investments in El Salvador
- USD20 million to de-risk and scale-up investment in energy efficient building retrofits in Armenia
- USD20.54 million for large-scale ecosystem-based adaptation in the Gambia
- USD22.75 million to strengthen climate resilience in Mali
- USD19 million to support climate adaptation and mitigation in the Aral Sea Basin in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- USD38.08 million to strengthen the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate variability and extreme events in Sri Lanka
- USD49 million for a solar energy development programme in Chile
- USD36.96 million to scale-up glacial lake outburst flood risk reduction in Northern Pakistan
- USD41.17 million on financial and land-use planning instruments to reduce emissions from deforestation in Ecuador
- USD80 million to support geothermal energy development in the Eastern Caribbean
- USD16.7 million to support integrated urban flood management in Senegal
- USD39.29 million to build resilience and support climate mitigation through argan plantations in Morocco
- USD9.5 million to support climate resilient agriculture in Namibia
- USD10 million to support adaptation through community-based natural resource management in Namibia
- USD378 million for a sustainable energy financing project across countries in Africa, the Asia Pacific and Eastern Europe
- USD53.5 million to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and finance climate-smart investments in agriculture and renewable energy in Madagascar
- USD80 million to support a universal green energy access programme in five countries in Africa.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Prime Minister Turnbull announced at the 2016 Pacific Islands Forum meeting a lift of \$80 million to \$300 million. Australia will commit \$300 million over four years (2016-17 to 2019-20) of its Pacific aid budget to address the impacts of climate change and disasters. This comprises:

- \$225 million of 'climate smart' investments in country and regional programs, and \$75 million in disaster risk management funds.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 62

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change

Question on Notice

Page: 95

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: Was there any specific by Australia to the Pacific countries to attend the Paris conference, because there was quite a strong Pacific attendance and my understanding is a very strong statement by Pacific nations around their desperate need for support on climate change? Was there any support by Australia to prepare those nations for such an important function and to help them get there? It is my experience in a lot of organisations that smaller governments have great difficulty in getting resources to attend such functions. Did we help?

Mr McDonald: I will have to take that on notice, but we do help. For example, where we had the workshop in Suva, we did assist the leaders of those countries to get there if they needed to. Your point is very well made. At Paris last year at the COP, the foreign minister and I had a round table with Pacific island leaders as well to talk about this. I think just adding to the minister's comments now, they are very engaged in this area, as you would know from your experience as well. So being able to respond to those needs and provide support has been very well received.

Answer

In the 2015/16 Financial Year, Australia contributed \$20,000 from DFAT's International Climate Change Engagement program to the UNFCCC Trust for Participation to support eligible representatives from developing country parties to attend UNFCCC meetings. We encouraged the UNFCCC to use our funding for representatives from the South Pacific.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia funds a range of initiatives to support Pacific Island Countries to effectively engage in climate negotiations including a series of workshops on domestic preparations of national climate change targets and accessing climate finance, and an annual capacity building workshop for female negotiators in the region. Australia's core funding of Pacific regional organisations (Pacific Islands Forum and Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program in particular) helps those organisations provide ongoing support to Pacific delegations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 63

Program: DFAT

Topic: HIV

Question on Notice

Page: 95-96

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: I know it will come back to your *Orange book*, but I want to look at HIV funding in terms of what is happening with HIV funding and whether there has been a decrease in it and particularly as we build up to another round of replenishments and things. I know about the global fund. But anything beyond that in HIV?

Mr McDonald: Just while Mr Wood does that, you know we increased funding to the global fund recently.

Senator MOORE: I think I wrote a note. I think I did. I think I said well done.

Mr McDonald: Yes. The global fund has been very, very receptive to our areas of priority and stuff, so I think that was reflected in the government's commitment. But just if we need to take it on notice, can you specify the period of the reduction you want it from? Is it just this financial year?

Senator MOORE: Two years. Just to get a sense, again, in this space about where our commitments are and what our funding has been, again having been a leader in this space, where it is going. Thank you for that minute, Chair.

Answer

Answer

Australia provided \$200 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria ('the Global Fund') for the period 2014-2016. On 16 September 2016, the Minister for Foreign Affairs announced Australia will pledge an additional \$220 million over 3 years to the Global Fund, which is a 10 per cent increase on Australia's previous pledge.

Expenditure on HIV/AIDS (excluding the Global Fund) was \$85.3m in 2014-15. Information on 2015-16 expenditure will be released in *Australian Engagement with Developing Countries: Part 2: Official Sector Statistical Summary 2015-16* (Green Book), scheduled for release in January 2017.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 64

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPP

Question on Notice

Page: 99

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: So you have the chief negotiators. How many in the team in your department?

Mr Brown: We would have to get back to you on the precise number. Some people in our system sometimes wear more than one hat. So we would have to explain to you how we are structured. But just on your question about chief negotiators: for example, during APEC meetings it is quite common for, and it has been the practice in the past, for the chief negotiators or their representatives to get together for meetings. That has happened. I can recall one meeting on the margins of the APEC trade ministers' meeting earlier in the year in Peru, when there was a gathering of TPP chief negotiators.

Answer

In addition to the (part-time) Chief Negotiator, there is one full-time member of staff who works exclusively on the TPP. A further 6 staff have the TPP as a key component of their work. Additional staff expertise is drawn into TPP-related work when required.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016, 20 October 2016

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 65

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPP

Question on Notice

Page: 99

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: And how many people within the department have had TPP responsibilities?

Mr Brown: As I said, we would need to check that out.

Senator MOORE: Check that out. You told me you would take that on notice.

Mr Brown: And give you an accurate answer.

Answer

The number of staff working full-time on the TPP during the course of the negotiations has varied between 2 and 17, with additional staff contributing to TPP-related work when required.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016, 20 October 2016

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 66

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPP

Question on Notice

Page: 101

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: They introduced the legislation in March and then it is subject to their particular process of how that operates. Do you have any idea, Mr Brown, how that Japanese process operates? They presented it and that is quite a long time ago now—March. Do you have an update from your negotiators' meetings where that is up to?

Mr Brown: I will have to take that on notice.

Answer

The Japanese Government introduced the TPP and implementing legislation into the Diet on 8 March 2016. On 4 November the Special Committee on the TPP in the House of Representatives voted to approve TPP ratification, and on 10 November the Lower House of the Diet passed the TPP and implementing legislation. The legislation must now be approved in the Upper House of the Diet, which began deliberation of the TPP on 11 November. Under Japan's constitution, a decision of the Lower House to approve a treaty will automatically stand after 30 days, even if the Upper House does not approve it. The Government is planning to extend the current Diet session (scheduled to finish on 30 November) to ensure ratification of the TPP by early-mid December.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 67

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPP

Question on Notice

Page: 101

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: And they moved it later. Minister, have you had any indication whether the Australian government will be wanting to move ratification? I do not think we have time frames, but has there been any consideration about whether we would move before Congress considers it?

Senator McGrath: I will probably have to take that on notice.

Senator MOORE: Sure. I do not think our time frames would allow it, but I am just looking in terms of a policy position. Would we be prepared to go ahead before the Americans? Take that on notice, absolutely.

Senator McGrath: I will take it on notice.

Mr Brown: I can give you an answer.

Senator MOORE: I am sorry. I thought it was a policy position. That is why I went to the minister. But if you can answer that, Mr Brown, thank you.

Mr Brown: Let me give you this information. Our understanding of the parliamentary processes around the TPP is that JSCOT is conducting its inquiry. It will report back to the parliament in December at the earliest. That is the expectation.

Senator MOORE: My understanding was the end of the year. So December, yes.

Mr Brown: That is 20 joint sitting days from when it was re-referred by the foreign minister to JSCOT and the new parliament. So the question of when the legislation is going to be introduced and when it might be passed, that is a matter for the government and the parliament.

Senator MOORE: Okay. But nothing can proceed under our system until the JSCOT report has been received?

Mr Brown: It is a matter for the government. It is for the government to decide.

Senator MOORE: Minister, take that on notice.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Senator McGrath: There is a process underway. I will take the rest of the question on notice.

Answer

The TPP was re-referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (JSCOT) on 12 September 2016.

JSCOT held a series of public hearings on the TPP and the final one took place on 7 November 2016.

JSCOT tabled their report on 30 November 2016 and the Government will now consider the recommendations and respond in due course.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 68

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPP

Question on Notice

Page: 101

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: Is there an allocation for staffing for this particular process as well?

Ms Brink: We will take that on notice.

Senator MOORE: Sure. I am looking at the whole administrative costs for the particular process. That is the pre-TPP stuff. I have other questions, but I am happy.

Answer

In addition to the (part-time) Chief Negotiator, there is one full-time member of staff who works exclusively on the TPP. A further 6 staff have the TPP as a key component of their work. Additional staff expertise is drawn into TPP-related work when required.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 69

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade

Question on Notice

Page: 126-128

Senator McCarthy

Question

Senator McCARTHY: I want to go to the trade app, Export Essentials. What was the tender process for the app announced by the minister on 27 September 2016?

Mr Hunter: I may have to take that one on notice. I am familiar with the functionality, but it was an app that was developed jointly with the Export Council of Australia, so I would need to take that one on notice, if I could, please.

...

Senator McCARTHY: I have quite of a number of questions in relation to the app. Maybe if we go through these questions you can let me know what you will take on notice.

Mr Hunter: If I can answer them, I will.

Senator McCARTHY: How was the successful applicant chosen?

Mr Hunter: I will have to take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: What was the initial budget for the work?

Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: What was the final sum paid?

Mr Hunter: I will take that one on notice.

Answer

See answer to Question in Writing 130

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 70

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade

Question on Notice

Page: 126-128

Senator McCarthy

Question

Senator McCARTHY: What methodology was used to show that this would be a good investment in relation to what you have just said?

Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: How many Public Servants worked on this analysis and for how long?

Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: Has this app now been advertised?

Mr Hunter: It has been launched. Has it been advertised? I will take that on notice. It was launched by the minister, but I would have to take on notice whether it has actually been advertised and there has been paid advertising.

Senator McCARTHY: You have taken on notice how much money has been spent on advertising.

Mr Hunter: Sure.

Senator McCARTHY: Was there an advertising strategy for this app?

Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: How much money was spent on the creation of the advertising strategy?

Mr Hunter: On notice.

Senator McCARTHY: How many consultants worked on this?

Mr Hunter: On notice.

Senator McCARTHY: How many times has the app been downloaded?

Mr Hunter: On notice.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Senator McCARTHY: How much trade has this app facilitated?

Mr Hunter: On notice.

Answer

See answer to Question in Writing 130.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 71

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade

Question on Notice

Page: 126-128

Senator McCarthy

Question

Senator McCARTHY: When will there be a review of this app, Mr Hunter.

Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: How much will be spent maintaining this app to ensure that the information is current and accurate?

Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: What review process exists to ensure that this app has accurate information?

Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: Why and how was it deemed this would be cost effective than a traditional website?

Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.

CHAIR: Senator McCarthy, is there anything specific that you think the officer can answer?

Senator McCARTHY: I have one question left.

Mr Hunter: Try me!

Senator McCARTHY: Mr Hunter, does the department plan to create any other apps given its success or failure?

Mr Hunter: I do not believe we have any other apps contemplated, but we will take that on notice.

Answer

See answer to Question in Writing 130.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 72

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade

Question on Notice

Page: 130

Senator Reynolds

Question

Senator REYNOLDS: Finally on that and again from the Western Australian perspective, is that our manufacturing situation is quite different from the rest of the country. As you would know, we have been increasing by nearly five per cent in manufacturing every year for nearly 15 years, and not only do we manufacture tens of billions of dollars a year of high-end manufactured goods for the resources sector but we also export something over \$20 billion a year in high-end manufactured goods. Again, that is what I am being told by a lot of companies—that that is now the barrier to getting to the next step in those sorts of exports. Could I ask you to take that on notice—

Mr Hunter: Yes, we will take that on notice.

Senator REYNOLDS: and if there is any more information on that area that you could provide. If we can find a way to fill that gap, it would be a good thing.

Mr Hunter: Very happy to share. Thank you.

Answer

Australian businesses, including Western Australian SMEs in the manufacturing industry, can face a range of barriers when exporting and expanding their international operations.

Efic's core focus is working with the banks to ensure that viable exporters have sufficient working capital and bonding to fulfil their export contracts. Efic does not provide equity finance.

Accessing appropriate debt finance (such as bonds and working capital) can be a barrier to exporting for viable exporters. In Efic's experience, this reflects two, often interrelated, factors:

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- (i) Lack of tangible security.

Banks often base and determine their lending appetite on the conventional tangible security the exporting SME can provide, in many cases residential property. In the case of a high-end goods manufacturer, the banks may still favour collateral-based lending despite the company being able to demonstrate a positive track record in exporting and strong technical capacity. This may lead to the company being unable to obtain the finance it requires to fulfil an export contract.

- (ii) Narrow international focus of financiers.

Banks are less likely to provide finance to companies (both small and large) that are exporting or investing in distant markets.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 73

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial functions

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 January 2016, can the following please be provided:

- a) List of functions;
- b) List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff;
- c) Function venue;
- d) Itemised list of costs;
- e) Details of any food served;
- f) Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage;
- g) Details of any floral arrangements or other decorations; and
- h) Details of any entertainment provided.

Answer

Portfolio ministers host many official functions, receptions, events and gatherings to advance Australia's foreign, trade and development interests, both in Australia and at Australian Government posts overseas. To provide all of the information requested would entail a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016, 20 October 2016

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 74

Program: DFAT

Topic: Executive office upgrades

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

- a) Have the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded since 1 January 2016?
- b) If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided?

Answer

- A For a Deputy Secretary an existing small bookcase was relocated from within the Department and added to the office. The bookcase had nil residual value as it is fully depreciated.
- B. N/A



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Deputy Secretary

Telephone: 02 62611879

Facsimile: 02 62732081

16 December 2016

Mr David Sullivan
Secretary
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Sullivan

I wish to correct earlier information provided in response to Question on Notice (QoN) No 75 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings in October 2016 due to a clerical error.

The department advised in answer 8(b) of QoN 75 that modifications to the Innovation Exchange included "11 Task chairs at a cost of \$8,745". The advice should have been "11 Task chairs at a cost of \$6,871". The error in reporting the total cost was a clerical one. The Department placed an order for 14 task chairs at a cost of \$8,745 but only 11 of these were for the Innovation Exchange at a total cost of \$6,871. The remaining three chairs were for general departmental use at a cost of \$1,874. Thus the total expenditure for the 14 task chairs was \$8,745. Please find attached an amended version of QoN 75.

I would appreciate if you could pass on to the Committee my sincere apologies on behalf of the department.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Rawson

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016, 20 October 2016

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 75

Program: DFAT

Topic: Upgrades

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

- a) Have the facilities of any of the Department's premises been upgraded since 1 January 2016, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new furniture, fridges, coffee machines, audio visual facilities or any other equipment including kitchen equipment and utensils?
- b) If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?

Answer

A. Yes

B.

- 1 The Department has a programme of WHS-initiated desk replacements for staff who undergo a workplace assessment and have appropriate medical support for such a desk. Since 1 January 2016, 110 desks have been installed costing \$184,208.
- 2 The Department has a rolling programme of replacing broken or unserviceable visitor chairs used throughout the premises. Since 1 January 2016, 200 chairs at a total cost of \$42,000 have been installed.
- 3 The department replaced appliances in common-use kitchens:
 - a. 6 microwave ovens \$ 1,308
- 4 A dishwasher was installed in the State Office in Perth. \$928
- 5 A refurbishment of the Departments Protocol Branch included:
 - a. 18 task chairs \$ 10,062
 - b. 8 visitor chairs \$ 4,440
 - c. 2 Waiting chairs \$ 1,318

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- d. 4 round meeting tables \$ 5,656
 - e. 450litre Fridge/freezer \$ 1,459
 - f. Built-in Microwave Oven \$ 539
 - g. Single drawer dishwasher \$ 872
- 6 A refurbishment of South 2 area 1.
- a. 34 task chairs \$ 21,304
 - b. 1 executive chair \$ 720
 - c. 4 task chairs (stool height) \$ 3,640
 - d. 12 visitor chairs for offices \$ 9,528
 - e. Meeting room chairs \$ 5,544
 - f. Low stools for collaboration area \$ 1,275
 - g. Soft stools for informal area \$ 1,985
 - h. Informal seating for informal area \$ 10,420
 - i. Waiting chairs \$ 1,3440
 - j. Meeting room table \$ 1,038
 - k. Round meeting table \$ 1,201
 - l. Laptop tables \$ 644
 - m. Low coffee table stools \$ 750
 - n. End table for collaboration area \$ 1,554
 - o. Round Informal meeting tables \$ 1,850
 - p. Mini fridge for SES suite \$ 195
 - q. Three televisions for meeting and collaboration rooms \$4500
- 8 Modifications to the Innovation Exchange included:
- a. 11 standing desks \$10,109
 - b. 11 Task chairs \$6,871**
(3 additional task chairs at a cost of \$1,874 were placed elsewhere in the department)
 - c. 8 Mobile pedestal drawer units \$2,992
 - d. 2 Casual seating \$1,309
 - e. Joinery unit, storage \$7,972
 - f. White boards \$11,495
- 9 Modifications to the Safe Hand mail room included:
- a. Supply & install workstations, screens, soft wiring - \$10,224
 - b. Supply & install lockable mobile peds - \$1,320
 - c. Supply & install (2X) standing height workbenches - \$2,750
 - d. Supply & install new tea bench - \$4,950
 - e. Supply & install printer bench - \$2,750
- 10 Modifications to the Forensic Examination Room (Passport Office) included:
- a. Supply & install new fixed height bench - \$4345
 - b. Supply & install new shelf unit - \$3,520
- 11 Photographs are not available.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 75

Program: DFAT

Topic: Upgrades

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

- a) Have the facilities of any of the Department's premises been upgraded since 1 January 2016, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new furniture, fridges, coffee machines, audio visual facilities or any other equipment including kitchen equipment and utensils?
- b) If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?

Answer

A. Yes

B.

- 1 The Department has a programme of WHS-initiated desk replacements for staff who undergo a workplace assessment and have appropriate medical support for such a desk. Since 1 January 2016, 110 desks have been installed costing \$184,208.
- 2 The Department has a rolling programme of replacing broken or unserviceable visitor chairs used throughout the premises. Since 1 January 2016, 200 chairs at a total cost of \$42,000 have been installed.
- 3 The department replaced appliances in common-use kitchens:
 - a. 6 microwave ovens \$ 1,308
- 4 A dishwasher was installed in the State Office in Perth. \$928

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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- 5 A refurbishment of the Departments Protocol Branch included:
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| a. 18 task chairs | \$ 10,062 |
| b. 8 visitor chairs | \$ 4,440 |
| c. 2 Waiting chairs | \$ 1,318 |
| d. 4 round meeting tables | \$ 5,656 |
| e. 450litre Fridge/freezer | \$ 1,459 |
| f. Built-in Microwave Oven | \$ 539 |
| g. Single drawer dishwasher | \$ 872 |
- 6 A refurbishment of South 2 area 1.
- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| a. 34 task chairs | \$ 21,304 |
| b. 1 executive chair | \$ 720 |
| c. 4 task chairs (stool height) | \$ 3,640 |
| d. 12 visitor chairs for offices | \$ 9,528 |
| e. Meeting room chairs | \$ 5,544 |
| f. Low stools for collaboration area | \$ 1,275 |
| g. Soft stools for informal area | \$ 1,985 |
| h. Informal seating for informal area | \$ 10,420 |
| i. Waiting chairs | \$ 1,3440 |
| j. Meeting room table | \$ 1,038 |
| k. Round meeting table | \$ 1,201 |
| l. Laptop tables | \$ 644 |
| m. Low coffee table stools | \$ 750 |
| n. End table for collaboration area | \$ 1,554 |
| o. Round Informal meeting tables | \$ 1,850 |
| p. Mini fridge for SES suite | \$ 195 |
| q. Three televisions for meeting and collaboration rooms | \$4500 |
- 8 Modifications to the Innovation Exchange included:
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| a. 11 standing desks | \$10,109 |
| b. 11 Task chairs | \$8,745 |
| c. 8 Mobile pedestal drawer units | \$2,992 |
| d. 2 Casual seating | \$1,309 |
| e. Joinery unit, storage | \$7,972 |
| f. White boards | \$11,495 |
- 9 Modifications to the Safe Hand mail room included:
- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| a. Supply & install workstations, screens, soft wiring - | \$10,224 |
| b. Supply & install lockable mobile peds - | \$1,320 |
| c. Supply & install (2X) standing height workbenches - | \$2,750 |
| d. Supply & install new tea bench - | \$4,950 |
| e. Supply & install printer bench - | \$2,750 |
- 10 Modifications to the Forensic Examination Room (Passport Office) included:
- | | |
|----------------------------------------------|---------|
| a. Supply & install new fixed height bench - | \$4345 |
| b. Supply & install new shelf unit - | \$3,520 |
- 11 Photographs are not available.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 76

Program: DFAT

Topic: Board Vacancies

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

Please provide a list of all statutory, board and legislated office vacancies and other significant appointments vacancies within the portfolio, including length of time vacant and current acting arrangements.

Answer

There are currently no vacancies on Efic's Board.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 77

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

- a) How much has the Department spent on media monitoring since 1 January 2016?
- b) Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to media monitoring contracts please be provided?

Answer

- A. The Department has spent \$160,727.30 on media monitoring and associated copyright since 1 January 2016.
- B. The Contract Notice IDs for media monitoring are as follows:
 - Dec 2015 – 30/6/2016: CN2100691-A2
 - 1/7/2016 – 30/6/2017: CN3363690

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 78

Program: DFAT

Topic: Advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

- a) How much has the Department spent on advertising and information campaigns since 1 January 2016?
- b) Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to advertising and information campaign contracts please be provided?

Answer

A. The Department has spent \$3,306,308.28 on advertising and information campaigns since 1 January 2016 to 31 October 2016. This includes the Smartraveller campaign, which promotes public awareness about travelling overseas.

B. The list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to advertising and information campaign contracts is as follows:

Supplier Name	CN ID
ARNOLD FURNACE PTY LTD	CN3217622
ARNOLD FURNACE PTY LTD	CN3279468
ARNOLD FURNACE PTY LTD	CN3292348
ARNOLD FURNACE PTY LTD	CN3292354
ARNOLD FURNACE PTY LTD	CN3308239
ARNOLD FURNACE PTY LTD	CN3339113
CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTRE	CN3294657
CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTRE	CN3374673
DENTSU MITCHELL MEDIA AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	CN3383796
DENTSU MITCHELL MEDIA AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	CN3308808
DENTSU MITCHELL MEDIA AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	CN3339102
DENTSU MITCHELL MEDIA AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	CN3373779
FLIGHT CENTRE LIMITED	CN3309751
OGILVY & MATHER PTY LTD	CN3279460
OGILVY & MATHER PTY LTD	CN3293608
OGILVY & MATHER PTY LTD	CN3374676
THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF TRAVEL AGENTS	CN3315298

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 79

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

With reference to Contract Notice ID CN3369180 published on the Austender website (“Banquet and catering services”):

- a) What goods or services were procured under this contract?
- b) Was any food or beverages procured under this contract?
- c) If so, please provide an itemised list of all food and beverages served together with an itemised list of costs.
- d) The brand and vintage of any wines or champagnes should be included in this itemised list.
- e) Was any floral or other room decorations procured under this contract?
- f) If so, please provide an itemised list of costs.
- g) Were any entertainment services procured under this contract?
- h) If so, what services and what was the cost?
- i) Can a guest list of the function or event to which this contract relates please be provided?
- j) If any Ministers attended, this guest list should include the names of any departmental staff or any personal staff or family members who also attended.
- k) Who approved this expenditure?
- l) Was the Foreign Minister’s office briefed on this function or event? If so, on what date(s)?

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

- a) The contract was for venue hire, catering and IT equipment hire for DFAT's three-day training course on Australian Trade Policy. The costs of the course were fully recouped via an enrolment fee charged to external (non-DFAT) participants.
- b) The contract included morning and afternoon tea and lunch for participants over the three-day course.
- c) The food and beverages were procured as a package for \$55 per head, 100 people attended the course.

Food and beverages included:

Tea, coffee, water and mints

Morning tea: a sweet item (pastries or muffins) and fruit platters

Lunch: sandwiches, wraps and rolls, fruit platters, juice and soft drink

Afternoon tea: a sweet or savoury item (mini cakes or sausage rolls) and vegetable crudité with dip.

- d) No alcohol was included.
- e) No
- f) N/A
- g) No
- h) N/A
- i) This was a training course attended by 100 participants.
- j) No Ministers attended.
- k) An EL2 officer.
- l) No.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 80

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

With reference to Contract Notice ID CN3379297 published on the Austender website ("Computer Equipment and Accessories"):

- a) Precisely what computer equipment and accessories were procured under this contract?
- b) Can an itemised list please be provided, showing the cost of each item procured?

Answer

- A. 293 x Samsung 32 inch LED monitors
- B. \$675.40 (including GST) per monitor

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 81

Program: DFAT

Topic: Wikipedia edits

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

With reference to an article entitled 'Investigation launched after public servants, staffers caught making offensive Wikipedia edits' published by James Massola of Fairfax on 26 October 2016:

- a) Were the changes made to the Hassan Rouhani Wikipedia page performed by a person in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or a person in the Minister's office? If a Minister's office, which Minister?
- b) What process did the Department follow to investigate these changes?
- c) What was the outcome of that investigation?

Answer

- A. The changes were made by a former locally engaged employee of DFAT.
- B. Records of internet usage were reviewed.
- C. A former locally engaged employee was identified as the user that made edits to Hassan Rouhani's Wikipedia page.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 82

Program: DFAT

Topic: HOM/HOP

Question in Writing

Senator Bilyk

Question

Since Joe Hockey assumed his posting, have changes been made to the Ambassador's family's living quarters in the Washington residence?

- a) What was the nature of these changes?
- b) What was the cost of these changes?
- c) Have changes been made to the staff living quarters in the Washington residence?
- d) What was the nature of these changes?
- e) What was the cost of these changes?
- f) Have changes been made to the guest living quarters in the Washington residence?
- g) What was the nature of these changes?
- h) What was the cost of these changes?
- i) In comparison to before and after these changes were made:
- j) How many staff were/are able to live permanently on-site at the Residence?
- k) How many guests were/are able to stay in the Residence?

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

A. No

a) N/A

b) N/A

c) & f) Yes. A one-bedroom apartment in the Residence is now being used as visitor accommodation.

d) & g) No structural changes. The one-bedroom apartment required painting and cleaning of carpets and upholstery to be used as visitor accommodation.

e) & h) \$8,500. Routine maintenance works have also been undertaken at the Residence.

i) j) 4 staff previously; 3 staff now.

k) 4 visitors previously (prior to Ambassador Hockey's posting); 3 visitors now.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 83

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Does DFAT have any information about when and where Mr Roy first entered Iraq and what route he took within the country to reach the Kurdish region? If so, please provide this information.
- b) Is it correct that section 119.2 of the Criminal Code Act makes it an offence for Australians to enter areas declared by the Minister for Foreign Affairs as areas where terrorist organisations are engaged in hostile activity?
- c) Is it correct that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has declared the Mosul district in the northern part of Iraq's Kurdish region as a declared area?
- d) Given that Mr Roy has: posted a picture on Facebook of himself in Erbil, about 80 kilometres east of the Mosul declared area; told the media he visited Sinjar, around 75 kilometres west of the Mosul declared area; told the media he was in a location where there was a firefight between Kurdish and ISIL forces; said that he visited Lalish, about 50 kilometres north of the Mosul declared area – what steps has DFAT taken to investigate whether there has been any breach of the legal prohibitions on Australians entering declared areas?
- e) The Prime Minister said in an interview on Radio 3AW on 30 September 2016 that he had no doubt that DFAT would be taking an interest in Mr Roy's travels and that he expected there would be a debrief of Mr Roy when he returned to Australia. Has DFAT conducted a debrief of Mr Roy? If so, when and what information did Mr Roy provide?
- f) What is the Department's view on "war tourism" – people travelling to conflict zones?
- g) How does war tourism impact the Department's consular case load?
- h) When a high profile person like Mr Roy engages in war tourism, what impact does it have on the propensity of other Australians to consider travelling to conflict zones?

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- i) How much does the Government spend annually on maintaining official travel advisories and Smartraveller?
- j) Is there a marketing campaign under way to promote Smartraveller? If so, how much is being spent by DFAT on this marketing campaign?
- k) Has Mr Roy's conduct undermined DFAT's efforts to promote safe travel abroad by Australians through official travel advisories and Smartraveller?

Answer

A. No. There are direct flights to Erbil from cities in Europe and the Middle East.

B. Yes.

C. On 2 March 2015, the Minister for Foreign Affairs declared Mosul district in the Ninewa province of Iraq as an area where a listed terrorist organisation is engaging in hostile activity. The declaration came into effect on 3 March 2015.

D. DFAT does not have any investigative role in relation to such allegations. AFP Commissioner Colvin told Senate Estimates on 17 October that his agency "did not believe any offences had been committed" based on public reporting and that there was no active investigation.

E. No.

F. DFAT advisories strongly discourage travel to conflict zones.

G. 'War tourism' is not a category captured by departmental travel statistics.

H. The Department is not in a position to measure this impact.

I. DFAT spent \$48,676 on maps, user testing and editorial review of the Smartraveller website during the past twelve months.

J. The current three year Smartraveller marketing campaign (Phase IV) was launched by Minister Bishop on 2 November 2015 and designed to further increase self-reliance and personal responsibility among Australian travellers. The Smartraveller marketing campaign has an annual budget of \$3.038 million (following adjustments and efficiencies).

K. The Department's advice and position on travel to various locations is clear to the Australian public, and this is not impacted by individual actions.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 84

Program: DFAT

Topic: White Paper

Question in Writing

Senator 81

Question

Has the Government made a decision that its election commitment to produce a foreign policy strategy will be produced as a White Paper?

- a) If yes, on what date was this decision made and by whom?
- b) On what date was the Secretary of DFAT advised that the Government had decided that its election commitment to produce a foreign policy strategy would be produced as a White Paper?
- c) Has the Department been provided with any additional funding for the White Paper? If so, provide details.

Answer

Since the election commitment to produce a foreign policy strategy was made, the government has used the terms 'foreign policy strategy' and 'foreign policy white paper' interchangeably. The White Paper will outline a strategy to advance Australia's international interests. The department has not been provided with any additional funding for the white paper.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 85

Program: DFAT

Topic: Diplomatic footprint

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

How much is the Department investing over the next four years in the expansion of Australia's overseas diplomatic presence?

- a) Where and how specifically is this investment being made?
- b) When was this funding allocation made?

Answer

In addition to the \$98.3 million over four years announced in the 2015-16 Budget, the Department is expected to invest a further \$84.1 million over the forward estimates to expand Australia's diplomatic network.

- a) In the 2015-16 Budget the Government approved \$98.3 million to open posts in Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Indonesia, Thailand, Mongolia, and increase resources to the Australian Consulate in Houston, United States.

In the 2016-17 Budget the Government approved a further \$26.1 million to open a post in China.

- a. The 2016-17 Pre-Election and Fiscal Outlook (PEFO) included \$58 million for Expanding Australia's overseas representation. This funding will open three new posts.
- b) 2015-16 and 2016-17.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 86

Program: DFAT

Topic: Intelligence

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

The article “Spies pulled out of Asia to fight ISIS” in The Australian of 30 July 2016, by Paul Maley and Cameron Stewart quotes the Foreign Minister saying that: ASIS has moved spies from its Asian stations into the Middle East and reopened stations in the Middle East; ASIS has forged new relationships with intelligence agencies in the Middle East; one of the most forthcoming countries for these relationships and operations has been Jordan; ASIS has reopened its Iraq station and has sent several officers to Jordan as “declared officers.”

- a) Is it appropriate for the Minister to make public disclosures of details of ASIS deployments and operations overseas?
- b) Did the Minister consult the Secretary of DFAT before making these disclosures?
- c) Did the Minister consult the Director General of ASIS before making these disclosures?
- d) What impact will disclosing where ASIS is opening and reopening stations, and where it is posting officers, have on risks faced by ASIS officers, agents and sources?
- e) How are such disclosures in the interests of ASIS’s operational activities?
- f) How are such disclosures in Australia’s national interests?
- g) Has anyone in the intelligence or diplomatic community raised concerns with DFAT or with the Minister or her office about the Minister’s interview?
- h) Has any consideration been given to whether the Minister’s disclosures breach section 39 of the Intelligence Services Act 2001?

Answer

A-H. It is not appropriate for the Department to comment on matters which relate to another agency.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 87

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

With reference to the article in The Australian of 15 July 2016 titled “Joe Hockey the ambassador of fun at Lindsay Fox birthday” which says Ambassador Hockey was one of 450 guests on a Mediterranean cruise on a luxury liner, the Seabourn Odyssey, chartered by Mr Lindsay Fox to celebrate his 80th birthday.

- a) In what capacity did Ambassador Hockey take part in this cruise?
- b) Did Ambassador Hockey accept sponsored travel to take part in the cruise?
- c) Did he comply with DFAT’s guidelines, requiring officers to obtain permission before accepting offers of sponsored travel?
- d) Did Australia’s Consul-General in New York, Mr Minchin, take part in this cruise?
- e) If yes, in what capacity did Mr Minchin attend?
- f) Did Mr Minchin accept sponsored travel?
- g) Did he comply with DFAT’s guidelines?

Answer

- A. Ambassador Hockey was on annual leave at the time and travelled privately, at his own expense.
- B. No.
- C. This was not sponsored travel.
- D. Yes.
- E. Mr Minchin was on annual leave at the time and travelled privately, at his own expense.
- F. No.
- G. This was not sponsored travel.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 88

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Austender contract notice CN3378209 published on 27 September 2016 gives details of a contract with the former secretary Mr Peter Varghese. The notice says Mr Varghese will be paid \$88,000 for “provision of panel member support (Australia)” from 11 September 2016 to 30 June 2017.

- a) What will Mr Varghese be doing under this contract?
- b) Why did the Department use a limited tender?
- c) Did any of the reasons in paragraph 10.3 of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, or the exemptions in Appendix A of the Procurement Rules, apply?
- d) If so, provide details.
- e) When was the limited tender process initiated?
- f) Was a limited tender approach to market published on Austender?
- g) How many potential suppliers did the Department approach as part of the limited tender?
- h) How many potential suppliers tendered?
- i) When was Mr Varghese selected?
- j) Were any measures adopted to avoid perceptions of a conflict of interest in awarding a contract to the former secretary through a limited tender? If so, provide details.

Answer

- A. Mr Varghese is participating on a no-fee basis on a high-level panel of 17 leaders to provide recommendations on the future of the OECD Development Assistance Committee.

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- B. The Chair of the OECD Development Assistance Committee sought nomination of high-level representatives (former Presidents, Prime Ministers, Ministers, heads of agency) not currently serving in Government. A strong and experienced Australian voice on the panel will ensure that the Committee continues to serve the development interests of the Indo-Pacific region. Mr Varghese's experience makes him uniquely qualified for this position, and his willingness to work without a fee was an added advantage to the Commonwealth.
- C. Yes.
- D. Exemption 15 of Appendix A of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules applies to this procurement.
- E. 11/8/2016.
- F. No.
- G. One.
- H. One.
- I. August 2016.
- J. Mr Varghese is not receiving any remuneration for his participation on the high-level panel on the future of the OECD Development Assistance Committee. Expenditure under the contract will only cover actual costs incurred for travel to facilitate Mr Varghese's participation in panel meetings.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 89

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial travel

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

In response to Question on Notice No 243 from Additional Estimates on 11 February 2016 the Department provided tables showing details of Ministerial travel.

- a) Please provide an update showing travel details for all Departmental Ministers from 11 February to the present.

Answer

Details of ministerial overseas travel from 11 February 2016 to 20 October 2016.

In relation to Ms Bishop:

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
US (Washington DC and New York)	15 – 25 September 2016	11	Washington: 15–17 September 2016 New York: 17–23 September 2016 Advisers: 3 Departmental officers: Mr Patrick Suckling (Washington, 15-17 September) Ms Frances Adamson (New York, 19-21 September) Mr Ewen McDonald (New York, 21-22 September)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Washington: Attended the following: Our Oceans dinner hosted by Secretary of State, Hon John Kerry; lunch hosted by World Wildlife Fund (WWF);- Met with the following: National Security Adviser, Trump Transition Team and			

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Former House Intelligence Committee, The Hon Mike Rogers; Leader, Asia Policy Group, Clinton Transition Team, The Hon Kurt Campbell; President, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, The Hon William J Burns; and winners of the Blue Economy Challenge.

- Presented WWF award and announced winner of Blue Economy Challenge Winners.
- Bilateral pull-asides with Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Republic of Indonesia and Minister of Environment, Energy and Maritime Affairs, Government of France.
- Walkthrough of Our Oceans Exhibition and met with Co-founder and CEO, Mr Tim Silverwood and was a panellist at the 'Our Oceans Champions: One Future' Dialogue.
- **New York:** 71st UN General Assembly
- Met with the following: Chief Executive of News Corp, Mr Robert Thomson; Amal Clooney; Melinda Gates, Gates Foundation; Mr Jake Sullivan, Foreign Policy Advisor to Hilary Clinton's campaign; Mr Glasser, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction; Mr Michael Bloomberg, Bloomberg Philanthropy; Mr James Toback and Mr Brett Ratner, film directors.
- Attended the following: Cherie Blair afternoon tea; the American Association (AAA) Dinner; The Fight against Impunity: Bringing Daesh to Justice Ministerial Event; Australia, Canada and New Zealand (CANZ) Foreign Ministers' Meeting; a reception in Honour of the President of the General Assembly hosted by Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Fiji; Food Revolution Dinner hosted by Jamie Oliver Food Foundation; International Syria Support Group Ministerial Meeting; Anti-Microbial Resistance: Tackling a Threat to the Health and Wealth of Nations Side Event; MH 17 Joint Investigation Team (JIT) Meeting; Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF) Ministerial Meeting; Friends of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Ministerial Meeting, 'Making Every Woman and Girl Count' Side Event; High-Level Dialogue on the Global Alliance to Eradicate Forced Labour, Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Child Labour; Peacebuilding Fund Pledging Conference; reception hosted by Minister of Foreign Affairs for New Zealand, with Small Island Developing States, a reception hosted by Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates; Australia's National Statement; MIKTA Ministerial Meeting; innovationXchange Reference Group Meeting; International Syria Support Group Ministerial; the Counter Terrorism Forum Ministerial; informal network of Women Foreign Ministers' hosted by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Liechtenstein and Sweden; and UN Secretary-General Special Partnership Group on Myanmar.
- Bilateral meetings with Foreign Ministers of Hungary, Japan, Serbia, Mongolia, Bolivia, Philippines, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein and Azerbaijan and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic. Bilateral meetings with President World Bank Group and Second Vice-President of Afghanistan. Bilateral meeting and agreement signing with Secretary of State for Foreign and Political Affairs for San Marino. Bilateral meeting with Minister for Foreign and CARICOM Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago
- Delivered interventions at Major Economies Forum Foreign Ministers' Segment

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Israel (Tel Aviv), Palestinian Territories (Ramallah), Germany (Berlin), Belgium (Brussels) and the United Kingdom (London)	2–11 September 2016	10	<p>Tel Aviv/Ramallah: 3–5 September 2016 Berlin: 5–7 September 2016 Brussels: 7–8 September 2016 London: 8–9 September 2016</p> <p>Advisers: 3</p> <p>Departmental officers: Ms Frances Adamson (London) Mr Ric Wells (Berlin) Mr Marc Innes-Brown (Israel & Palestinian Territories) Mr Bernard Unkles (Berlin/Brussels/London)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tel Aviv and Ramallah: visited Yad Vashem, Martyres' and Heroes' Memorial of the Holocaust. - Met with Prime Minister of Israel. Met with Israeli President of the State and Defence Minister. Met with Head of Mission, UN Truce Supervision Organisation and with Australia Awards Alumni attendees. - Met with Palestinian Prime Minister, Minister of National Economy and Leader of the Opposition. - Met with Leader of the Yesh Atid Party. - Visited the Australian Landing Pad. - Berlin: attended the Inaugural Australia – Germany 2+2 Ministerial Meeting. Joint press conference by German and Australian Foreign and Defence Ministers. - Attended reception to mark the choice of Germany as Focus Country for the Australia now 2017 program. - Attended dinner hosted by German Foreign Minister. - Met with State Secretary, Federal Chancellery and Federal Minister of the Interior. - Delivered speech at Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS). - Brussels: Met with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister and European Affairs, Belgium. - Joint address with Minister Ciobo to the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) and Committee on Trade (INTA). - Met with Vice President of the European Commission and High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. - Launched the EU-Australia Leadership Forum. - London: Met with Secretary of State for the Home Department, UK Secretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Secretary of State for Defence. - Attended AUKMIN reception and dinner hosted by Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Secretary of State for Defence - Teleconference with the Secretary of State for International Development. - Attended AUKMIN Summit 			

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- Toured Royal Chelsea Hospital and Toured the Australian Pavilion, London Design Biennale and visited the Turkish, Israeli and Japanese pavilions.

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Fiji (Suva)	11-12 August 2016	2	Suva: 12 August 2016 Advisers: 1 Departmental officers: Daniel Sloper Ms Teena Browning (DLO)

- **Suva:** attended the first annual Pacific Islands Forum Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Laos (Vientiane)	24-28 July 2016	5	Vientiane: 24-27 July 2016 Advisers: 3 Departmental officers: Mr Gary Quinlan Mr Simon Merrifield Mr Paul Stephens

- **Vientiane:** Attended the 6th East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the ASEAN-Australia Ministerial Meeting and the 23rd ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF).
- Met with Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam and Prime Minister of Lao.
- Met with Foreign Affairs Ministers of Lao PDR, Myanmar, Singapore, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Norway, Slovakia (current EU President), Norway and New Zealand.
- Attended the opening of the AustCham Lao Women in Leadership Event.
- Met with Minister of State for External Affairs of India,
- Attended Southwest Pacific Dialogue Ministerial Meeting
- Attended the Gala Dinner, hosted by Foreign Affairs Minister of the Lao PDR
- Attended dinner with Australian business representatives.
- Met with Lao Rugby Players from 'Pass It Back' Program, attended by President, Lao Rugby Federation and ChildFund Laos Country Director.

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
United States (Washington)	20–23 July 2016	4	Washington: 20–21 July 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officers: Mr Marc Innes-Brown
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington: meeting of the Ministers of the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL. - Pull-aside with Iraqi, Germany, Dutch and French Foreign Ministers. - Met with the US Special Presidential Envoy for the Global Coalition, UK Foreign Secretary and Director of National Intelligence 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Austria (Vienna)	15–19 May 2016	5	Vienna: 16–18 May 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officers: Mr Greg Ralph
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vienna: Bilateral meeting with Iranian and Austrian Foreign Ministers. - Attended the International Syria Support Group meeting (ISSG) 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
United States (Washington)	30 March – 3 April 2016	5	Washington: 30 March – 3 April 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officers: Dr Robert Floyd Mr Ian Biggs Dr Stephen Bayer Ms Vanessa Wood
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington: Bilateral meeting with Argentinian, Turkish and Ukrainian Foreign Ministers and CEO The Asia Group. - Signed Australian-Ukraine Nuclear Cooperation Agreement with Ukrainian Energy Minister. Met with Ukrainian President Poroshenko - Attended the 2016 Nuclear Security Summit hosted by President Obama. 			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pull-aside with Singaporean, Dutch and UK Prime Ministers, Vietnamese and ROK Foreign Ministers, the Israeli Energy Minister and DG International Atomic Energy Agency. 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Indonesia (Jakarta, Makassar, Bali)	20-23 March 2016	4	<p>Jakarta: 20-21 March 2016 Makassar: 21-22 March 2016 Bali: 22-23 March 2016</p> <p>Advisers: 2</p> <p>Departmental officers: Mr Tom Connor Mr Andrew Goledzinowski</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jakarta: launched the 'Next Door Land' partnership. Met with Foreign Minister Marsudi, Vice President HE Kalla. Met Coordinating Minister for Politics, Law and Security Affairs. - Officially opened the new Australian Embassy and Mission to ASEAN, Jakarta. - Makassar: officially opened the Australian Consulate-General Makassar, unveiled Yirrkala Batik with Mayor of Makassar. Delivered lecture at the Hasanuddin University - Bali: launched the International Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking and Slavery. Attended the Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime. Met with Foreign Minister Marsudi. 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Fiji (Suva)	13-14 March 2016	2	<p>Suva: 13-14 March 2016</p> <p>Advisers: 2</p> <p>Departmental officers: Mr Jamie Isbister Mr Pablo Kang</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suva: Met with Prime Minister Bainimarama, Foreign Minister Kubuabola, Minister for Agriculture, Rural Development and National Disaster Management Seruiratu. Inspected HMAS Canberra with Fijian ministers. Met with Captain Brett Sonter, Commander Joint Task Force and Captain Christopher Smith, Commanding Officer of HMAS Canberra. Surveyed the Humanitarian and 			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
<p>Disaster Relief Activities on Koro Island, met by Colonel Michael Bassingthwaite, Commander of the Landing Force and Lieutenant Colonel James Dugdell, Chief Engineer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Met with National Disaster Management Minister Seruiratu at the National Disaster Management Organisation (NDMO). - Met with ADF personnel, Crisis Response Team, Australian Volunteers and New Colombo Plan students and Minister of Education Dr Reddy. - Visit to Rakiraki to inspect cyclone damage – visit to Penang Sangam Primary School, Rakiraki village, markets and Rakiraki Hospital and announced Aus Medical Assistance Team gifting. Met with Minister for Local Government Kumar and UN Women representative. 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Japan (Tokyo) and China (Beijing)	14-19 February 2016	6	<p>Japan: 15-16 February 2016 Beijing: 16-18 February 2016</p> <p>Advisers: 3</p> <p>Departmental officers: Mr Peter Varghese (Beijing) Mr Graham Fletcher</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Japan: Met with Prime Minister Abe, Foreign Minister Kishida, Minister of Health Labour and Welfare Shiozaki and Minister of Defence Gen Nakatani. Delivered a speech to the Japan National Press Club. Attended 'Women in Leadership' function. Met with LDP Secretary-General Tanigaki. Interview with NHK. Met with Hiroshi Takaku AM, Guest speaker at the Australia-New Zealand Chamber of Commerce function. Attended the 40th Anniversary NARA Treat Event. - Beijing: Co-chaired the annual Foreign and Strategic Dialogue (FSD) with Foreign Minister Wang Yi. Joint press conference. Launched the New Colombo Plan Internship and Mentorship. Call on State Councillor Yang Jiechi, Premier Li Keqiang. Met with Minister Mr Song Tao, CCP International Department, Mr Zie Zhenhua, Special Representative on Climate Change, Mr Gao Hucheng, Minister for Commerce. 			

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In relation to Mr Ciobo:

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Iran (Tehran)	26-29 September 2016	3	27-28 September 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officer: Mr Marc Innes-Brown
Lead a business delegation and officially opened the Austrade office. Met with: HE Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh, Minister for Industry, Mines and Trade; HE Hamid Chitchian, Minister for Energy; HE Professor Dr Mohamad Fardi, Minister for Science, Research and Technology; Mr Gholamhossein Shafeie, Chairman of Iran Chamber of Commerce; and Dr Hossein Salar Amoli, Deputy Minister for Science for International Cooperation			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
China (Hong Kong)	18-21 September	3	19-20 September 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officer: None
Attended the CLSA Investor Forum. Met with: Mr Gregory So, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Hong Kong Government; Mr Lu Jianzhong, President of CCCC International Holding Ltd; Mr Victor Li, Managing Director and Deputy Chairman of Cheung Kong Hutchison Holdings; Mr David Chiu, Chairman of Far East Consortium; Mr Beau Kuok, Chairman of Kerry Holdings Ltd and Shangri-la Group; Mr Michael Yao, Senior Vice-President of Alibaba; Mr Michael Liwang, Universal Robina; Mr Johnson Zhang, Vice President of Hong Kong Airlines; Mr Richard Lancaster, CEO of China Light & Power; and Ms Heddy Li, Executive Director of Hind Group (Ovolo Hotels).			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
UK (London) and Belgium (Brussels)	4-10 September 2016	6	<p>London: 5-7 September 2016 Brussels: 7-8 September 2016</p> <p>Advisers: 2</p> <p>Departmental officer: Mr Justin Brown</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - London: Met with: Rt Hon Liam Fox MP, Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade; The Lord Price CVO, Minister of State for Trade Policy; Mr Jean-Sebastien Jacques, Chief Executive, Rio Tinto; Mr Hakim Drissi-Kaitouni, Managing Director, Wren House Infrastructure Management Ltd; and Mr George Weston CEO of Associated British Foods. Speech at Asia House. - Brussels: Met with: Mr Reinhardt Silberberg, German Permanent Rep to the EU; Mr Pierre Moscovici, Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs; and Mrs Cecilia Malmström, Commissioner for Trade. Joint address with Ms Bishop to the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) and the Committee for International Trade (INTA) of the European Parliament 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
New Zealand (Christchurch)	24-26 August 2016	2	<p>24-26 August 2016</p> <p>Advisers: 2</p> <p>Departmental officer: Ms Alice Cawte</p>
<p>Attended the PACER Plus Ministerial Meeting. Met with: Todd McClay, NZ Minister of Trade; Milner Tozaka, Solomon Islands Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade; Mark Brown, Cook Islands Minister of Finance; Bruno Leingkone, Vanuatu Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation & External Trade; Lautafi Selafi Purcell, Samoa Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour; and Pohiva Tu'ionetoa, Tonga Minister of Commerce, Trade, Innovation and Labour.</p>			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Colombia (Bogota) and Chile (Santiago)	15-20 August 2016	5	Bogota: 15-17 August 2016 Santiago: 17-19 August 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental Officer: Mr Justin Brown
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bogota: Met with: Maria Claudia Lacouture, Minister for Trade, Industry and Tourism, and Javier Gamboa, Vice Minister for Trade, Industry and Tourism; Aurelio Irigorri, Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development; roundtable with members of the Australia-Colombia Business Council - Santiago – Met with: Hernando Muñoz, Foreign Minister; Aurora Williams, Minister for Mining; Luis Felipe Céspedes, Minister for the Economy, Development and Tourism; Andrés Gómez Lobo, Minister for Transport; and Alejandro Danus, CEO Banmedica. 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Indonesia (Jakarta) and Laos (Vientiane)	1-7 August 2016	6	Jakarta: 1-3 August 2016 Vientiane: 3-7 August 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officer: None

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- **Jakarta:** Met with: Enggartiasto Lukita, Minister for Trade of the Republic of Indonesia; Thomas Lembong, Chairman of the Investment Coordinating Board of the Republic of Indonesia; and Airlangga Hartarto, Minister for Industry of the Republic of Indonesia.
- **Vientiane:** Attended ASEAN Ministerial Meetings. Met with: Mr Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Brunei Darussalam Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Mr Todd McClay, New Zealand Minister of Trade; Mr Lim Hng Kiang, Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry (Trade); Mr YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Bin Mohamed, Malaysia Minister of International Trade and Industry; Ms Nirmala Sitharaman, India Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Commerce and Industry; Mr Joo Hyung-hwan, Republic of Korea Minister for Trade, Industry and Energy; Ms Apiradi Tantraporn, Thailand Minister for Commerce; and Ms Chrystia Freeland, Canada Minister of International Trade.

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
United States	10-17 July 2016	7	10-15 July 2016 Adviser: 1 Departmental officer: None
Presented at the Australia-America Leadership Dialogue. Met with US Trade Representative Michael Froman.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Germany (Frankfurt, Berlin), United Kingdom (London), Italy (Rome), Belgium (Brussels)	24 April to 1 May 2016	8	Frankfurt: 25-26 April 2016 Berlin: 26 April 2016 London: 26-27 April 2016 Rome: 27-28 April 2016 Brussels: 28-29 April 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officer: None

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- **Frankfurt:** Met: Dr Claudia Buch, Vice President Deutsche Bundesbank; Mr Yves Mersch, Member of the Executive Board, European Central Bank; Dr Karl-Heinz Füller, Manager Materials, Concepts, AMG, Daimler and Professor Peter Middendorf, Director, Institute for Aircraft Design, University of Stuttgart. Attended an Investment and Innovation Roundtable, and visited the Bayer CropScience Weed Resistance Competency Center.
- **Berlin:** Met: Mr Uwe Beckmeyer MdB, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economics and Energy, and attended the Austrade Berlin Landing Pad event.
- **London:** Met: Lord Mark Price MP, Minister for Trade & Investment; Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation & Skills; Mr Jamie Richards, Partner, Global Head of Infrastructure, Foresight Group and Mr Gershon Cohen, Head of Infrastructure Funds, Aberdeen Asset Management PLC. Attended an Investment Roundtable.
- **Rome:** Met: Senator Francesco Giacobbe; Mr Ivan Scalfarotto, Under-Secretary for Trade. Attended a Roundtable with Australian investors in Italy, and a Roundtable with key Italian investors in Australia.
- **Brussels:** Met: Mr Günther Oettinger, European Commissioner for the Digital Economy and Society; Mr Carlo Calenda, Italian Ambassador to the EU; Mrs Cecilia Malmström, European Commissioner for Trade; Mr Markus Beyrer, Director-General of BusinessEurope. Attended an EU and Belgian Agriculture luncheon.

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
China (Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai)	6-16 April 2016	11	Hong Kong: 6-10 April 2016 Beijing: 10-12 April 2016 Shanghai: 12-15 April 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officer: None

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- **Hong Kong:** Met: Hon Mr Gregory So, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development; Mr Ahmad Zulqarnain Onn, Executive Director, Investments/Head, Strategic Management Unit, Khazanah Nasional; Dr Fu Yuning, Chairman, China Resources; Mr Sherman Kwek, Chief Information Officer, City Developments; Mr John Knox, CEO Australia, Credit Suisse; Mr Stanley Yang, Executive Vice President, Group Corporate Development, First Pacific; Mr Victor Li, Cheung Kong Holdings; Mr Francis Chu, Executive Director, Reserve Management, Hong Kong Monetary Authority; Mr Clement Kwok, Managing Director & CEO, HK & Shanghai Hotels Group; Mr Lincoln Leong, Chief Executive Officer, MTR Corporation; Mr Richard Lancaster, Chief Executive Officer, China Light and Power; Mr Mark Machin, President, CPPIB Asia Inc. and various Australian business representatives. Attended the Credit Suisse 19th Asian Investment Conference, and addressed the Asian Investment Conference 15th Annual Australia Dinner.
- **Beijing:** Met: Dr Gao Hucheng, Minister for Commerce; Mr Jin Liqun, President, AIIB; Mr Zhao Shuanglian, Chairman, COFCO; Mr Xu Shaoshi, Chairman, NDRC. Provided the opening addresses at the AWIC Food and Beverage stream and the AWIC Health stream meetings. Attended the AustCham Board business meeting.
- **Shanghai:** Met: Mr Zhang Yuliang, Chairman, Greenland Holding Group; Mr Wang Qunbin, President of Fosun International. Provided the keynote address at the AWIC Opening Plenary and the Premium Food and Beverage and Consumer - Australia Launch Showcase. Gave the opening addresses at the AWIC Financial Services Stream meeting, AWIC Innovation stream meeting, the Blackmores launch, the Goodman Qingpu Logistics Centre Opening Ceremony and the AustCham Westpac Australia China Business Awards. Attended the Agribusiness Investor Roundtable and commercial signing ceremonies.

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
United States of America (San Francisco, Washington, New York)	18-26 February 2016	9	San Francisco: 18-19 February 2016 Washington DC: 19-21 February 2016 New York: 21-24 February 2016 Advisers: 2 Departmental officer: None

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- **San Francisco:** Met: Mr Paul O’Sullivan, Optus-Innov8; Mr Ryan Gilbert and Mr Tom Whitetaker, Propel Ventures; Mr John Scull, Southern Cross Venture Capital Partners. Launched the Austrade San Francisco Landing Pad and attended networking functions for AUSBW and the Business Council of Australia. Visited the GE Software Center.
- **Washington DC:** Met: Ambassador Michael Froman, US Trade Representative; Mr Bill Reinsch, President, National Foreign Trade Council. Attended a Roundtable Lunch with US Political Commentators.
- **New York:** Met: Mr Thomas W. Farley, President, NYSE; Mr Jeffrey L. Easton, Founder, Lind Partners; Mr Matthew McLennan, Head of Global Value, First Eagle Investment Management; Mr Paul Ryan, Senior Managing Director, Asset Management, JPMorgan Chase & Co.; Mr Leon Allen, Managing Director Americas, Commonwealth Bank; Ms Sara McKerihan, Managing Director, Citi; Mr Nick Cleary, Director, Hastings Infrastructure, USA; Mr Michael McLaughlin, CEO and Country Head, Macquarie USA. Attended the UNDP 50th Anniversary Ministerial Meeting, and delivered remarks at Session IV on the topic of “Managing Risk, Building Resilience”. Hosted roundtable discussions on “New Business Formation and Venture Capital” and “Investing in Food and Agriculture” and “Private Capital Partnerships”. Visited the New York Stock Exchange.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

In relation to Senator Fierravanti-Wells:

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Tonga (Nuku'alofa)	20-23 September 2016	4	20-23 September 2016 Adviser: 1 Departmental staff: Mr Richard Sisson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Met with Minister in Charge and Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Lord Ma'afu - Signing of Australia-Tonga Aid Partnership Arrangement - Visit to solar plant and Tonga Police Development Program - Visit Pacific Patrol Boats and Landing Craft and discuss Tonga Defence Cooperation Program - Met with Australian Volunteers for International Development - Review Tonga Red Cross supplies - Visit to the private sector development ACIAR Winged Pearl Oyster project - Met with Governor of Ha'apai Mo'ale Finau - Visit Outer Island Renewable Energy Project - Meeting with CEO of Ministry of Health and TongaHealth 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Fiji (Suva)	14-15 September 2016	2	14-15 September 2016 Adviser: 1 Departmental staff: Daniel Sloper
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suva. Met with: Viliame Leqa, President of the Fiji Australia Business Council; Hon Faiyaz Koya MP, Fijian Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism; - Attended: Australia-Fiji-New Zealand Business Forum; - Visited: Devesh and Bharos (DBF) Farms 			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
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Federated States of Micronesia (Pohnpei)	8-11 September 2016	4	8-11 September 2016 Adviser: 1 Departmental staff: Daniel Sloper Alice Cawte
- Attend the Pacific Islands Forum			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Samoa (Apia)	21-23 August 2016	3	21-23 August 2016 Adviser: 1 Departmental staff: Jenny Da Rin
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Met with Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Director General- Visit with Canberra Hospital Visiting Emergency Department visiting medical team- Open the Australian aid-funded Vaitele Street widening Project- Attend Lunch with female Samoan Members of Parliament and prominent women- Bilateral meeting with Prime Minister of Samoa- Bilateral meeting with Deputy Prime Minister of Samoa and Minister for Natural Resources and Environment- Attended opening of National Pharmaceutical Warehouse- Tour the Scientific Research Organisation of Samoa- Bilateral meeting with Minister for Finance of Samoa, the Hon. Sili Epa Tuioti- Tour of Australian Pacific Technical College- Tour of the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Vanuatu (Port Vila) and Fiji (Suva)	15-19 August 2016	5	<p>Port Vila: 15-17 August 2016 Suva: 17-19 August 2016</p> <p>Adviser: n/a</p> <p>Departmental staff: Mr Pablo Kang Mr Stephen Hills, Departmental Liaison Officer</p>
<p>Port Vila</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Met with Bruno Leingkone, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade - Met with Charlot Salwai, Prime Minister - Met with Malampa Provincial Government and Provincial representatives - Visited Vanuatu Women's Centre, Malampa Counselling Centre - Visited Malampa Women's Handicraft Centre - Visited Provincial Government and Police Station for the launch of the new research report by the Policing and Justice Support Program, Conflict Management and Access to Justice in Rural Vanuatu - Visited Cocoa Growers Association - Inspected Roads for Development project - Attend reception with Key Ministers and MPs - Prime Minister Charlot Salwai, Deputy Prime, Minister Joe Natuman, Finance Minister Gaetan Pikioune, Lands Minister Ralph Regenvanu, Special Envoy on Climate Change, Albert Williams, Special Envoy on Trade, Francois Chani, John Sala, Gillion William, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Sato Kilman - Met with Jotham Napat, Infrastructure Minister - Met with Johnny Koanapo, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, on cyclone recovery - Met with Gaetan Pikioune, Finance and Economic Management Minister - Attend Tourism roundtable <p>Suva</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Met with Dame Meg Taylor, Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat - Tour of HMAS Canberra - Met with the Hon Ratu Inoke Kubuabola, Minister for Foreign Affairs - Met with the Hon Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, Acting Prime Minister, Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Public Enterprises, Civil Service and Communications - Visit to Vatukacevaceva Village School and announcement of a school rebuilding program 			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Solomon Islands (Honiara)	8–9 August 2016	2	8-9 August 2016 Adviser: n/a Departmental officer: Pablo Kang Mr Stephen Hills, Departmental Liaison Officer
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Met with Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade Milner Tozaka- Attended HMAS Canberra Memorial Service- Tour of Royal Solomon Islands Police Force Maritime Unit- Met with Minister for Development Planning and Aid Coordination Danny Philip- Tour of National Medical Stores- Attended presentation on RAMSI by Special Coordinator Devlin and Commander Participating Police Force Tanti, and tour of RAMSI base- Tour of Christian Care Centre - family violence refuge			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Turkey (Istanbul)	21-26 May 2016	6	22-25 May 2016 Adviser: 1 Departmental: Mr Jamie Isbister Mr Steve Scott

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- Co-hosted reception with New Zealand Foreign Minister McCully
- Bilateral meetings with:
 - UN Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr Stephen O'Brien
 - President of Vanuatu, the Hon Baldwin Lonsdale
 - Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, the Hon Henry Puna
 - UK Secretary of State for International Development, the Rt Hon Justin Greening MP
 - Canadian Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, the Hon Marie-Claude Bibeau
 - Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, HE Mr Mevlut Cavusoglu
 - Prime Minister of Tuvalu, the Hon Enele Sopoaga
 - New Zealand Foreign Minister, Murray McCully
 - European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Mr Neven Mimica
 - Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, Ms Kelly Clements
 - Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Ms Helen Clark
 - Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr Yves Daccord
 - Executive Director of the World Food Programme, Ms Etharian Cousin
 - Secretary General of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, Dr Robert Glasser
- Attend World Humanitarian Summit and deliver Australia's national statement
- Attend Special Session on People with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action and deliver Australia's statement in support of the launch of the Charter on the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action.
- Attended MIKTA Humanitarian Reception
- Attend Leaders' Roundtable on Natural Disaster and Climate Change – Managing Risks and Crises Differently, and deliver statement
- Deliver statement at Catalysing Action to Achieve Gender Equality Roundtable
- Attended Special Session: Global Alliance for Humanitarian Innovation and deliver statement announcing Australia's global support for the Global Alliance for Humanitarian Innovation, Global Humanitarian Lab and the Pacific Humanitarian Challenge winners.
- Attended Special Session on Connecting Business

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Germany (Frankfurt)	30 April to 6 May 2016	6	1-6 May 2016 Adviser: 1 Departmental staff: n/a (arranged by Treasury)
<p>- Frankfurt: Travel to Frankfurt on behalf of the Treasurer to attend the Asian Development Bank (ADB) 49th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors. The ADB is an important multilateral development partner, with Australia being the fifth-largest ADB shareholder and the second largest donor to the Asian Development Fund (ADF). The ADB's Annual Meeting is Australia's best opportunity to influence the operation of the ADB. The meeting is also a key opportunity for dialogue with other members on how the ADB's work relates to Australia's interests in other multilateral organisations, and to build and maintain relationships with key leaders in the region.</p>			

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

In relation to Mr Pitt:

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying staff
Papua New Guinea	3-4 August 2016	2	Port Moresby: 3-4 August 2016 Adviser: 1
<p>- Port Moresby: Met: the Hon. Richard Maru, Minister for Trade, Commerce and Industry; the Hon. Rimbink Pato, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration; Sir Brown Bai, Chairman, Tola Investments Ltd, and PNG Board Member of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR); and also with senior Trukai Industries Ltd representatives. Held a joint television interview with Minister Maru, and a separate media interview with ABC News. Attended a function held by the Oil Search Foundation.</p>			

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 90

Program: DFAT

Topic: HOM/HOP

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Please provide an updated list of all Heads of Missions appointments made since January 2016.
- b) Please provide an updated list of all Heads of Mission positions due to be vacated in the coming 12 months.

Answer

A. Updated list of all Heads of Mission/Head of Post appointments since January 2016

Name	Position	Post
Arthur Spyrou	Ambassador	Abu Dhabi
Andrew Barnes	High Commissioner	Accra
Miles Armitage	Ambassador	Amman
Helena Studdert	Consul-General	Bali
Nicola Rosenblum	High Commissioner	Bandar Seri Begawan
Jan Adams	Ambassador	Beijing
Lynette Wood	Ambassador	Berlin
John Richardson	Ambassador	Brasilia
Bryce Hutchesson	High Commissioner	Colombo
Julia Niblett	High Commissioner	Dhaka
Axel Wabenhorst	Ambassador	Doha
Richard Andrews	Ambassador	Dublin
Craig Chittick	Ambassador	Hanoi
Karen Lanyon	Consul-General	Ho Chi Minh City
Melissa Hitchman	Ambassador	Holy See
Jane Duke	Ambassador	Jakarta ASEAN
Richard Feakes	Ambassador	Kabul
Peter Rayner	Ambassador	Lisbon
Richard Mathews	Consul-General	Makassar
Amanda Gorely	Ambassador	Manila

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Peter Tesch	Ambassador	Moscow
Tony Huber	Consul-General	Mumbai
Harinder Sidhu	High Commissioner	New Delhi
Andrew Ford	High Commissioner	Nuku’Alofa
Angela Corcoran	Ambassador	Phnom Penh
George Fraser	Ambassador	Pohnpei
John Pilbeam	High Commissioner	Port of Spain
Greg French	Ambassador	Rome
Jonathan Kenna	Ambassador	Stockholm
Bruce Cowled	High Commissioner	Tarawa
Ian Biggs	Ambassador	Tehran
Brendon Hammer	Ambassador & Permanent Representative	Vienna
Paul Wojciechowski	Ambassador	Warsaw
Joseph Hockey	Ambassador	Washington
Peter Woolcott	High Commissioner	Wellington

B. Updated list of all Head of Mission/Head of Post positions due to be vacated in the coming 12 months (until November 2017)

Post	Position
Ankara	Ambassador
Athens	Ambassador
Brussels	Ambassador
Chengdu	Consul-General
Copenhagen	Ambassador
Geneva WTO	Ambassador & Permanent Representative
Honiara	High Commissioner
Kathmandu	Ambassador
London	High Commissioner
Malta	High Commissioner
Nairobi	High Commissioner
New York	Consul-General
Paris	Ambassador
Port Louis	High Commissioner
Port Vila	High Commissioner
Santiago	Ambassador
Singapore	High Commissioner
Suva	High Commissioner
Tel Aviv	Ambassador
Tokyo	Ambassador
Zagreb	Ambassador

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 91

Program: DFAT

Topic: Multilateral Replenishments

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Please provide an updated version of the table provided in response to Additional Budget Estimates question on notice number 264.
- b) Please include an additional column for 2016-17 with committed or anticipated commitments for the current fiscal year.

Answer

Refer to the attached table.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Institution	Existing contributions to end	Next replenishment date	Annual contributions since 2013 (FY unless otherwise indicated) 2012 - 2013	2013 – 2014	2014 – 2015	2015 – 2016	2016 – 2017
World Bank (International Development Association)	April 2025 (Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative)	December 2016 (IDA18)	206.9 million	218.0 million	211.7 million	222.5 million	220.1 million
Asian Development Bank (Asian Development Fund)	December 2021	ADF13 Replenishment is expected in 2020. To be advised by ADB	83.1 million	101.1 million	122.2 million	124.9 million	157.0 million
UNAIDS	The 2009-12 UNAIDS-DFAT Partnership Framework is still in effect as it includes a clause whereby it is automatically extended on an annual basis unless terminated by either party.	Annual voluntary core contributions to UNAIDS are typically made in the first half of each calendar year.	7.24 million (Calendar year 2013)	7.2 million (Calendar year 2014)	7.5 million (Calendar year 2015)	4.5 million (Calendar year 2016)	4.5 million (Calendar year 2017)
World Health Organisation	The 2009-13 WHO-DFAT Partnership	Annual voluntary core contributions	20 million	20 million	20.6	12.4	12.4

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Institution	Existing contributions to end	Next replenishment date	Annual contributions since 2013 (FY unless otherwise indicated) 2012 - 2013	2013 – 2014	2014 – 2015	2015 – 2016	2016 – 2017
(WHO)	Framework is still in effect as it includes a clause whereby it is automatically extended on an annual basis unless terminated by either party.	to WHO are typically made in the first half of each calendar year.	(Calendar year 2013)	(Calendar year 2014)	million (Calendar year 2015)	million (Calendar year 2016)	million (Calendar year 2017)
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Extended by mutual consent to December 2016	Annual voluntary core contributions to UNFPA are typically made in the first half of each calendar year.	15 million	15 million	15.4 million	9.2 million	9.2 million
World Food Programme	June 2019 (Australia-World Food Programme Strategic Partnership Framework 2015-2019)	Annual contributions to WFP are made in the second half of each calendar year.	36 million	36 million	40 million	37 million	37 million
UN Office for the Coordination	December 2015	Annual core funding to OCHA is typically made in the first	9 million	9 million	9.3 million	8.8 million	8.79 million

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Institution	Existing contributions to end	Next replenishment date	Annual contributions since 2013 (FY unless otherwise indicated) 2012 - 2013	2013 – 2014	2014 – 2015	2015 – 2016	2016 – 2017
of Humanitarian Affairs		half of each calendar year. Australia intends to make the 2015-16 payment in early 2016.					
UN High Commissioner for Refugees	December 2016	Annual core funding to UNHCR is typically paid in the first half of each calendar year. Australia intends to make the 2015-16 payment in early 2016.	21 million	19 million	21 million	19.95 million	25 million
UN Development Program	June 2016	One payment per calendar year – Australia tends to pay in September	20.66 million	20.66 million	21.2 million	12.7 million	12.725 million
UNICEF	June 2016	One payment per calendar year – Australia tends to pay in September	34.1 million	34.1 million	34.4 million	21 million	21 million

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Institution	Existing contributions to end	Next replenishment date	Annual contributions since 2013 (FY unless otherwise indicated) 2012 - 2013	2013 – 2014	2014 – 2015	2015 – 2016	2016 – 2017
Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance	Dec. 2020 2016-20: \$250m pledge	TBC (awaiting advice from Gavi)	47.5 million	52.5 million	50 million	59.8 million	10 million
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria	December 2016 2014-16: \$200m pledge 2016-18: \$220m pledge	2019 (5 th replenishment was Sept 2016)	59.8 million	100 million	105 million	85 million	10 million
Global Partnership for Education (GPE)	December 2018 2015-2018: \$140m pledge 2014-2016: \$270m pledge	December 2017	30 million	70 million	163 million [#]	26 million	10 million (not yet paid)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

[#] The Australian 2014-15 financial year straddled two separate GPE replenishments. The figure of \$163 million consists of the final payment to the 2011-14 of \$100 million (delivering on our overall pledge to that replenishment of \$270 million) and the first payment of \$63 million towards the 2015-18 replenishment.

*IMF not included as question targets core funding only – DFAT provides a small amount of non-core funding for technical assistance through the IMF (\$4.9 million in 2013 – 2014 and \$250,000 in 2014 – 2015). **Note** that this table reflects voluntary core funding, and does not cover earmarked funding, or funding provided by other Australian Government departments.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Forward Estimates 2015-16 to 2018-19

Institution	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
World Bank (International Development Association)	222.5 million	220.1 million	Subject to replenishment negotiations	Subject to replenishment negotiations
Asian Development Bank (Asian Development Fund)	124.9 million	157.1 million	Subject to the signing of instruments of commitment for ADF12	Subject to the signing of instruments of commitment for ADF12
UNAIDS	4.5 million (Calendar year 2016)	4.5 million (Calendar year 2017)	Subject to annual budget allocations	Subject to annual budget allocations
World Health Organisation (WHO)	12.4 million (Calendar year 2016)	12.4 million (Calendar year 2017)	Subject to annual budget allocations	Subject to annual budget allocations
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	9.2 million	9.2 million	Subject to annual budget allocations	Subject to annual budget allocations
World Food Programme	37 million	37 million	38 million (subject to annual budget allocations)	38 million (subject to annual budget allocations)
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	8.8 million	8.8 million	A new partnership framework will be negotiated in 2017 which will specify payments for 2017-18 and out years, subject to annual budget allocations	Subject to annual budget allocations

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Institution	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
UN High Commissioner for Refugees	19.95 million	25 million	25 million (subject to annual budget allocations)	25 million (subject to annual budget allocations)
UN Development Program	12.7 million	12.725 million	12.725 million (subject to annual budget allocations)	12.725 million (subject to annual budget allocations)
UNICEF	21 million	21 million	21 million (subject to annual budget allocations)	21 million (subject to annual budget allocations)
Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance	59.8 million	10 million	25 million	65
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria	50.5 million	10 million	40 million	70 million
Global Partnership for Education (GPE)	26 million	10 million	21 million	20 million (subject to annual budget allocations)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*IMF not included as question targets core funding only – DFAT provides a small amount of non-core funding for technical assistance through the IMF

Note that this table reflects voluntary core funding, and does not cover earmarked funding, or funding provided by other Australian Government departments.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 92

Program: DFAT

Topic: Former Prime Ministers

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) What is the Department's policy concerning assistance to former Prime Ministers who are still in the Parliament?
- b) Has the Minister given the Department any directions concerning assistance to Mr Abbott?
- c) If so, provide details.

Answer

- a) Upon request, DFAT's overseas posts extend certain courtesies to former prime ministers travelling overseas in recognition of their former positions. The level of support is at the discretion of the Head of Mission, within the scope of available resources. The policy applies equally to former prime ministers whether or not they still serve in parliament.
- b) No.
- c) N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 93

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Staffing numbers in DFAT's Annual Report for 30 June 2016 show 58 per cent of all Departmental staff were female, but only 31.5 per cent of SES staff were female (pp 210-12).

- a) How has the share of women in SES positions changed over recent years?
- b) What is the Department doing to improve gender equity at the SES level?

Answer

- A. The table below contain the percentage of women in SES positions at 30 June each year (including political appointees, Secretary and Director of Safeguards),

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
26.2%	26.5%	28.9%	31.4%	31.5%

- B. DFAT's Women in Leadership strategy (available on DFAT's website), launched in November 2015, sets three and five-year targets for the representation of women at senior levels and outlines a range of actions underway to address barriers to women's career progression, including:
- appointing a range of senior staff advocates, including at SES level
 - measuring managers' practice of inclusive leadership in performance appraisals
 - establishing a gender equality staff network
 - tracking gender disaggregated data for departmental processes including recruitment
 - workshops on mitigating unconscious bias for selection panels and managers
 - new policies on flexible work, taking an 'if not, why not?' approach.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 94

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) How many enterprise agreements apply to DFAT?
- b) Were former AusAID staff on a separate enterprise agreement?
- c) Have they been brought under a DFAT agreement?
- d) Are people working at the same levels being paid different salaries depending on what agreement they are or were covered by?
- e) If yes, please provide examples of salary disparities for typical positions.
- f) If yes, do these disparities have an impact on gender pay equity in the Department?

Answer

A. One.

B. Yes.

C. Yes.

D. Yes. Eight former AusAID employees remain on salaries higher than the equivalent DFAT salary. Two of these employees will see their salaries harmonised over the life of the current DFAT Enterprise Agreement. The remaining six employees' salaries will remain "frozen" until their salaries are harmonised over future Enterprise Agreements.

E. The current DFAT EL1 salary is \$110,129. Salaries of former AusAID employees which exceed this amount do so by between \$3,588 - \$9,497 per annum. The current DFAT EL2 salary is \$134,334. Salaries of former AusAID employees which exceed this amount do so by between \$2,200 - \$8,815 per annum.

F. No

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 95

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Austender contract notice CN3380519, published on 7 October 2016, details a contract for market research services. The contract is with Orima Research, the contract value is \$283,725 and the period is from 30 August 2016 to 30 June 2017.

- a) What market research services will Orima be providing under this contract?
- b) Will the market research include polling or focus group research?
- c) *If yes*, how many polls/focus groups will be conducted; over what time period; in what locations; what will be the sample size and demographics of the samples?
- d) How often will the Department be provided with reports about the market research?
- e) Will the Minister's office be provided with the market research findings?

Answer

A. Austender contract notice CN3380519 has been published with an incorrect value (\$283,725) for the period 30 August 2016 to 30 June 2017. The correct value for the period is \$90,000. The contract is between the department and ORIMA Research for an online feedback tool and reporting services as part of ongoing performance management activities.

B. No.

C. Not applicable.

D. Upwards feedback reports on managers will be provided to the department annually (February/March) and on an ad hoc basis as required.

E. No.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 96

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Austender contract notice CN3374676, published on 7 September 2016, details a contract for advertising with Ogilvy and Mather. The contract is value is \$107,184 and the period is from 2 September 2016 to 2 September 2017.

- a) What are the details of this advertising?

Answer

- A. Ogilvy and Mather (trading as Ethnic Communications or Etcom) was engaged to continue multicultural communications activity as part of the Smartraveller Phase IV advertising campaign.
- B. The multicultural communications program features tailored and adapted advertising material and community outreach designed to reach Chinese, Vietnamese, Indian, Indonesian, Filipino, Thai and Arabic-speaking communities with Smartraveller safety messages.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 97

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Austender contract notice CN3380474, published on 7 October 2016, gives details of a contract for the provision of accounting services by the Reserve Bank of Australia. The contract value is \$600,000 over a period from 26 September 2016 to 26 September 2019.

- a) What accounting services will the RBA provide to the Department under this contract?

Answer

The Contract between DFAT and the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), executed on 26 September 2016, is for the provision of Transactional Banking Services.

The Contract was incorrectly recorded as a limited tender for the provision of Accounting Services, rather than as an Open Tender for the provision of Banking and Investment Services.

These reporting errors have now been corrected on Austender.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 98

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Austender contract notice CN3382013, published on 18 October 2016, gives details of a contract for provision of hotels, lodging and meeting facilities by Burswood Property Trust. The contract value is \$444,889 over a period from 17 October 2016 to 4 May 2017.

- a) Who will be provided with hotels, lodging or meeting facilities under this contract, for what period and for what purposes?
- b) What type of facilities will be provided?
- c) At what hotel or other premises will these facilities be provided?

Answer

- A. Conference facilities will be provided for up to 500 delegates of the 54 participant countries and observers of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme to attend an Intersessional meeting from 1-4 May 2017.
- B. Conference facilities and catering will be provided.
- C. Conference facilities will be provided at the Crown Events and Conferences Centre, Burswood, Perth, Western Australia.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 99

Program: DFAT

Topic: Board Appointments

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Please provide a list of all appointments made to boards, authorities or advisory committees by portfolio Ministers or by delegates or agents of portfolio Ministers since 18 September 2013.
- b) For each appointment, provide the name of the appointee, the date and term of their appointment and the Minister responsible for the appointment.

Answer

We refer Senators to the information already provided by the foreign affairs and trade portfolio under Senate Order 15 (the 'Minchin Motion').

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 100

Program: DFAT

Topic: Timor-Leste

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) How long has the maritime boundary between Timor Leste and Australia been in dispute?
- b) When does the Government expect the dispute to be settled?
- c) What impact is the dispute having on investment certainty with respect to resources development in the Timor Sea?

Answer

- A. The question of delimiting a maritime boundary between Australia and Timor-Leste arose in 2002 when Timor-Leste gained independence. Since 2002, the parties have entered into three treaties to (jointly) develop the resources in the Timor Sea, as a provisional arrangement pending agreement on a permanent boundary.
- B. It is not possible to provide a timeframe, as settlement of the dispute will require agreement of both parties. Australia is engaging constructively in a conciliation under UNCLOS regarding maritime boundaries, which will run until 19 September 2017. The procedure for the Conciliation Commission issuing its report in the matter is set out in Annex V of UNCLOS: "The commission shall report within 12 months of its constitution. Its report shall record any agreements reached and, failing agreement, its conclusions on all questions of fact or law relevant to the matter in dispute and such recommendations as the commission may deem appropriate for an amicable settlement."
- C. Challenges to the existing legal regime have created uncertainty that has impacted on investor confidence in the Timor Sea.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 101

Program: DFAT

Topic: Bali Peace Park

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

It has been reported that the Bali Peace Park, which commemorates the 2002 Bali bombing, has fallen into a state of disrepair (“Fighting on to honour Bali victims”, Jewel Topsfield, The Age, 12 October 2016). One Australian living in Bali has reportedly written to MPs saying: “The whole memorial is filthy – tiles falling off, dirty water in the fountain, no flags flying any more, etc. If this was a war memorial we would be rightly outraged.”

- a) How did the Park’s state of disrepair come to the attention of the Department?
- b) Has the situation been remedied?
- c) What actions has DFAT taken to ensure the Park does not fall into such a state again and to address longer-term maintenance and upkeep?

Answer

- A. The Department is aware of the situation regarding the Bali Bombing Memorial, which is not the property of the Australian Government. The Australian Consulate-General in Bali is in regular contact with Indonesian authorities regarding its condition and maintenance issues.
- B. The Consulate-General visited the Bali Bombing Memorial for the 12 October anniversary service and found the memorial to be in a reasonable condition at that time – see photo below. However, ongoing and longer term maintenance continues to be an issue.
- C. Australian officials have raised concerns with the Governor of Bali and the Bupati of Badung Regency (where Kuta is located) to seek high-level support for making improvements. The Consulate-General continues to work with local authorities and the Isana Dewata Foundation (for victims of the Bali Bombings) to develop a long term plan for maintaining the site.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING



Photograph depicting condition of memorial site immediately prior to 12 October 2016 anniversary service.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 102

Program: DFAT

Topic: DPRK

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. Has any consideration been given to strengthening sanctions against North Korea in response to its latest tests of missiles and a nuclear device?
- B. Which departments or agencies are responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with Australia's existing sanctions on North Korea?
- C. What compliance activity does the Australian Government undertake to ensure the sanctions are effective?
- D. Have any Australian persons or entities breached the sanctions?
- E. DFAT's 2015-16 annual report states at page 106: "The department implemented targeted activities, including with close partners, to disrupt the illegal trade which financially underpins North Korea's nuclear program." What are the illegal trade activities that are of concern?
- F. What are the targeted actions which the Department has implemented to disrupt this trade?

Answer

- A. Yes.
- B. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) administers Australia's sanctions laws on behalf of the Australian Government. Where Australian individuals or entities are suspected of breaching UN Security Council and / or Australia's autonomous sanction regimes, DFAT has the power to issue notices requiring persons to give information or documentation, for the purpose of determining whether a sanctions law has been or is being complied with. All credible allegations of breaches of Australian sanction laws are referred to the Australian Federal Police (AFP). Australian Border Force also has the power to take action with respect to certain exports and imports that violate Australian sanction laws.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- C. The onus to comply with Australian sanction laws rests on individuals and entities. For a business entity, it is a defence if it has taken reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to avoid contravening an Australian sanctions law. DFAT undertakes regular outreach on Australian sanction laws for Australian businesses and individuals. Any credible allegations of breaches of Australian sanction laws are referred to the AFP.
- D. No Australian persons or entities have been prosecuted for breaching Australian sanction laws against the DPRK.
- E. “Illegal trade activities” refers to activities by North Korea that are in breach of UN Security Council resolutions, such as sales of conventional arms and any trade in nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction related materials.
- F. Australia has undertaken advocacy with, and provided technical assistance to, other governments to encourage their thorough implementation of UN sanctions and their incorporation of these measures into domestic legislation. Australia has also pursued with other countries particular instances where it is believed UNSC sanctions breaches may have occurred or to avoid possible future breaches.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 103

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iran

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Since the conclusion of the agreement between Iran and the P5+1 on Iran's nuclear program, what changes have there been to Australian sanctions on Iran?
- b) What changes have there been to United States sanctions on Iran?
- c) An Australian business representative, Mr Christopher Cox, has made representations to the Opposition about Australian banks not providing financial services to Australian firms seeking to do business in Iran. His concern is that some Australian banks will not provide exporters with SWIFT codes for Iranian banks and that, without, these codes Australian firms cannot transfer funds to customers and suppliers in Iran. Is DFAT aware of this issue and, if so, what information does DFAT have about why some Australian banks will not provide SWIFT codes and other services to Australian firms looking to do business with Iran?
- d) What is the Government doing to resolve the issue?

Answer

A. Since the conclusion of the agreement between Iran and the P5+1 on Iran's nuclear program, Australia has eased sanctions in relation to Iran.

On 16 January 2016, the Minister for Foreign Affairs suspended certain sanctions in relation to Iran through the *Autonomous Sanctions (Suspension of Sanctions – Iran) Instrument 2016* - <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L00046>. The Explanatory Statement outlining the measures that were suspended by that instrument is available at <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L00046/Explanatory%20Statement/Text>.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

These changes were then given effect by the *Autonomous Sanctions Amendment (Iran) Regulation 2016* – <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L00177> – which amended the *Autonomous Sanctions Regulations 2011*.

Australia implemented United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015), which endorsed the agreement between Iran and the P5+1 on Iran's nuclear program, through the *Charter of the United Nations (Sanctions – Iran) Regulation 2016* – <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L01181>. The Explanatory Statement outlining the changes that were made to Australian sanctions laws with respect to Iran by that regulation is available at <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L01181/Explanatory%20Statement/Text>.

In addition, Australia made minor changes to the *Charter of the United Nations (Sanctions – Iran) (Export Sanctioned Goods) List Determination 2008*. The Explanatory Statement outlining the changes made to Australian sanctions laws with respect to Iran by that instrument is available at <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L01208/Explanatory%20Statement/Text>.

Targeted financial sanctions on certain persons and entities were also removed consistent with the agreement between Iran and the P5+1 on Iran's nuclear program.

Full details of remaining sanctions can be found on the DFAT website at: <http://dfat.gov.au/international-relations/security/sanctions/sanctions-regimes/iran/Pages/iran.aspx>. A current list of designated persons and entities for Iran is available on the DFAT Consolidated List: <http://dfat.gov.au/international-relations/security/sanctions/pages/consolidated-list.aspx>.

B. This is a question best directed to authorities in the United States. The United States Department of Treasury provides the detail of changes made in the United States on its website: <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Pages/iran.aspx>. The DFAT website draws attention to the existence of other international sanctions regimes and the need for Australian individuals and companies to comply with those sanctions.

C. Yes, DFAT is aware that Australian banks are yet to establish correspondent banking relations with Iranian banks. The decision about whether to engage in transactions with a particular jurisdiction is a commercial and risk-management decision for the banks. In the context of Iran, key considerations include remaining United States sanctions, the corporate standards of Iran's banking sector in relation to the Basel III Accord, and the due diligence requirements set by the Financial Action Task Force.

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D. DFAT has been actively looking for a solution to this issue. Relevant Australian Government officials are engaging with Australian banks, Iranian officials, the United States Treasury and other US agencies on this matter. The agreement recently signed between Australia's Export Finance and Insurance Corporation and its Iranian counterpart seeks to enable closer cooperation on export finance pathways. We are also using every opportunity to encourage Iran on economic reform, particularly as regards its banking sector.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 104

Program: DFAT

Topic: United States

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

President Obama hosted a Leaders' Summit on the Global Refugee Crisis in New York on 20 September 2016.

- a) Who represented the Australian Government at the summit?
- b) Is it correct that international attendance at the Summit was contingent on making new and/or specific commitments?
- c) Please provide an outline of the commitments made by Australia and how/when they will be implemented.
- d) Please provide an overview of Australia's responsibilities in relation to the "New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants" and how those commitments are being advanced?

Answer

- A. The Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, and the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Peter Dutton MP, represented the Australian Government at President Obama's Leaders' Summit on Refugees.
- B. Yes.
- C. Prime Minister Turnbull announced a \$130 million commitment over 3 years to address the global refugee and displacement crisis, including:
 - a new multi-year partnership with UNHCR, including \$25 million of annual core unearmarked funding over the next 3 years [\$75 million in total]
 - \$45 million to support refugees and displaced populations in Afghanistan and Pakistan

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- : of this, \$39 million will be spent within Afghanistan (\$13 million per annum) with \$6 million allocated to Pakistan (\$2 million per annum)
- and a further \$10 million to the UN Peacebuilding Fund.

Partners and investments will be finalised shortly, with payments commencing in 2016-17. Information on Australia's resettlement commitments can be sought from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

- D. Australia joined all UN Member States to sign the New York Declaration, which confirmed the political will to protect the rights of, and share responsibility for assisting refugees and migrants. Through the New York Declaration, Australia committed to working with other UN Member States to negotiate and agree two robust Global Compacts – one on refugees and one on migrants – by 2018. Negotiations on the two Compacts have not yet begun.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 105

Program: DFAT

Topic: Brexit

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Has the Department done any analysis about the potential impact of Brexit on the ability of Australians to reside or work in Britain or in other EU countries? If so, what are the results of this analysis?
- b) Has the Department done any analysis of the potential impact of Brexit on the ability of Australian businesses to undertake business activities or investments in Britain or in other EU member countries? If so, what are the results of this analysis?

Answer

- A. No. Such analysis will be undertaken when the future parameters of the UK/EU economic relationship are clearer.
- B. No. As indicated in the response to A., any analysis of impacts on Australia's interests will be undertaken when the future parameters of the UK/EU economic relationship are clearer.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 106

Program: DFAT

Topic: Nuclear Disarmament

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Noting that the Minister for Foreign Affairs attended the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty's eighth ministerial meeting in New York in September, please provide an update on efforts to achieve the Treaty's entry into force.
- b) What are the main barriers to the Treaty entering into force?

Answer

- A. On 27 October 2016, UNGA71 First Committee adopted the annual Australian/New Zealand/Mexican resolution on the "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty", with 183 countries voting in favour and one (DPRK) voting against. On the same day, the committee also adopted a resolution on "United action with renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons", co-sponsored by Australia. Both resolutions urged all states to sign and ratify the CTBT and to maintain all existing moratoriums on nuclear weapon test explosions.

On 21 September 2016, the Minister for Foreign Affairs co-chaired with Japan's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Fumio Kishida, the Friends of the CTBT Ministerial meeting in New York which endorsed a Joint Ministerial Statement. https://www.ctbto.org/fileadmin/user_upload/public_information/2016/Ministerial_Meeting/Joint_Ministerial_Statement_21.09.2016_FIN_AL.pdf

On 6-7 July 2016, Australia contributed to a CTBT workshop in Nay Pyi Taw to provide information that would help Myanmar's ratification process. Myanmar deposited the instrument of ratification on 21 September 2016 and became the 166th country to join the CTBT.

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Australia helped coordinate a statement by the 12-nation Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative at the CTBT 20th anniversary ministerial meeting held on 13 June 2016 in Vienna.

<http://dfat.gov.au/international-relations/security/non-proliferation-disarmament-arms-control/nuclear-weapons/Pages/npdi-statement-on-strengthening-the-norm-against-nuclear-testing.aspx>

- B. The terms of the CTBT mean it can only enter into force after all 44 states listed under its Annex 2 have ratified the treaty. Currently five of the Annex 2 states have signed but not ratified (China, Egypt, Iran, Israel and the United States) and three have not signed (DPRK, India and Pakistan).

<https://www.ctbto.org/the-organization/ctbto-after-entry-into-force/entry-into-force/>

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 107

Program: DFAT

Topic: Nauru

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Have any foreign governments or international organisations raised concerns about the allegations of mistreatment of asylum seekers on Nauru published by Guardian Australia in August – allegations which are now subject to inquiry by the Senate’s legal and constitutional affairs references committee?
- b) How do these reports affect Australia’s standing in the international community?
- c) How to reports like this affect Australia’s credibility when it speaks out in international forums about human rights or treatment of refugees?
- d) What impact will these reports have on Australia’s campaign for election to the UN Human Rights Council?

Answer

- A. One foreign government and two international organisations have raised the Guardian Australia article.
- B. This is a matter for others to judge.
- C. This is a matter for others to judge.
- D. This is a matter for others to judge.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 108

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Noting the Minister's media release of 15 May 2016 concerning the establishment of a Global Watch Office, when was the Secretary of the Department made aware that the Minister intended to establish a Global Watch Office?
- b) What is the purpose of the Global Watch Office?
- c) How is the \$8 million cost of the Global Watch Office allocated over each of the four years of the forward estimates?
- d) What will the \$8 million be spent on?
- e) Is any of the \$8 million classified as Official Development Assistance?
- f) Has the Department been provided with additional funding for the Global Watch Office? If so, how much additional funding?
- g) If the Department has not been provided with \$8 million in additional funding, what other funding or activities will be reduced to meet the cost of the Global Watch Office?
- h) Where within the Department's organisational structure will the Global Watch Office sit?
- i) Who has responsibility for the establishment of the Global Watch Office?
- j) How many full time equivalent staff will be assigned to the Global Watch Office?

Answer

- A. During the 2016-17 Budget process.
- B. The Global Watch Office (GWO) will strengthen Australia's capacity to monitor and respond to emerging overseas events on a 24-hour basis. It will provide first advice to government and affected Australians through around the clock monitoring of fast-moving global situations.
- C.

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	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Departmental Operating	0.4m	2.5m	2.5m	2.6m

D. Funding is for staffing and associated costs.

E. No.

F. Yes. \$8 million.

G. N/A.

H. Consular and Crisis Management Division

I. Consular and Crisis Management Division

J. 15

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 109

Program: DFAT

Topic: New Colombo Plan

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Noting that the current New Colombo Plan (NCP) Program Guidelines provide:
“The Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Tourism and International Education will be advised of outcomes prior to the notification of successful and unsuccessful applicants,” for each completed NCP round, have there been any occasions on which a Minister has sought to vary the outcomes approved by Program Delegates?
- b) If yes, please provide details.

Answer

A. No

B. NA

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 110

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Please confirm whether Australia's aid budget is now 0.23 per cent of GNI?
- b) Please provide an updated trajectory of aid as a share of GNI across the forward estimates and in ten years' time – that is the projected aid share of GNI in 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2026-27.
- c) Is Australia's aid budget is now at a historic low as a proportion of GNI?
- d) Has the aid budget been reduced by 30 per cent since 2012-13? If not, by what percentage has the aid budget been reduced?
- e) Can the Department confirm that the Contribution to Global Health Programs, Contribution to Global Education Programs, and the Contribution to the Green Climate Fund have all been cut by more than 60 per cent since last year's Budget? What is the breakdown of these programs by project?
- f) Can the Department confirm that sectoral allocations for health and education have fallen steeply while infrastructure and agriculture have either increased or remained stable? What is the reason for that change in sectoral allocations?

Answer

- a) Correct.
- b) 2017-18: 0.22%, 2018-19: 0.22%, 2019-2020:21%. Figures beyond the forward estimates are not available.
- c) Yes (since data first available in 1974-75).
- d) From 2012-13 to 2016-17 the aid budget has decreased by 24.2%.
- e) There has been no reduction to Australian commitments. Payments align with multi-year replenishment schedules.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Global Education Programs relates to the Global Partnership for Education only. Green Climate fund relates to the Green Climate Fund only. Global Health Programs is comprised of:

Program	2016-17 Budget Estimate
International Finance Facility for Immunisation	14.5
GAVI Alliance	10.0
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria	10.0
Other International Health	21.6
Total	56.1

- f) Estimated expenditure on the investment priorities of Health, Education, Infrastructure and Trade, and Agriculture, Fisheries and Water are:

Investment Priority	2015-16 percentage of aid program	2016-17 percentage of aid program
Health	14.3%	13.0%
Education	19.4%	19.0%
Infrastructure and Trade	13.8%	15.2%
Agriculture, Fisheries and Water	8.0%	8.6%

These sectoral allocations reflect the changed strategic priorities for the aid program, including a stronger focus on economic growth, and engaging the private sector as the engine of growth, and more targeted investments for human development, to improve the quality of education and services. The Department is also providing more support to partner governments to better utilise their own resources for development and finding new and innovative ways to address protracted development challenges in the region.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 111

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Comparing the tables of committed funds provided in estimates in October 2015 and February and May of this year:

- a) What contracts have been altered, renegotiated or otherwise changed in the Kiribati program to create \$1m in savings? What was the impact of this change on operations and program delivery?
- b) What contracts have been altered, renegotiated or otherwise changed in Myanmar to create \$12m in savings? What was the impact of this change on operations and program delivery?
- c) What contracts have been altered, renegotiated or otherwise changed in Mongolia to create \$3m in savings? What was the impact of this change on operations and program delivery?
- d) What contracts have been altered, renegotiated or otherwise changed in the Cook Islands program to create \$10,000 in savings in the 2015-16 year? What was the impact of this change on operations and program delivery?
- e) What contracts have been altered, renegotiated or otherwise changed in the Mongolian program to create over half a million dollars in savings in the 2015-16 year? What was the impact of this change on operations and program delivery?
- f) What contracts have been altered, renegotiated or otherwise changed in Bhutan's program to create \$30,000 in savings in the 2015-16 year? What was the impact of this change on operations and program delivery?

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

Changes in the committed figures provided at each point in time reflect the planning and implementation of country programs over the 8-month period.

- a) **Kiribati program:** Reflects a variation in estimated scholarship costs. In April 2016 the Kiribati Education Improvement Program (KEIP) agreement was extended. There was no change in operations under the scholarships program and the education program was extended for a further 3.75 years.
- b) **Myanmar Program:** As advised on 11 February 2016 (QoN 173), the Myanmar program was able to identify savings under the following programs: the Myanmar Education Consortium, resulting in a narrowing of the program's scope to focus on ethnic education systems; reduced support to Improve Maternal and Child Health, Communicable Diseases and Strengthen the Health Systems, had no impact on already programmed grants and activities; and reduction in funding to ACIAR had no impact on the activities' operations and programming, as the funding shortfall was met by ACIAR itself.
- c) and e) **Mongolia Program:** the agreement for the Australia Mongolia Extractives Program was renegotiated, creating savings. The impact of this change on operations and program delivery was that the project scope was altered to focus on governance, regulation and stakeholder engagement by mining related government agencies.
- d) **Cook Islands program:** no contracts were altered. The difference relates to savings as a result of a small underspend made under the Cook Islands Support for Disability Inclusive Development Program. There was no impact or change on operations and program delivery.
- e) See c) above.
- f) **Bhutan program:** the slight fluctuation in the Bhutan commitment level over the period is reflective of over estimating scholarship costs. There was no impact or change on operations and program delivery.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 112

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid - Fiji

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Noting the Department's response to Budget Estimates Question on Notice number 1, please provide an update on the process and timeline for finalising this tender and the implementation of the facility.
- b) Please provide a copy of documents associated with the "detailed request for tender" that was scheduled to be released in early to mid-September.
- c) How many tenderers have applied to the Department?

Answer

- a) The facility tender was advertised on AusTender on 13 May 2016 via a two-step tender process. The first step was to call for submissions for Expressions of Interest (EOI). The second step was to release a Request for Tender (RFT). The deadline for submissions for EOI closed on 28 June 2016. The shortlisted companies were then invited to participate in the RFT. Responses were due by 10 October 2016. The Department is currently evaluating these responses. We expect to notify the preferred tenderer and commence contract negotiations in December 2017, with a view to the Facility being operational by January 2017.
- b) The Request for Tender document is attached.
- c) Nine companies submitted an EOI, and five companies submitted a RFT.



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

DFAT RFT (Administered funding) DFAT-29

REQUEST FOR TENDER ('RFT')

FOR THE PROVISION OF FIJI PROGRAM SUPPORT FACILITY

Date Published 08 September 2016

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PART 1 – Activity Specific Tender Conditions

The Tender Particulars in the Table below provide the key dates and details related to this RFT.

1 Tender Particulars

Description	Date/Details
Closing Time: 2:00pm noon (AEST) local time Canberra, Australian Capital Territory	Tuesday 4 October 2016
Mode of Submission:	Electronically via AusTender at https://tenders.gov.au before the Tender Closing Time
Number of Copies of Tender and page limits:	For electronic Tender lodgement: Tender Schedule 1 – One (1) electronic copy, 10 pages plus Annexes; Tender Schedule 2 – One (1) electronic copy; Tender Schedule 3 – One (1) electronic copy; Tender Schedule 4 – One (1) electronic copy.
Contact (for RFT Enquiries):	FPSF@dfat.gov.au
Industry Briefing:	Tuesday 20 September 2016
Enquiry Cut-Off Date: 2:00pm Canberra Time (AEST)	Thursday 22nd September 2016
Last Addendum Date:	Tuesday 27 th September 2016
File format for Electronic Tenders:	Pricing Tables for Tender Schedule 2 in Excel format Tender Schedule 1 response in Machine Readable PDF(Portable Document Format)
Tender Validity Period:	180 days
AusTender Help Desk:	Telephone: 1300 651 698 International: +61 2 6215 1558 Email: tenders@finance.gov.au
Documents attached to RFT for Information:	The following documents are available at DFAT's website Australia-Fiji Civil Society Engagement Strategy The link to the website is below: http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-fiji-civil-society-engagement-strategy.aspx
Minimum Content and Format Requirements: Format requirements detailed at Clause 4.3	(a) submission of the following substantially completed Tender Schedules: ❖ Tender Schedule 1 ❖ Tender Schedule 2 ❖ Tender Schedule 3 ❖ Tender Schedule 4

Introduction

2 Description of Goods and/or Services

- 2.1 DFAT requires the services of a Contractor to manage an integrated facility that supports the delivery of Australia's aid programs in Fiji and Tuvalu through a consolidation of implementation arrangements.
- 2.2 The facility will provide technical assistance, manage funds and provide logistical and administrative services for programs across the breadth of the DFAT's Aid Investment Plan in Fiji and possibly Tuvalu. The facility will also support the integration of the cross cutting issues of civil society engagement, gender equality and disability inclusiveness in all programs and activities in Fiji and Tuvalu.
- 2.3 The facility will be the mechanism for implementing a number of major bilateral programs in Fiji, including but not limited to:
 - 2.3.1 Insitutional Partnerships Program;
 - 2.3.2 Health Sector Support Program; and
 - 2.3.3 Support for Fiji and Tuvalu Scholarships Administration
- 2.4 The new facility will be known as the Fiji Program Support Facility (FPSF) and will be contracted for this purpose.

3 Term of Contract and Option Period

- 3.1 DFAT proposes that any Contract arising from this RFT will have an initial term of five (5) years, with an option to extend the Contract for a further term of three (3) years, exercisable at the discretion of DFAT.

4 Tender Composition

Part Tenders

- 4.1 Tenders offering to provide only part of the Requirements will not be considered by DFAT.

Compliance with Commonwealth Policies

- 4.2 Tenderers must comply with the following Australian Aid Program Policies available at www.dfat.gov.au:
 - (a) *'Promoting Opportunities for All: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment'* (November 2011);
 - (b) *'Development for All 2015-2020: Strengthening disability-inclusive development in Australia's aid program'*;
 - (c) *'Environmental Management Guide for Australia's Aid Program'* and *'Environment Protection Policy'* (2014);
 - (d) *'Child Protection Policy'* (2013);
 - (e) *'Family Planning and the Aid Program: Guiding Principles'* (2009); and
 - (f) other policies as published or as notified to Tenderers by DFAT.

Response Requirements – Overview

4.3 Schedule Responses - Format Requirements

- (a) Tenderers should not provide any pages additional to the page limit – additional pages will be deleted and not evaluated. Pages will be counted from the first page so tenderers should not include cover pages with colour images.
- (b) Tenderers should not provide additional material of any kind such as brochures, letters, summaries, photographs or promotional material – such material will be deleted and not evaluated.
- (c) All tender Schedules should be submitted using Ariel font (or equivalent), no smaller than size 11 (except table notes).

Tender Lodgement

- 4.4 Tenders must be lodged electronically via AusTender in accordance with Part 2 of this RFT.

5 Industry Briefing

- 5.1 An industry briefing will be held on Tuesday 20 September 2016 via teleconference. Details will be provided to tenderers via an Addendum.
- 5.2 Attendance at the industry briefing is optional and is not a Condition for Participation in the RFT process. Tenderers will be required to indicate if they intend to attend the industry briefing by providing written details of the name, company and position of each person attending to the RFT Contact email. In addition, tenderers who require a one on one meeting via teleconference are to provide this to the RFT Contact email as soon as possible prior to the industry briefing.
- 5.3 Copies of any presentations and responses to tender process questions provided at the briefing will be provided to all Tenderers through AusTender following the briefing. Individual briefings will be provided immediately following the broader industry briefing. Tenderers are to note that questions of clarification for their own bid, may not necessarily be provided to all Tenderers.
- 5.4 Any information provided at the industry briefing will be provided subject to the terms and conditions of this RFT. Tenderers must not rely on a statement made at the industry briefing as amending or adding to this RFT unless confirmed in writing via an Addendum.

6 Tender Evaluation

- 6.1 DFAT will assess Tenders in accordance with the process outlined below.

Conformity and Compliance Screening

- 6.2 DFAT will undertake conformity and compliance screening of Tenders received by DFAT to ensure that they:
- (a) comply with the Mandatory Minimum Form and Content Requirements in **Clause 4** in **Part 2** of the RFT; and
 - (b) comply with the Mandatory Conditions for Participation in **Clause 5** in **Part 2** of the RFT;

DFAT will refer Tenders that comply with this **Clause 6** to technical assessment by the Evaluation Committee ('EC').

Technical Assessment

- 6.3 DFAT will convene an EC that may comprise DFAT representative(s), independent specialists and representatives of the Partner Government at DFAT's sole discretion.
- 6.4 The EC will conduct an assessment of each Tenderer's technical proposal (**Tender Schedule 1**) against the selection criteria identified in **Clause 7** in **Part 1**. In conducting its assessment, the EC may take into account referee reports, performance information and any other relevant information.
- 6.5 Following the initial technical assessment of Tenders by the EC, Tenderers will be invited to interview. Tenderers will be advised seven (7) days prior to interview. It is expected that interviews will be held in **Canberra**, Australia around **11-14 October 2016** (actual dates to be confirmed). Interview dates, format and duration will be confirmed prior to interview. Duration may be up to two (2) hours. Note: DFAT does not accept handouts during evaluation interviews.
- 6.6 The following Tenderer Personnel must attend the interview and will be required to answer questions.
- (a) Contractor Representative;
 - (b) In-country Facility Director;
 - (c) Monitoring and Evaluation Leader.

If nominated Tenderer Personnel are unable to attend the interview, DFAT may in its absolute discretion arrange a videoconference or teleconference interview.

- 6.7 Tenderers may also bring one (1) additional employee to the interview as an observer.
- 6.8 Presentations by Tenderers at interview and/or site visits may be requested/conducted by DFAT as required, subject to all tenderers being given the same opportunities. DFAT has a discretion during the evaluation of Tenders to hold discussions and site visits with any or all Tenderers, including any proposed sub-contractors of a Tenderer, in order to seek further clarification of their Tender.
- 6.9 At the conclusion of the EC's technical assessment of Tenders, the EC will make a recommendation to DFAT on the technical suitability of Tenderers.

Price Assessment

- 6.10 DFAT will undertake a price assessment of each Tenderer's financial proposal (**Tender Schedule 2**) in accordance with **Clause 8** in **Part 1** to identify tenders that are cost effective. This may include identifying any risks associated with tendered pricing. DFAT may engage an independent specialist to assist with this assessment.

Financial Viability Assessment

- 6.11 DFAT may undertake an assessment of each Tenderer's financial viability documents (**Tender Schedule 3**) in accordance with **Clause 9** in **Part 1** to confirm the capacity of the highest ranked Tenderer(s) to meet its contractual obligations.

Value for Money Assessment

- 6.12 DFAT will undertake an overall assessment of Value for Money taking into consideration:
- (a) the Technical Assessment;
 - (b) the Price Assessment;
 - (c) any risks to DFAT posed by the Tender, including the Financial Viability and degree of compliance with the draft Contract; and

- (d) any other matters that DFAT considers relevant.

Compliance with RFT Requirements and Draft Contract

- 6.13 DFAT will undertake an assessment of the level of risk presented by each Tenderer. As part of this risk assessment, DFAT will undertake an assessment of each Tenderer's compliance with the terms and conditions of the Draft Contract as stated at paragraph 13 of Statement C: Declaration by Tenderer; compliance generally with this RFT; and any other risks identified in the evaluation process.
- 6.14 Tenderers must accurately complete the required forms for Tenderer's Details, Identifying Confidential Information, Declaration By Tenderer, and Work Health And Safety.

Tender Recommendation

- 6.15 Following the Value for Money Assessment, DFAT will make a recommendation for further action to the appropriate Delegate.
- 6.16 Tenderers should be aware that the Delegate is not bound to accept the EC recommendation and may direct that further action be taken in accordance with this RFT.
- 6.17 At any stage DFAT may seek clarification of any technical, pricing or other matter and may seek a Best and Final Offer in respect of the offer provided by each shortlisted Tenderer.

7 TENDER SCHEDULE 1: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL
(Response to evaluation criteria)

7.1 Tender Schedule 1 of the Tender must contain:

- (a) a technical proposal that separately addresses each of the evaluation criteria set out in **Clause 7.2** below; and
- (b) **Annexes 1 – 6** as specified below.

7.2 Evaluation Criteria

In responding to the evaluation criteria, tenderers must clearly outline both:

- (a) their past experience of delivering similar work (sectors/country) including the role they played, the value they added and what the critical success factors were to achieving results and outlining how lessons learnt were applied, and
- (b) their specific approach to delivering the FPSF.

Criterion 1: Operational Approach – the suitability of the Tenderer's approach to program delivery.
Weighting 60%

Tenderers must demonstrate how they will:

- a) manage a Facility that is flexible and responsive; capable of continuing existing programs, designing new programs, responding to opportunity where it arises and scaling back when anticipated outcomes are not forthcoming – this should include clear statements on Facility decision making and the roles and functions of key stakeholders; and

- b) assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the FPSF model. Tenderers must propose operational performance indicators for the FPSF, and describe what processes will apply if indicators are not met.

Criterion 2: Organisational Structure and Personnel for Managing FPSF – demonstrated organisational capability, supported by detailed planning, to provide assurance of effective implementation of the Tenderer's approach.

Weighting 40%

Tenderers must provide:

- a) A plan for draft mobilisation covering the first six months of the FPSF, including tenderer's approach to staff recruitment and retention; and
- b) Details for four (4) senior nominated personnel for the FPSF Management Support Unit:
 - i. the Contractor Representative;
 - ii. In-country Facility Leader;
 - iii. Monitoring and Evaluation Leader; and
 - iv. Tenderer's will nominate the final position.

Organisation Charts (Annex 1)

In support of its response to Criterion 2 (Organisational Structure and Personnel), the Tenderer must provide in the format specified in the following details:

- a) Organisation chart showing the staffing structure for the FPSF Management Support Unit, showing the full staffing including reporting lines and the number of inputs for each person, include the Contractor Representative;
- b) Terms of Reference (TORS) for each nominated personnel up to two (2) pages;
- c) A curriculum vitae for each nominated personnel of up to three (3) pages; and
- d) Two (2) written references of up to two (2) pages.

*Note to tenderers details in Annex 1 will be used as part of the assessment to Criterion 2.

8 TENDER SCHEDULE 2 – Financial Proposal

General Requirements for Pricing

- 8.1 The Financial Proposal must be consistent with **Clause 10** (Tender Prices) in **Part 2** of this RFT.
- 8.2 Tenderers must complete the Price Tables as detailed below.
- 8.3 DFAT's strong preference is to link payment of services directly to performance or upon achievements of key milestones. During contract negotiations with the preferred tenderer, DFAT will incorporate a performance based payment regime to the Contract. As part of their Financial Proposal, Tenderers must provide a proposed performance based payment model for consideration by DFAT.
- 8.4 Any qualifications or assumptions relating to prices must be specifically stated together with a description of how the financial proposal links to the technical proposal to provide value for money over the life of the Program.

Compliance with Adviser Remuneration Framework

- 8.5 Tenderers must ensure that all Advisers are assigned a Job Level and Professional Discipline Category in accordance with the Adviser Remuneration Framework. Adviser Remuneration Framework defines DFAT's policies and procedures for determining the remuneration of commercially contracted international aid advisers and outlines requirements for implementing and monitoring these policies. DFAT staff (and Managing Contractors engaging Advisers on DFAT's behalf) must work within the Framework, as amended from time to time.
- 8.6 The Adviser Remuneration Framework rates as detailed in the Draft Contract will apply for the term of the Contract.
- 8.7 The long term rates specified in the Adviser Remuneration Framework are inclusive of annual leave allowances of up to twenty (20) days per annum and personal leave allowances of up to ten (10) days per annum, to accrue on a pro rata basis per twelve (12) months' continuous engagement on the Project. Tenderers must detail in the Price Tables below the leave entitlements of nominated Specified Personnel.
- 8.8 If leave entitlements exceed the allowances listed above, the Tenderer must provide a justification and description of how the Tenderer will ensure, during Specified Personnel absences, the continued quality of Services. The cost of any additional leave will be accounted for by a pro rata reduction in the relevant Adviser's remuneration rate. Tenderers should note that leave entitlements and the management strategy may be assessed by the EC or DFAT as part of the technical evaluation.

Management Fees

- 8.9 Tenderers must provide details of all Management Fees related to provision of the Facility Services covering known and proposed programs for the initial five (5) year contract period, by completing Table 1 (Management Fees) below.

Long Term Adviser Costs/Personnel (ARF and non-ARF)

- 8.10 Tenderers must provide details of all Long Term Adviser Costs/Personnel related to provision of the Goods and/or Services and in accordance with the ARF by completing Table 2 (Program Staffing/Adviser Costs) below.

Short Term Adviser/Personnel Costs (ARF and non -ARF)

- 8.11 Tenderers must provide details of all Short Term Adviser/Personnel Costs related to provision of the Goods and/or Services by completing Table 2 (Program Staffing/Adviser Costs) below.

Adviser Support Costs

- 8.12 Tenderers must provide details of all Adviser Support Costs related to the provision of the Goods and/or Services by completing Table 3 (Adviser Support Costs) below.

Operational Costs

- 8.13 Tenderers must provide details of all Operation Costs related to the provision of the Goods and/or Services by completing Table 4 (Operational Costs) below.

Tender Price

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility
Part 1 – Activity Specific Tender Conditions

- 8.14 Tenderers must provide a total Tender price comprising the sum of Tables 1–4 by completing Table 5 (Tender Price).
- 8.15 Tenders must comply with DFAT's Adviser Remuneration Framework. DFAT will also assess each Tender's compliance with DFAT's Adviser Remuneration Framework available at www.dfat.gov.au. If a Tenderer proposes an Adviser whose rate exceeds the Market Reference Point (MRP) or whose remuneration package is otherwise inconsistent with the Adviser Remuneration Framework, DFAT will notify the Tenderer that it has five business days (or such longer period as DFAT may, at its discretion, allow) to take action either by:
- (a) proposing an alternative team member; or
 - (b) renegotiating the Adviser's remuneration package such that the rate does not exceed the MRP and it otherwise complies with the Adviser Remuneration Framework.

Price Tables

Table 1: Management Fees

Management Fees	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Annual Management Fee					
Total Management Fees					

For the

Table 1A: Breakdown of Management Fees

Item	Year 1 (AUD)	Year 2 (AUD)	Year 3 (AUD)	Year 4 (AUD)	Year 5 (AUD)
profits, including commercial margins and mark-up for personnel and project management;					
financial management costs, including the cost of an independent annual audit of the Project and financing costs, if any;					
costs of Contractor administrative and head office staff, including the cost of a Contractor Representative, if any;					
insurance costs as required by this Contract, but exclusive of the costs of medical insurance for Advisers;					
taxation, as applicable;					
costs of complying with the Contractor's reporting and liaison obligations under this Contract;					
costs associated with all personnel briefings in Australia or in-country;					
costs associated with any sub-contracting and procurement of goods and services;					
costs, including domestic and international travel, accommodation, per diems, and local					
transport costs where required for all Contractor Head Office personnel; any other overheads required to perform the Services in accordance with this Contract;					
recruitment costs;					
all escalators for the Term of the Contract;					
any allowance for risks and contingencies;					
all other costs not specified (tenderer to detail)					
TOTAL					

Table 2: Program Staffing/Adviser Costs (ARF and non-ARF)

Position (Short Term / Long term)	Name	ARF Rate or Non-ARF (as maybe applicable)	If Applicable Total ARF Allowance s	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Maximum Amount Payable (AUD)
				Inputs (day/month)	Inputs (day/month)	Inputs (day/month)	Inputs (day/month)	Inputs (day/month)	
Long Term Adviser Cost (ARF)									
Tenderer to specify position(s) and indicate classification (i.e. Short Term/Long Term)	If applicable, Tenderers to specify.	As maybe applicable Tenderers to specify.	If applicable, Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.
Long Term Personnel Costs (non-ARF)									
Tenderer to specify position(s) and indicate classification (i.e. Short Term/Long Term)	If applicable, Tenderers to specify.	As maybe applicable Tenderers to specify.	If applicable, Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.
Short Term Adviser Costs (ARF)									
Tenderer to specify position(s) and indicate classification (i.e. Short Term/Long Term)	If applicable, Tenderers to specify.	As maybe applicable Tenderers to specify.	If applicable, Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.
Short Term Personnel Costs (non-ARF)									
Tenderer to specify position(s) and indicate classification (i.e. Short Term/Long Term)	If applicable, Tenderers to specify.	As maybe applicable Tenderers to specify.	If applicable, Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.	Tenderers to specify.
Total Program Staffing / Adviser Costs (excluding GST)									

Table 3: Adviser Support Costs

Category	Number of Inputs	Value per Input (AUD)	Total Value (AUD)
Housing Costs			
Mobilisation Costs			
Demobilisation Costs			
Airfares			
Hotel Accommodation			
Travelling Allowance			
International Communication Costs			
Compulsory Arrival and Departure Taxes and Travel to and from Airport (e.g. taxis)			
Transport Costs			
Medical Insurance Costs			
Security Costs			
Total Adviser Support Costs (excluding GST)			

Table 4: Operational Costs

Item	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total Value (AUD)
	(AUD)	(AUD)	(AUD)	(AUD)	(AUD)	
Office Rental and Utilities						
Office Maintenance Costs including repairs, renovations and security						
Vehicle Costs						
Information Technology and Equipment Costs						
Office Consumables						
<i>Tenderer to specify category(s) and add rows as necessary</i>						
Total (excluding GST)						

Table 5: Tender Price

Management Fees Payable	[insert total from Table 1]
Long Term Adviser Costs (ARF)	[insert applicable sub-total from Table 2]
Long Term Personnel Costs (non ARF)	[insert applicable sub-total from Table 2]
Short Term Adviser Costs (ARF)	[insert applicable sub-total from Table 2]
Short Term Personnel Costs (non ARF)	[insert applicable sub-total from Table 2]
Adviser Support Costs	[insert total from Table 3]
Operational Costs	[insert total from Table 4]
Tender Price	[insert total from Tables 1-4]
Tender Price GST	<i>Maximum of 10% of the Tender Price</i>

9 TENDER SCHEDULE 3 – FINANCIAL VIABILITY

- 9.1 DFAT may appoint an independent financial assessor to evaluate Tenderers' financial capacity.
- 9.2 Tenderers must be prepared to provide the financial assessor with details of relevant financial data and other relevant information concerning the Tenderer, if so requested by the financial assessor. Financial data and other information may include, but will not be limited to:
- (a) complete annual financial statements for the last three (3) financial years, with all supporting notes;
 - (b) descriptions of any recent changes of substance in the Tenderer's financial position that are not reflected in the most recent financial information;
 - (c) details of any other tendering opportunities currently being pursued by the tendering entity or related entities within the group; and
 - (d) details of any significant events, matters or circumstances that may significantly affect the Tenderer's capacity to perform the Services.
- 9.3 To facilitate the financial assessment process, Tenderers must provide the following details in **Tender Schedule 3**:
- (a) The name, telephone number and email addresses of the tendering entity's nominated contact point for the financial assessment.
- 9.4 Failure by a Tenderer to provide financial information when requested by the financial assessor may result in the Tender not being assessed further.
- 9.5 The financial information of Tenderers will be treated confidentially.
- 9.6 The financial information of Tenderers will be treated as confidential, but the financial assessor's report on the financial capacity of each Tenderer to undertake the Contract may be provided to either the EC or the Delegate.

10 TENDER SCHEDULE 4: TENDERER STATEMENTS

STATEMENT A: TENDERER'S DETAILS

10.1 Tenderer Entity Details

DETAIL REQUIRED	TENDERER'S RESPONSE:
Tenderer's Legal Entity Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole trader <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Company <input type="checkbox"/> Other entity type (provide details):
Tenderer Name This must be the name of the legal person (entity) making the Tender. This will also be the name of the contracting party if applicable.	
Australian Company Number (ACN) /Australian Registered Body Number (ARBN) and Australian Business Number (ABN) (as applicable)	
Registered for GST?	YES/NO (Delete one)
Registered Business Address The official business address in respect of the legal entity making the Tender.	
Commercial Business Address The address to be used for notices given under any contract (if different to the Registered Business Address).	
Is the Tenderer a small to medium enterprise? A small to medium enterprise is an entity employing fewer than 200 full time equivalents, including employees of all other associated businesses.	YES/NO (Delete one) If YES, indicate Current Number of Employees:
Tenderer Contact Provide details of the person who is the Tenderer's point of contact for the purposes of this RFT.	Name: Position/Title: Address: Telephone Number: Email:
Consortia Members: Provide the details of any Tenderer Consortia Members.	Trading Name: ABN: Contact Details: Role of the Consortium Member in providing the Requirements:

STATEMENT B: IDENTIFYING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

- 10.2 The Tenderer must identify in Table 1(Confidential Information) below any information that it will be providing during the RFT process that it considers should be protected as confidential by DFAT and provide valid reasons which satisfy each of the following criterion:
- (a) Criterion 1: that the information to be protected must be identified in specific rather than general terms;
 - (b) Criterion 2: that the information must be reasonably perceived as of being of a confidential nature;
 - (c) Criterion 3: that disclosure would be likely to cause detriment to the contractor or other third party; and
 - (d) Criterion 4: that the information was provided under an understanding that it would remain confidential.
- 10.3 Further information on the above criteria can be found in the publication ‘Guidance on Confidentiality of Contractors’ (Feb 2003) available at: www.finance.gov.au
- 10.4 Procurement information should not be classified as confidential unless there is a sound reason informed by legal principle, to maintain the confidentiality of the information.
- 10.5 If no Information is to be treated as confidential, indicate by entering “None at this time” in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Confidential Information

Tender Information	Reason(s) why this information should be protected as Confidential Information	Proposed Period of Confidentiality

STATEMENT C: DECLARATION BY TENDERER

I, [insert name, address], do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

[insert name and ACN/ARBN/ABN of Tenderer] ('Tenderer'):

- 1 The Tenderer offers to supply the Requirements:
 - (a) described in RFT No DFAT-29 for the provision of the Fiji Program Support Facility issued by the Commonwealth of Australia represented by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ('DFAT'); and
 - (b) for the Tender Price set out in the Tender.
- 2 The Tenderer confirms its capacity to Tender and that there is no restriction under any relevant law to prevent it from Tendering.
- 3 The Tenderer confirms that the Tender does/does not (Delete inapplicable response) comply with all the requirements in **Clause 4** (Mandatory Minimum Form and Content Requirements) in **Part 2** of the RFT.
- 4 The Tenderer confirms that the Tender does/does not (Delete inapplicable response) comply with all relevant Parts of **Clause 5** (Mandatory Conditions for Participation) in **Part 2** of the RFT.
- 5 The Tenderer confirms that the Tenderer is/is not (Delete inapplicable response) a Relevant Employer under the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012*(Cth) ('WGE Act') and a copy of the letter of compliance with the [WGE Act](#) is/is not (Delete inapplicable response) **attached** to this Declaration.
- 6 The Tenderer confirms that a copy of the Tenderer's letter of compliance with [the Building Code](#) is/is not **attached** (Delete inapplicable response) in accordance with **Statement D**. Delete if not applicable
- 7 The Tenderer acknowledges that it has received all Addenda to this RFT issued by DFAT and posted on AusTender in accordance with **Clause 17** (Tenderer Enquiries) in **Part 2** of the RFT.
- 8 The Tenderer warrants that it holds all necessary insurances in accordance with **Clause 34** (Insurances) in **Part 2** of the RFT and the Draft Contract and that if selected as the Preferred Tenderer to provide the Goods and/or Services to DFAT, it can supply DFAT with a formal Certificate of Currency from its insurer on demand.
- 9 In accordance with **Clause 41** (Conflict of Interest) in **Part 2** of the RFT the Tenderer warrants that, at the time of lodging this Tender, no actual or potential conflict of interest exists which could affect the performance of its obligations if the Tenderer were to enter into a Contract with DFAT.

or

The Tenderer discloses the following details of potential conflicts of interest, in relation to providing the goods/services:

Tenderer's response: [Tenderer to enter details here – Tenderers should note the Definition of Conflict of Interest in **Part 2** of the RFT]

- 10 The Tenderer confirms that it has/has not (Delete inapplicable response) **attached** all required Letters of Association to **Tender Schedule 1** in accordance with **Clause 7** (Associate Tenders) in **Part 2** of the RFT.

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Part 1 – Activity Specific Tender Conditions

- 11 The Tenderer warrants that it is not currently the subject of any Court proceedings for debt recovery, bankruptcy, insolvency or breach of contract;
- 12 The Tenderer warrants that it is not currently the subject of any formal or informal investigation or temporary suspension by the World Bank or any similar donor of development funding which may lead to it becoming listed on the World Bank List or a Relevant List.
- 13 The Tenderer confirms that it has read and understood all clauses and paragraphs of the Draft Contract and in so far as the paragraph or clause creates a contractual condition or obligation on the Tenderer, the Tenderer makes its offer to DFAT on that condition or under that obligation and in so far as the paragraph or clause specifies a characteristic or performance to be met by the Tenderer or its Specified Personnel when providing the Requirements, the Tenderer's offer is to provide the Requirement as specified. The Tenderer confirms that it does/does not (Delete inapplicable response) comply with the Draft Contract at **Part 3** of this RFT. If the Tenderer does not comply with the Draft Contract, please specify the clauses or paragraphs of the Draft Contract with which the Tenderer is non-compliant.

Tenderer's response: [Tenderer to enter details of non-compliance with the Draft Contract here – Draft Contract clause number, Tenderer's compliance comments]

- 14 The Tenderer consents to DFAT undertaking all relevant checks in accordance with this RFT.
- 15 The Tender remains open for acceptance for a period of [insert period], which is not less than the Tender validity period.
- 16 Neither the Tenderer nor any of its officers, employees, agents, and subcontractors has attempted to, or will attempt to, improperly influence an officer of DFAT in connection with the preparation or assessment of the Tender or has approached any Minister or Commonwealth officer in connection with the RFT process.
- 17 The Tenderer warrants that the Tender has not been prepared with the assistance of current DFAT employees or Former DFAT Employees or with improperly obtained information.
- 18 If at any time prior to entry into a contract with the Preferred Tenderer, any information provided in this Declaration changes, the Tenderer agrees to advise DFAT of that change within seven (7) calendar days.
- 19 The Tenderer agrees that DFAT may provide any information collected, or provided to it by the Tenderer during the course of this RFT process to Parliament and its Committees and other Commonwealth agencies or regulatory bodies, including but not limited to: the Department of Employment, the Australian National Audit Office, the Fair Work Ombudsman and Fair Work Australia.
- 20 The Tenderer acknowledges that no express or implied contract has arisen between the Tenderer and DFAT in relation to the RFT or the Tender.
- 21 The Tenderer understands and agrees to all Tender conditions including without limitation the obligations, acknowledgements and DFAT's rights included in the RFT document.
- 22 The Tenderer warrants that the information contained in their Tender submission is true and correct and the signatory is duly authorised to sign on behalf of the Tenderer.

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I make this Declaration, in accordance with the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959* (Cth), subject to the penalties provided by that Act for making false statements in Statutory Declarations, and I conscientiously believe that the statements contained in this Declaration are true in every respect.

Signature ¹

Name

Official Position Held ²

Date

Signature of witness ³:

Name of witness:

Date

- | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. To be signed by the Tenderer personally, except in the case of an Incorporated Entity, when the Managing Director or a Director of the Company shall sign.</p> <p>2. i.e. Managing Director, Company Director, Company Secretary, etc.</p> <p>3. The witness must be a person before whom Statutory Declarations can be made.</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

STATEMENT D: NOT USED

STATEMENT E: NOT USED

STATEMENT F: WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

Note to Tenderers

Tenderers must comply with the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth) and must provide Information regarding their WHS Management System (WHSMS) in the table below. By completing this statement, the Tenderer demonstrates how its WHSMS meets its obligations under the WHS Act 2011.

DFAT may request from the Tenderer at any stage information related to WHS considerations relevant to this Tender, including but not limited to policy documents, operational plans, risk assessments, completed WHS inspections, incident reports and audit reports that relate to work health and safety in the workplace.

DFAT may call upon the successful tenderer to modify its WHSMS during contract negotiations and/or once the activity has commenced. The successful tenderer must comply with DFAT directions at its own cost.

Company Name	
ABN	
Country of company registration if not Australia	

	Yes	No	N/A	Provide comments if your response to any question is "no" or "not applicable".
Governance				
Our organisational details are current as at tender closing date				
Our company has a documented WHS policy and/or management plan in place. Provide web address (link) in the comments column if this is publicly available.				
Our company complies with the following approved Codes of Practice as applicable to this contract:				
Managing WHS Risks				
The company's WHS roles and responsibilities are outlined in a WHS policy document.				
Our company has identified and trained staff with responsibilities for WHS, including Health and Safety Representatives.				
Our company has documented and regularly audited systems in place for the control of high risk activities relating to the delivery of services under the contract. This includes processes for: risk management, incident reporting and investigation, asbestos management, emergency procedures, and training.				
Establishing and maintaining WHS Registers				
Our company undertakes a documented risk based approach to WHS, including site inspections, hazard and risk assessment and mitigation and periodic review.				
Our company provides WHS training to workers at induction, including any task-specific training, and maintains a record of WHS training, including any licencing and/or qualifications required for this work				
Our company consults and communicates with its				

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility
Part 1 – Activity Specific Tender Conditions

	Yes	No	N/A	Provide comments if your response to any question is "no" or "not applicable".
workers on all WHS issues.				
Where our company uses hazardous substances and/or dangerous goods, we maintain safe systems of work, including a register, and relevant safety data sheets.				
Our company provides and maintains any required equipment (including personal protective equipment and electrical equipment) issued to workers.				
The following document templates are available for inspection.				please insert list in the comments box
Workplace inspection checklist template				
Incident investigation report template				
Hazard reports template				
Injury Management				
Workers compensation policy in place				
Return to work program provided				
Has the company ever been required to report a 'notifiable incident' to the Regulator (ComCare). A notifiable incident is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The death of a person A 'serious injury or illness' arising out of the conduct of a business or undertaking at a workplace. Please provide details.				

Signature of Officer

Name

Official Position Held

Date

STATEMENT G – BANK UNDERTAKINGS AND PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE

The preferred tenderer may be required to provide an Unconditional Financial Undertaking and/or Performance Guarantee if requested by DFAT during Contract Negotiations.

STATEMENT H: NOT USED

STATEMENT I – NOT USED

|

PART 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
ACT	Australian Capital Territory.
Addendum	Information, clarification or amendment of the RFT or answers to Tenderer questions published by DFAT on the Austender website at: www.Tenders.gov.au
AusTender	Commonwealth Government business opportunities website, located at www.Tenders.gov.au
Business Day	Any day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, public holiday or bank holiday in the ACT.
Closing Time	The closing time and date for lodgement of Tenders under this RFT.
Conditions Participation for	Mandatory minimum requirements that must be met in response to this RFT.
Conflict of Interest	A situation in which a Tenderer has a private or personal interest that may influence, or may appear to influence the objective exercise of the Requirements. The private or personal interest may be a financial or business interest or some other form of benefit or advantage and personal to the Tenderer (or its Personnel) or may be a benefit to a relative or associate. A conflict of interest creates a reasonable appearance to outsiders that the Tenderer's (or its Personnel's) objective judgement is likely to be compromised, biased or partial. A potential conflict of interest is a situation that may develop into an actual conflict of interest. A perceived conflict of interest is one in which a reasonable person would think that the person's judgement and/or actions may be compromised.
Contact Officer	The central contact point for all enquiries regarding this RFT.
Contract	The proposed terms and conditions of the Contract that DFAT may enter into with any Preferred Tenderer as attached at Part 3 .
Department	The Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
DFAT	The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
Evaluation Committee	The Committee ('EC') appointed by DFAT to assess Tenders against the Evaluation Criteria, as set out in the Tenderer's Response Schedule to this RFT.

**RFT Fiji Program Support Facility
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Evaluation Criteria	The formal selection criteria against which Tenders will be assessed, as set out in Clause 7 in Part 1 of the RFT.
Former DFAT Employee	A person who was previously employed by DFAT, whose employment ceased within the last nine (9) months and who was substantially involved in the design, preparation, appraisal, review, and or daily management of this activity.
GST	A Goods and Services Tax levied on the supply of Goods and Services under the <i>A New Tax System (Goods and Services) Tax Act 1999</i> (Cth).
Minimum Form and Content Requirements	These are the minimum requirements that a Tender must meet in order for the Tender to be considered by the Evaluation Committee.
Personnel	Any Personnel nominated by the Tenderer (including Specified Personnel, Long Term and Short Term Advisers under the Adviser Remuneration Framework and Long Term and Short Term Advisers not under the Adviser Remuneration Framework) to provide the Requirements.
Request for Tender (RFT)	This document and any Attachments and Schedules, together with any Addenda to the RFT issued by DFAT and posted on the AusTender website.
Requirements	The Goods and/or Services to be provided under the terms and conditions of the Contract required by DFAT and described in the Statement of Requirements at Schedule 1 to the Draft Contract.
Related Entity	Includes corporate structures, including subsidiaries, joint ventures and special-purpose companies, as well as companies where there are common directorships or influence over other companies through shareholdings as provided under the <i>Corporations Act 2001</i> (Cth).
Relevant Employer	Has the meaning given to the term in the <i>Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012</i> (Cth) ('WGE Act').
Relevant List	Any similar list to the World Bank List maintained by any other donor of development funding.
Specified Personnel	Personnel nominated by the Tenderer to provide the Requirements.
Statement of Requirements ('SOR')	The detailed requirements of DFAT for the provision of the Goods and/or Services as described Schedule 1 (Statement of Requirements) in Part 3 – Draft Contract.
Preferred Tenderer	The Tenderer selected by DFAT to enter into a Contract for the provision of the Goods and/or Services described in this RFT.
Tender	A Tenderer response submitted to this RFT, substantially in the form of Tender Schedules 1 - 4 at Part 1 of the RFT
Tenderer	A person who submits a Tender in response to this RFT.
Tenderer Statements	The forms at Part 1 of this RFT that must be completed and/or executed by the Tenderer and which form the Tenderer's response to Tender Schedule 4 .

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Value for Money	Financial and non-financial costs and benefits to the Commonwealth associated with the goods/property/works/services and includes the factors set out at Clause 6 at Part 1 of this RFT.
Work Health and Safety	has the meaning given to the term under the Work Health and Safety Act (2011) (Cth).
World Bank List	World Bank List means a list of organisations maintained by the World Bank in its “Listing of Ineligible Firms” or “Listings of Firms, Letters of Reprimand” posted at: http://web.worldbank.org .

INTRODUCTION

1 Invitation to Tender

- 1.1 The Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ('Department'), invites Tenders for the provision of **Fiji Program Support Facility (FPSF)** in accordance with this Request for Tender ('RFT').
- 1.2 An overview of the Requirements is set out in **Schedule 1** (Statement of Requirements) to the Draft Contract in **Part 3** of the RFT.

2 Tender Closing Time

- 2.1 Tender responses must be lodged before the Closing Time.
- 2.2 DFAT may extend the Closing Time at its sole discretion and will issue an Addendum on AusTender notifying Tenderers of any decision to extend.

3 Threshold Conditions

- 3.1 Tenderers must comply with the following threshold Tender conditions:
- (a) the minimum content and format requirements set out in **Clause 4** (Mandatory Minimum Form and Content Requirements) below; and
 - (b) the conditions of participation set out in **Clause 5** (Mandatory Conditions for Participation) below.
- 3.2 Tenderers should note that agreeing to contract as a single legal entity is a Condition for Participation in this RFT process.
- 3.3 If a Tenderer is an unincorporated association and is selected as the Preferred Tenderer, the Tenderer must incorporate prior to entry into contract.

4 Mandatory Minimum Form and Content Requirements

- 4.1 The mandatory minimum form and content requirements are:
- (a) Tenders must be written in English and all measurements must be expressed in Australian legal units of measurement;
 - (b) Tenders must contain substantially completed **Tender Schedules 1 – 4** in accordance with the instructions in **Part 1** of the RFT.

5 Mandatory Conditions for Participation

- 5.1 The mandatory conditions for Tenderer participation in this RFT are:
- (a) The Tenderer and any subcontractors proposed must not be named as not complying with the [Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012\(Cth\)](#) ('WGE Act').
 - (b) For the purposes of the WGE Act, the Tenderer must identify whether it is a Relevant Employer under the WGE Act and if it is the Tenderer must provide DFAT with a copy of its current letter of compliance with the WGE Act.
 - (c) Tenderers must acknowledge and agree to contract as a single legal entity in accordance with the requirement at **Clause 3** (Threshold Conditions) in this

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Part 2 of the RFT.

- (d) the Tenderer (and any of its proposed subcontractors) must not be subject to an adverse Court or Tribunal decision or Order (not including decisions under appeal) for a breach of workplace relations law, work health and safety law, or workers' compensation law, or if the Tenderer is so subject, that the Tenderer has fully complied, or is fully complying with the Court or Tribunal decision or Order.
 - (e) The Tenderer (and any of its proposed subcontractors) must not be listed on the World Bank List or a Relevant List or be the subject of an informal investigation or temporary suspension which could lead to the Tenderer becoming so listed. A Tenderer must immediately notify DFAT if it becomes listed, investigated or suspended by the World Bank or any development donor prior to the award of contract.
 - (f) Where the procurement includes construction-related Services to be provided within Australia, the Tenderer must comply with the Commonwealth *Building Code 2013*. The Tenderer must, at the time they lodge their Tender:
 - (i) not have been precluded from Tendering for Australian Government funded building and construction work; or
 - (ii) fully comply with any adverse Court or Tribunal decision or Order (not including decisions under appeal) for a breach of workplace relations law, work health and safety law, or workers' compensation law; and
 - (iii) provide a copy of its letter of compliance with [the Building Code](#) as issued by the Department of Employment.
- 5.2 Subject to **Clause 12** (Non-Conformity - Unintentional Errors of Form) in this **Part 2**, any failure by a Tenderer to meet the mandatory requirements of the RFT may result in that Tender being excluded from further evaluation.

6 Consortia or Joint Venture Tenders

- 6.1 DFAT may, subject to this RFT, consider a Tender from a consortia or joint venture in the form of a joint Tender.
- 6.2 Any joint Tender must set out details of all consortia or joint venture members, including the role that each member would play in the delivery of the Requirements, and must nominate a single legal entity which would, if successful, enter into a Contract with DFAT.
- 6.3 DFAT may require parent company guarantees from the parent companies of parties to a consortia or joint venture.

7 Associate Tenders

- 7.1 DFAT will, subject to this RFT, consider a Tender from two or more parties who have not formed a single legal entity in the form of an Associate Tender on the basis that one party, the Tenderer, acts as the prime contractor and the other party becomes a sub-contractor known as an "Associate".
- 7.2 An Associate Tender must set out details of all Associates, including the role that

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

each member would play in the delivery of the Requirements and provide an assurance to DFAT from an authorised representative of the Associate of the Associate's corporate commitment to and involvement in the provision of the Goods and/or Services in the form of a one page *Letter of Association* attached to **Tender Schedule 1** (Technical Proposal).

- 7.3 Tenderer associates who are approved by DFAT to undertake identified parts of the Requirements will be specified in any resultant contract with the Tenderer.

8 Subcontractors

- 8.1 If any aspect of the Requirements will be provided by a subcontractor to the Tenderer, the Tender should set out the details of all proposed subcontractors and their proposed responsibilities in **Tender Schedule 1** (Technical Proposal).
- 8.2 In accordance with the terms of the Draft Contract, DFAT will hold the Preferred Tenderer responsible for the actions of any subcontractors, and the Tenderer will be required to include all relevant provisions of the Contract in any subcontract arrangements.

9 Contractor Personnel including Specified Personnel

- 9.1 Individuals with conflicting commitments and current and Former DFAT Employees must not be included in the Tender as Specified Personnel or as individuals who will be engaged by the Tenderer if selected as the Preferred Tenderer.
- 9.2 DFAT may reject any Tender which does not disclose the fact that a proposed team member has an existing and continuing commitment to another project (DFAT or otherwise).

10 Tender Prices

- 10.1 Tenderers must provide their Tender prices in **Tender Schedule 2**. Tender prices should be inclusive of all costs of complying with this RFT and all costs associated with doing all things necessary for the due and proper completion of the proposed contract and:
- (a) be inclusive of all taxes duties and charges excluding goods and services tax ('GST'), if applicable. The GST payable should be separately identified in **Tender Schedule 2** and will not form part of the Price Assessment;
 - (b) be inclusive of all necessary insurances;
 - (c) be inclusive of any escalation, any allowance for foreign exchange rate variations or other price risks and disclosed as a single escalator factor;
 - (d) remain unalterable for the period of Tender validity;
 - (e) not vary according to the mode of payment;
 - (f) take into account the liability, indemnity and other relevant provisions regarding risk in the Draft Contract;
 - (g) include detailed information on assumptions used in preparing the pricing; and
 - (h) preferably be expressed in Australian dollars ('AUD').

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Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

- 10.2 If the Tendered pricing is expressed in a currency other than AUD, for the purposes of the Tender evaluation, this will be converted into AUD at the exchange rate determined by the relevant 'foreign currency rate per AUD' published by the Reserve Bank of Australia as at the Closing Time.
- 10.3 Tenderers must provide their proposed mechanism for price increases (i.e. escalation) during the term of the Contract and for any option period (if any).
- 10.4 Tenderers must seek their own independent tax advice in relation to this RFT and the Draft Contract.
- 10.5 DFAT may use the pricing information provided in **Tender Schedule 2** for the Price Assessment.
- 10.6 DFAT is not bound to accept the lowest price (or any) Tender.

11 Competitive neutrality

- 11.1 Competitive Neutrality requires that Government businesses should not enjoy net competitive advantages over their private sector competitors by virtue of public sector ownership.
- 11.2 Tenderers from the public sector should demonstrate in the pricing of their Tender that the requirements of competitive neutrality have been met, including (without limitation) payment of relevant taxes and charges, rates of return and cost of funds.

12 Non-conformity - Unintentional Errors of Form

- 12.1 If DFAT considers that a Tenderer has made an unintentional error of form in its Tender, DFAT may, at its sole discretion, permit the Tenderer to correct that error within a specified timeframe, by written request by DFAT, but will not permit the Tenderer to submit new or different information that would materially alter the original Tender.

13 Non –Conformity - Additional Material

- 13.1 Tenderers should not provide an Executive Summary or other additional material such as supporting brochures, photographs or promotional material as part of the Tender, unless this has been specifically requested in the **Clause 7 Part 1**. DFAT will sever any material provided by Tenderers which has not been requested in the RFT from the Tender material and such material will not form part of the Tender evaluation.

14 Ambiguities, Discrepancies, Inconsistencies, Errors or Omissions

- 14.1 DFAT will not accept responsibility for any misunderstanding arising from the failure by a Tenderer to comply with the requirements set out in this RFT, or arising from any ambiguity, discrepancy, inconsistency, error or omission contained in a Tender.

15 Method Of Lodgement

- 15.1 Tenders must be lodged electronically via AusTender at: <https://www.tenders.gov.au> as specified in the Tender Particulars in **Clause 1 Part 1** of the RFT.

16 Amendment of RFT

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

- 16.1 DFAT may amend the RFT at any time by issuing an Addendum and posting it on AusTender. All conditions of this RFT will apply to any Addenda issued by DFAT unless amended in the addenda.
- 16.2 DFAT may extend the Closing Time in its sole discretion and will issue an Addendum via AusTender (<https://www.tenders.gov.au>) notifying Tenderers of any decision to extend.
- 16.3 Tenderers who have registered and downloaded the RFT documentation will be notified by AusTender via email if an Addendum to the RFT is issued. Tenderers are required to log in to AusTender and collect Addenda as notified.
- 16.4 DFAT will accept no responsibility if a Tenderer fails to become aware of any Addendum which would have been apparent from a visit to the AusTender page for this RFT.
- 16.5 If a Tenderer has obtained Tender documentation other than from AusTender, they must visit AusTender, register as a user and download the Tender documentation for this RFT.
- 16.6 Upon issue, each Addendum forms part of this RFT.
- 16.7 The Contact Officer will not respond to any request for clarification from a Tenderer received after the Enquiry Cut-Off date specified in the Tender Particulars at **Clause 1 Part 1** of the RFT.
- 16.8 Tenderers should acknowledge receipt of all Addenda to this RFT in the Tenderer Declaration.
- 16.9 Tenderers must submit their Tenders in accordance with this RFT as amended by any Addenda issued by DFAT.

17 Tenderer Enquiries

- 17.1 All enquiries relating to this RFT must be directed to the Contact Officer indicated in the Tender Particulars at **Clause 1 Part 1** by email.
- 17.2 DFAT will respond to all Tenderer enquiries directed to the Contact Officer in writing before the Enquiry Cut-Off Date on or before the Last Addendum Date specified in the Tender Particulars in **Clause 1 Part 1** of this RFT.
- 17.3 If DFAT considers that a Tenderer's enquiry may be relevant to other Tenderers, it may at its discretion and without disclosing the source of the query, publish its response to all Tenderers on a non-attributable basis in the form of an Addendum by notice on the AusTender website.
- 17.4 DFAT will accept no responsibility if a Tenderer fails to become aware of any Addendum notice.

18 Alterations and Amendments to Tenders

- 18.1 Alterations and amendments to a Tender must be made before the Closing Time and be clearly legible and initialled by the Tenderer. Tenders containing un-initialled alterations and amendments and Tenders in which information is not legible may be excluded from consideration at the discretion of DFAT.

19 Late lodgement policy

- 19.1 Any Tender lodged either electronically or in hard copy after the Closing Time is a late Tender and will not be considered by DFAT.
- 19.2 DFAT will admit to evaluation any Tender that was received late solely due to mishandling by DFAT. 'Mishandling by DFAT does not include mishandling by a courier or the mail service provider engaged by the Tenderer to deliver the Tender. It is the responsibility of each Tenderer to ensure that its Tender is dispatched and lodged prior to the Closing Time.
- 19.3 Late Tenders will be returned to the Tenderer unopened, except where a Tender must be opened to identify the return address of the Tenderer and/or to establish the name of the Tender.
- 19.4 If a Tender is deemed late, DFAT may request the Tenderer to provide explanatory evidence to the Contact Officer.

20 Electronic Tender Lodgement

- 20.1 Where Tenders are required under **Part 1** of the RFT to be lodged electronically via AusTender Tenders must be lodged before the Tender Closing Time and in accordance with the Tender lodgement procedures set out in this RFT and on AusTender.
- 20.2 The Closing Time will be displayed in the relevant AusTender webpage together with a countdown clock that displays in real time the amount of time left until the Closing Time. For the purposes of determining whether a Tender response has been lodged before the Closing Time, the countdown clock will be conclusive. For more information please see the AusTender Terms of Use.
- 20.3 Where there is any inconsistency between the Tender lodgement procedures set out on AusTender and those set out in this RFT, this RFT will prevail.
- 20.4 Electronic Tenders not lodged in accordance with this **Clause 20** will be excluded from evaluation.

21 Electronic Lodgement Process

- 21.1 Before submitting an electronic Tender, Tenderers must:
- (a) ensure their technology platform meets the minimum requirements identified on AusTender;
 - (b) refer to [AusTender's Help](#) guidance, if required, on uploading Tenders;
 - (c) take all steps to ensure that the Tender is free from anything that might reasonably affect usability or the security or operations of AusTender and/or DFATs computing environment;
 - (d) ensure that the Tender does not contain macros, script or executable code of any kind unless that specific material has previously been approved in writing by DFAT; and
 - (e) ensure that the Tender complies with all file type, format, naming conventions, size limitations or other requirements by AusTender.

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

- 21.2 DFAT takes no responsibility for problems with electronic lodgement arising from Tenderers' infrastructure and/or internet connectivity.
- 21.3 Any attempt to lodge a Tender after the Closing Time will not be permitted by AusTender.
- 21.4 When an electronic Tender lodgement has successfully completed on AusTender, an official receipt is provided on screen. The on-screen receipt will record the time and date the Tender was received by AusTender and will be conclusive evidence of successful lodgement of a Tender. It is essential that Tenderers save and print this receipt as proof of lodgement. A separate AusTender email confirming receipt of the Tender will also be automatically dispatched to the email address of the registered user whose details were recorded on AusTender at login.
- 21.5 Where a Tenderer does not receive a Tender lodgement receipt from AusTender, it means that the Tenderer's attempted Tender lodgement has not completed successfully. Where no receipt has been issued by AusTender, the attempted lodgement will be deemed to have been unsuccessful by DFAT. Tenderers should refer to AusTender for further instruction.

22 Electronic Tender File Formats, Naming Conventions and Sizes

- 22.1 Tenderers must lodge their Tender in accordance with the requirements set out in this **Clause 22** for file format/s, naming conventions and file sizes. Failure to comply with any or all of these requirements may result in the Tender not uploading successfully and/or may eliminate the Tender from evaluation.
- 22.2 Tenders must be lodged on AusTender in the File Format for Electronic Tenders specified in the Tender Particulars at **Clause 1 Part 1** of this RFT.
- 22.3 The Tender file name/s:
- (a) should incorporate the Tenderer's company name;
 - (b) should reflect the various parts of the bid they represent, where the Tender comprises multiple files;
 - (c) must not contain \ / : * ? " < > | characters. Check your files and re-name them if necessary; and
 - (d) must not exceed 100 characters including the file extension.
- 22.4 Tender files:
- (a) should not exceed a combined file size of five (5) megabytes per upload;
 - (b) should be uploaded from a high level directory on a Tenderer's desktop, so as not to impede the upload process; and
 - (c) should be zipped (compressed) together for transmission to AusTender.
- 22.5 AusTender will accept up to a maximum of five (5) files in any one upload of a Tender. Each upload should not exceed the combined file size limit of five (5) megabytes. If an upload would otherwise exceed 5 megabytes, the Tenderer should either:
- (a) transmit the Tender files as a compressed (zip) file not exceeding five (5) megabytes; and/or

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

- (b) lodge the Tender in multiple uploads ensuring that each upload does not exceed five (5) megabytes and clearly identify each upload as part of the Tender.

22.6 If a Tender consists of multiple uploads, due to the number of files or file size, Tenderers should ensure that transmission of all files is completed before the Closing Time.

22.7 Tenders must be completely self-contained. No hyperlinked or other material may be incorporated into the Tender documentation by reference.

23 **AusTender Security**

23.1 Tenderers acknowledge that although the Commonwealth has implemented the security measures described on AusTender, the Commonwealth does not warrant that unauthorised access to information and data transmitted via the Internet will not occur.

23.2 Tenderers acknowledge that:

- (a) lodgment of their Tender on time and in accordance with the Conditions of Tender in **Part 1** and **Part 2** is entirely their responsibility;
- (b) DFAT will not be liable for any loss, damage, costs or expenses incurred by Tenderers or any other person if, for any reason, a Tender or any other material or communication relevant to this Request For Tender, is not received on time, is corrupted or altered or otherwise is not received as sent, cannot be read or decrypted, or has its security or integrity compromised; and
- (c) they have taken reasonable steps to ensure that Tender response files are free from viruses, worms, malicious code or other disabling features which may affect the AusTender and/or DFAT's computing environment.

23.3 All queries and requests for technical or operational support for AusTender must be directed to:

AusTender Help Desk
Telephone: 1300 651 698
International: +61 2 6215 1558
Email: tenders@finance.gov.au

23.4 The AusTender Help Desk is available between **9am and 5pm AEST, Monday to Friday** (excluding ACT and national public holidays).

24 Not Used

25 Not Used

26 Not Used

27 EVALUATION OF TENDERS

27.1 Tenders will be evaluated in accordance with the process set out in **Part 1** of the RFT.

27.2 EC members will treat the Tender evaluation proceedings and meetings as

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

'commercial in confidence' and must not discuss the technical assessment of any Tender with any person. Tenderers must not make contact with any members of the EC outside EC meetings. Any such contact will be considered a breach of confidentiality and may result in exclusion of the Tender from further consideration.

Security, Probity and Financial Checks

- 27.3 DFAT and/or a consultancy engaged by DFAT may perform such security, probity and financial investigations and procedures as it may in its sole discretion determine are necessary in relation to Tenderers, their employees, officers, partners, associates, subcontractors or related entities and their officers, employees and subcontractors.
- 27.4 Tenderers will be expected to provide reasonable assistance at their own cost to DFAT regarding any security, probity and financial investigations and procedures, including supplying further information to DFAT on request.
- 27.5 Any omission or failure by the Tenderer to provide detailed information to DFAT as requested will diminish the scoring ability of the Tenderer's Tender and may result in DFAT removing the Tender from further consideration.

28 Tender Clarification

- 28.1 At any stage DFAT may ask a Tenderer to clarify or provide additional information on any aspect of its Tender, or on any matter in its opinion, relevant to the Tender.
- 28.2 Failure to respond to a request for clarification in the manner requested by DFAT may have an adverse impact on the evaluation of the Tender.

29 Referee Checks

- 29.1 Tenderers must provide at **Annex 1** (Specified Personnel) to **Tender Schedule 1** the name and contact details of Referees who can attest to the performance of the Tenderer and its Specified Personnel (if any), within the last two years, in the provision of the Goods and/or Services comparable to the Requirements.
- 29.2 Tenderers must ensure that nominated Referees:
 - (a) do not have an actual or potential Conflict of Interest. In particular, Referees must not:
 - (i) be an employee or holder of a current executive office within the Tenderer organisation or have a business association with the Tenderer or one of its subsidiaries;
 - (ii) be included in the Tender as proposed Personnel; or
 - (iii) be a current DFAT employee or Former DFAT Employee; and
 - (b) are available to be contacted within three **(3) weeks** of the Closing Time.
- 29.3 DFAT may, at its discretion and/or by its authorised representative, contact any referee nominated by a Tenderer in its Tender, and may seek written or verbal comments from that referee.
- 29.4 DFAT may also seek information about any Tenderer from any other source,

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

including from within Commonwealth Government departments or agencies, whether or not the individuals or organisations contacted are nominated by the Tenderer.

30 Police Checks

- 30.1 Specified Personnel identified as having contact with children in the Draft Contract may be required to provide Police Clearance Certificates.
- 30.2 The Preferred Tenderer must within **fourteen (14) days** written notice from DFAT of its selection as Preferred Tenderer provide DFAT with original Police Clearance Certificates for nominated Personnel working with children. Each Police Clearance Certificate must:
- (a) be provided for each country in which the individual has lived for **12 months** or longer over the last **five (5) years** and for the individual's country of citizenship; and
 - (b) be dated no earlier than **twelve (12) months** before the Tender Closing Time.
- 30.3 Tenderers should obtain consent to a criminal record check from their Specified Personnel and provide information on the purpose for which it will be used.
- 30.4 DFAT reserves the right to require the Tenderer to replace any Specified Personnel whose Police Clearance Certificate shows conviction of criminal offences of, or relating to child abuse. Nominated replacement Personnel must have qualifications and experience equal to or better than those personnel being replaced and must be acceptable to DFAT.

31 Debriefing

- 31.1 Following the rejection of a Tender, or the award of a contract to the Preferred Tenderer, DFAT will inform Tenderers in writing of the outcome of their Tender submission.
- 31.2 Tenderers may, in writing, request a written debrief concerning their Tender submission within **14 days** of being advised by DFAT of rejection of their Tender.
- 31.3 Tenderers will be debriefed against the evaluation criteria set out in this RFT. A Tenderer will not be provided with information concerning other Tenders.

32 Disclaimer

- 32.1 Although certain information is contained in this RFT, Tenderers must make their own independent assessment and investigations and obtain their own independent advice regarding the subject matter of the RFT. Neither the Commonwealth of Australia, its employees, agents or contractors:
- (a) makes any representations or warranties as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information; nor
 - (b) has any liability under the law or otherwise arising from the information, the Tender process or any activity associated with them.

33 Tenderer Costs

- 33.1 All costs and expenses incurred by a Tenderer in connection with this RFT, including

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

but not limited to the costs associated with preparing and lodging a Tender, responding to requests from DFAT and providing further information sought by DFAT, hosting site visits or attending industry briefings/site inspections, interviews or contract negotiations, are the sole responsibility of the Tenderer.

- 33.2 DFAT will not be, and is not, liable for any lost profit, lost opportunity or other losses sustained by the Tenderer as a result of responding to this RFT.

34 Insurances

- 34.1 The Preferred Tenderer will be required to hold and maintain insurances in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Draft Contract.

35 Public Statements

- 35.1 Tenderers must not make any public statements or provide any information to the media or any other third party in relation to this RFT or any Contract arising out of this RFT, without the prior written approval of DFAT.

36 Ownership of Tenders

- 36.1 All Tenders become the property of DFAT upon lodgement.
- 36.2 DFAT may copy, amend, extract or otherwise deal with all or part of any Tender for the purposes of this RFT process.
- 36.3 DFAT may disclose the contents of any Tender to its personnel and advisers for the purposes of assisting DFAT with this RFT process. DFAT may, at its discretion, seek appropriate confidentiality obligations from those personnel or advisers where such disclosure is made.
- 36.4 Nothing in this **Clause 36** affects the ownership of intellectual property in any Tender.

37 Tender Validity Period

- 37.1 Tenders must remain open for acceptance (valid) for a period of at least six (6) months (i.e. **180 calendar days**) from the Closing Time.
- 37.2 DFAT may request a Tenderer to extend the validity period of the Tender referred at **Clause 37.1** above.

38 Entry into Contract and Conduct of Contract negotiations

- 38.1 This RFT is not a contract between the Commonwealth and the Tenderer, nor an offer to contract.
- 38.2 Nothing in this RFT, any Tender, or any conduct or statement made by either DFAT or a Tenderer before or after the issue of this RFT is to be construed so as to give rise to any contractual obligations, express or implied, or any obligations in equity between DFAT and any Tenderer.
- 38.3 Following selection of a Preferred Tenderer, DFAT may enter into contract negotiations with the Preferred Tenderer.

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Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

38.4 The Commonwealth intends to enter into a contract with the Preferred Tenderer substantially in the form of the Draft Contract at **Part 3** of this RFT.

38.5 Without limiting the matters set out in **Clause 40** (DFAT's Rights), during contract negotiations, DFAT may:

- (a) engage in detailed discussions with one or more Tenderers in person or via email;
- (b) request a Tenderer to improve or consolidate any aspect of a Tender;
- (c) request a Tenderer to provide revised pricing to reflect negotiation outcomes (including submitting a best and final offer);
- (d) decline to consider a Tenderer's revised pricing if DFAT considers that the Tenderer has changed the underlying basis on which the Tenderer's pricing was calculated;
- (e) reject the Preferred Tenderer's Tender, discontinue negotiations with that Tenderer and/or re-enter negotiations with other Tenderers (including or excluding the Preferred Tenderer) if in DFAT's view during final negotiations, the Preferred Tenderer retracts or attempts to retract agreements under which material business, financial, technical and legal issues were resolved during negotiations, or in DFAT's opinion the Tenderer is not negotiating in good faith;
- (f) request the Tenderer to negotiate in good faith a proportionate reduction to the Tendered price if the Statement of Requirements is reduced as a result of constraints imposed on DFAT either before or after the Closing Time; and
- (g) take into account the outcome of negotiations in finalising the evaluation of Tenders and in making a selection decision in declaring the Preferred Tenderer.

38.6 No binding agreement, express or implied (including, without limitation, any form or contractual, quasi-contractual, restitutionary or promissory estoppel rights, or rights based upon similar legal or equitable grounds), is intended to be created between DFAT and any Tenderer in relation to the Requirements of this RFT and the Tender process or in any other respect until a formal written contract is executed by DFAT and the Preferred Tenderer.

38.7 The final contract as executed by DFAT will contain the entire agreement between DFAT and the Preferred Tenderer.

39 Operation of the Contract

39.1 The Contract entered into with the Preferred Tenderer will alone govern the legal relationship between DFAT and any Preferred Tenderer.

40 DFAT's Rights

40.1 Despite any other provision in this RFT, DFAT retains the right to:

- (a) alter, vary or amend any part of this RFT;
- (b) suspend or terminate this RFT if DFAT considers it is in the public interest to do so;

**RFT Fiji Program Support Facility
Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender**

- (c) seek additional information or clarification from any Tenderer, and/or provide additional information or clarification to any Tenderer;
- (d) seek and/or contact any referee, whether or not nominated by the Tenderer;
- (e) determine a shortlist of Tenderers at any time after the Closing Time;
- (f) add or remove any Tenderer from consideration at any time after the Closing Time;
- (g) in its absolute discretion conduct or engage a third party to conduct a financial viability assessment on the Tenderer to assess the Tenderer's financial capacity and financial viability in accordance with the information provided at **Tender Schedule 2** and **Tender Schedule 3**.
- (h) negotiate or decline to negotiate with any Tenderer, and discontinue negotiations at any time (including for non-provision of Police Clearance Certificates);
- (i) negotiate with one or more Tenderers simultaneously;
- (j) terminate negotiations with the Preferred Tenderer and commence negotiations with any other Tenderer (including but not limited to where required Police Clearance Certificates are not provided by the Preferred Tenderer or where the Tenderer becomes listed or subject to an investigation or temporary suspension by the World Bank or similar donor of development funding);
- (k) require the Preferred Tenderer to provide an Unconditional Financial Undertaking or Performance Guarantee prior to entry into Contract;
- (l) require the Preferred Tenderer to replace any Personnel whose Police Clearance Certificate shows conviction of criminal offences of, or relating to, child abuse where DFAT in its absolute discretion considers that the individual poses an unacceptable risk to children's safety or well-being; and
- (m) allow, or refuse to allow, a Preferred Tenderer to enter into a Contract in the name of a different legal entity to that which submitted the Tender.

41 Conflict of Interest

- 41.1 Tenderers must notify DFAT as soon as practicable after becoming aware of an actual or potential Conflict of Interest in connection with the submission of the Tender or the provision of the Goods and/or Services described in this RFT, or at any time prior to receiving notification of the award of a Contract or the termination of this RFT process.
- 41.2 If the Tenderer has or may have an actual or potential Conflict of Interest, DFAT may, at its discretion:
- (a) exclude the Tender from further consideration;
 - (b) enter into discussions to seek to resolve the conflict of interest; or
 - (c) take any other action it considers appropriate.
- 41.3 DFAT may regard any participant in a Joint Tender under **Clause 6** (Consortia or Joint Venture Tenders) who separately Tenders or participates in a further Joint Tender in response to the RFT as being in a Conflict of Interest situation.

42 False or Misleading Claims

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

42.1 Tenderers should be aware that giving false or misleading information to the Commonwealth is an offence under Part 7.4 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth).

42.2 If a Tenderer is found to have made false or misleading claims or statements or to have obtained improper assistance connected with the preparation of its Tender or its participation in this RFT process, DFAT may remove the Tender from further consideration.

43 Unlawful Inducements

43.1 Tenderers, their officers, employees, agents and advisers must not violate any applicable laws or Commonwealth policies in relation to unlawful inducements in connection with the preparation of a Tender or participation in this RFT process. Submission of the Tender by the Tenderer constitutes a warranty by the Tenderer in this regard.

43.2 If a Tenderer is found to have violated any applicable laws or Commonwealth policies regarding the offering of inducements connected with the preparation of its Tender or its participation in this RFT process, DFAT may remove the Tender from further consideration.

44 Collusive Tendering and improper assistance

44.1 Tenderers, their officers, employees, agents and advisers must not engage in any collusive Tendering, anti-competitive conduct or any similar conduct with any other Tenderer or person in relation to the preparation of a Tender or participation in this RFT process.

44.2 Tenders compiled with the assistance of current DFAT employees or Former DFAT Employees will be excluded from consideration.

44.3 If a Tenderer is found to have engaged in any collusive tendering or other anti-competitive practices with any other Tenderer or any other person in the preparation of its Tender or its participation in this RFT process, DFAT may remove the Tender from further consideration.

45 Commonwealth Procurement Rules and PGPA Act

45.1 Tenderers should be aware that the Commonwealth Procurement Rules ('CPRs') and the *Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act Rules 2013* (Cth) ('PGPA Act') as amended from time to time, apply to this RFT. The CPRs are available at: <http://www.finance.gov.au/procurement/procurement-policy-and-guidance/commonwealth-procurement-rules/index.html> The PGPA Act is available at: <http://www.comlaw.gov.au>

46 Privacy, Disclosure and Confidentiality

46.1 DFAT will treat as confidential any information provided by the Tenderer prior to the award of a Contract (other than information in the public domain).

46.2 Once a contract has been awarded to the Preferred Tenderer, DFAT will not keep information provided by that Tenderer confidential unless:

- (a) the Preferred Tenderer requests specific information which it considers should be kept confidential in **Table 1** (Confidential Information) at **Statement B** of **Tender**

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

Schedule 4;

- (b) the specific information is by its nature confidential or is personal information under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth); and
- (c) DFAT agrees to that request or is otherwise bound by law not to disclose the information.

46.3 In considering a request for confidentiality, DFAT will consider whether disclosure would cause detriment to the Preferred Tenderer or a third party.

46.4 DFAT will also consider whether confidentiality is supported by the underpinning principles of Commonwealth procurement such as value for money, accountability and transparency.

46.5 DFAT may disclose:

- (a) details of Commonwealth contracts with an estimated value of **AUD10,000** (GST inclusive) or more, and standing offers on AusTender;
- (b) Commonwealth contracts and contract information to the responsible Minister, to a House or a Committee of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, to the Australian National Audit Office, to the Commonwealth Ombudsman or any other body as authorised or required by law to enable them to carry out their functions; and
- (c) information collected from Tenderers in accordance with the Privacy Act including disclosure to EC members and/or Commonwealth Government departments and agencies to facilitate Tender evaluation.

47 Application of law and Commonwealth policy

47.1 Tenderers must at all times abide by Commonwealth Law and Australian Government Policies.

47.2 DFAT reserves the right in its absolute discretion to exclude from consideration any Tender:

- (a) where any of the Tenderer's Personnel have been convicted of, or are being investigated for, a criminal offence;
- (b) on the grounds of bankruptcy, insolvency or significant deficiencies in performance of any substantive requirement or obligation under a prior contract in accordance with Rule 10.16 of the CPRs;
- (c) which is late, incomplete (including those with electronic files that cannot be read or decrypted) or which DFAT believes to potentially contain any virus, worm, malicious code, disabling features or anything else that might compromise the integrity or security of AusTender and/or DFAT's computing environment; and
- (d) where the Tenderer is on the World Bank List or a Relevant List or becomes the subject of an investigation or temporary suspension which may lead to it becoming so listed.

48 Complaints

RFT Fiji Program Support Facility
Part 2 – Standard Conditions of Tender

- 48.1 Any complaints arising out of the RFT process should be made in writing to the Contact Officer as nominated in the Tender Particulars at **Clause 1 Part 1** of this RFT.
- 48.2 All complaints related to this RFT process will be dealt with in accordance with DFAT's Policy on Complaints Handling.

49 Governing Law

- 49.1 This RFT is to be construed in accordance with, and any matter related to the RFT process is to be governed by, the laws of the Australian Capital Territory ('ACT'). The ACT will have sole jurisdiction for any dispute resolution.

PART 3 – Draft Contract

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016, 20 October 2016

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 113

Program: DFAT

Topic: 435

Question in Writing

Senator 81

Question

- a) Please provide an update on the innovationxchange's number of full time equivalent staff.
- b) Please provide an update on the innovationxchange's number of projects already delivered/completed and the purpose of each.
- c) Please provide an update on the innovationxchange's number of projects currently in progress, the purpose of each, and timeframe to completion.
- d) Please provide an update on the innovationxchange's number of projects being considered or developed and a description of how the selection process is managed.

Answer

- A. The innovationXchange has a notional structure of 12 full time equivalent staff; 10 of the 12 allocated positions are currently filled.
- B. The projects delivered/completed and the purpose of each:

Project	Purpose
DFAT Ideas Challenge 1.0	To develop solutions to challenges faced by the Department. (Challenge complete; winning projects are being implemented)
Pacific Humanitarian Challenge	Identify and support solutions to problems facing humanitarian response in the Pacific in the areas of disaster communications, logistics and financial resilience. (Challenge complete; winning projects are being implemented)
Blue Economy Aquaculture	To support innovative solutions to problems facing aquaculture in the areas of fish feed; new ocean products; and better farm design. (Challenge complete; winning projects are being supported through an accelerator program and looking towards

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Challenge	implementation.
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- C. The projects that have been announced by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and are currently in progress, the purpose of each, and timeframe to completion:

Project	Purpose	Timeframe to completion
LAUNCH Food	To improve the supply and affordability of nutritious food and enable people to make better food choices by accelerating 10 investment ready innovations.	2016/17
Hamutuk Nutrition	To develop a multi-sector collaborative approach combined with use of mobile applications to combat malnutrition in Timor-Leste, where 1 in 2 children are stunted.	2017/18
Last Taboo	To develop affordable and accessible feminine hygiene products in the Indo Pacific.	2016/17
Vietnam Water Partnership	To catalyse private sector investment in water infrastructure to improve access to clean water in Vietnam.	2017/18
Investing in Women- Asia	To unlock finance for women-led SMEs; establish business coalitions to promote gender equality throughout supply chains, and work with governments to improve employment conditions for women.	2018/19
Seed Pacific	To partner with and access the knowledge, networks and capital of Pacific corporations to achieve greater development impact.	2017/18
No win no fee trial	Test the hypothesis that we can better incentivise long term improvements to country taxation systems, through paying specialists a success fee based on the value of the taxation improvements they realised.	2016/17
Global Innovation Fund	A multi-donor initiative to pilot, test and scale social innovations aiming to improve the lives and opportunities of millions of people in the developing world. There have been 27 investments made to date.	2017/18
Google Impact Challenge	To identify and invest in quality initiatives in the region using technology for development.	2016/17
Global Innovation Exchange	A partnership between iXc, USAID's Development Lab and the Korea International Development Agency to develop and launch an online platform to connect innovators and funders of development	2016/17

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Project	Purpose	Timeframe to completion
	innovation around the world.	
Innovation Resource Facility	To enhance DFAT and other Australian Government agencies' innovation capabilities by providing efficient access to high quality innovation related expertise not available through existing panel arrangements.	2017/18
Bloomberg Data for Health	To contribute to providing 1 billion people across 20 countries and cities with better health data, and to equip governments with tools needed to improve public health. The program seeks to provide 250 million people with a high-quality birth and death certificate system and 750 million people with substantially improved cause of death information. (iXc contribution made; project underway)	2018/19
Global Humanitarian Lab	GHL is both an incubator to develop ideas into solutions and an accelerator to scale solutions for the humanitarian sector.	2016/17

- D. Five projects are currently under consideration. The assessment process entails an expert panel convened for the purpose of a specific challenge topic (eg. global aquaculture experience for the aquaculture challenge) together with experts from across DFAT. Major partnerships that require investment are considered by the DFAT Aid Investment Committee which looks at all major or high risk investments of the Aid Program. Smaller scale non-challenge related proposals are considered by the iXc portfolio committee which seeks expert advice as required.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 114

Program: DFAT

Topic: Innovation Xchange

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) With reference to the request for tender for an "innovation resource facility" (Austender ATM ID DFAT-117), why does the Department need to outsource innovation from the innovationXchange?
- b) How has the Department determined that the innovationXchange requires a separate "Innovation Resource Facility" and what was the process used for making this decision?
- c) Has this tender been finalised? If so, how many entities submitted tenders, when was a decision made to award the tender, and who were the successful tenderer/s?

Answer

- A. The department is not outsourcing innovation. The Innovation Resource Facility will provide the broader Australian aid program with efficient access to technical advice in emerging development themes where the department judges there are potential opportunities for new gains to be made through an innovative approach. Such as the application of new technologies facilitating collaborations or new financing approaches for development.
- B. The innovationXchange is a small team with limited technical resources. Since its establishment the team has received numerous proposals from external stakeholders with new ideas, approaches and solutions. The decision was made by the iXc that the demand for innovation related expertise exceeded the capacity of the iXc staff and additional expertise was required through an efficient mechanism. This decision was endorsed by the DFAT Aid Investment Committee.
- C. The tendering process for the Innovation Resource Facility has now been completed and a contract was agreed with AECOM Services Pty Ltd on 31 October 2016. Four companies submitted a bid in response to the Request For Tender.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 115

Program: DFAT

Topic: Myanmar

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Can the Department provide an update on the situation in Myanmar?
- b) What circumstances or analysis led the Department to allocate an extra \$12 million to Myanmar in August this year? Who was responsible for this decision?
- c) How were these circumstances in Myanmar different between May and August 2016?
- d) Is this \$12 million additional funding or “new money”? If not, what other funding or activities have been reduced to meet the cost of the \$12 million for Myanmar.
- e) How much was the aid budget for Myanmar in each of 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17?

Answer

- A. Myanmar is undergoing an unprecedented, complex and challenging set of reforms: a transition to democracy; economic reform; and peace negotiations to end decades of conflict with the country’s ethnic armed groups. The political transition has proceeded smoothly and the new government is prioritising peace and reconciliation, constitutional reform and economic growth. Many challenges remain and expectations on the new government need to be realistic. Myanmar is one of the poorest countries in the region and is currently experiencing greater humanitarian need than any other country in South-East Asia or the Pacific. The United Nations estimates that over one million people are in need of assistance in Myanmar in 2016. This is double the 2015 estimate, reflecting both the ongoing displacement and vulnerability resulting from Myanmar’s protracted crises and the impact of the August 2015 floods.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- B. Myanmar's difficult humanitarian situation prompted the allocation. The decision was made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs following advice from the Department.
- C. Myanmar experienced flooding between May and August 2016, but the decision to allocate an extra \$12 million was not provided in response to those specific events. The additional humanitarian assistance was provided in recognition of ongoing humanitarian needs in Myanmar.
- D. The \$12 million was drawn from existing humanitarian program funding.
- E. 2013-14 - \$91.8 million
2014-15- \$102.5 million
2015-16 -\$75.4 million
2016-17 - \$59.8 million

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 116

Program: DFAT

Topic: Demining

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) With reference to the article “Demining disaster” of 19 August 2016 by Bob McMullan and Robin Davies (<http://devpolicy.org/demining-disaster-20160819/>), in which countries does the Australian Government currently conduct or support demining programs?
- b) What are the benefits of demining?
- c) Has Australia’s support for demining programs been reduced in any countries since 2012-13? If so, provide details of the countries where support has been reduced and the reasons for the reductions.
- d) Has there been decreasing demand for demining in such countries?
- e) Provide the committee with a table showing the total level of funding for Australian Government involvement in demining programs in each of the years from 2012-13 to 2016-17.

Answer

- a) The Australian Government remains committed to supporting international action towards a world free of landmines and other explosive remnants of war.

Through bilateral programmes, we fund directly mine action in affected countries:

- In June 2016 we contributed \$5 million to the UN Mine Action Service’s humanitarian and stabilisation activities in Iraq;
- we have a five-year, \$9 million dollar project in Cambodia, which continues a long partnership with that country’s peak body for

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monitoring and coordinating mine action activities, the Cambodian Mine Action and Victims Assistance Authority (CMAA).

- we have a four-year \$3.04 million dollar project (2013-2016) to clear unexploded ordnance in Palau.

The Government also continues to support international agencies working globally across all areas of mine action including in mine clearance, risk education, victim assistance and advocacy. We currently have funding agreements with: the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC), Handicap International, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and Cluster Munitions, Geneva Call and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). These organisations work across numerous countries affected by landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war (including IEDs).

b) Landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war continue to cause unacceptable suffering to innocent civilians, years and even decades after the end of the conflicts in which they were deployed. Returning previously contaminated land to productive use enhances prospects for development and prosperity of the affected communities. Clearance of contamination after recent conflict enables displaced people to return home. Assistance and rehabilitation for mine incident survivors enables them to regain mobility and independence, and improves prospects for earning a living and participating fully in society. Employment of demobilised combatants in mine clearance teams can enhance stability and security in the immediate aftermath of conflict. De-mining is, however, one of many priorities for humanitarian assistance in post-conflict situations, and for broader development co-operation.

c) Australia's support for de-mining programs has evolved since 2012-13 in the context of the life-cycle of individual programs and the balance of priorities and requests for development assistance. A number of multi-year programs which had been running in 2012-13 have since been completed.

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A four-year program in Afghanistan was completed in 2014.

Three programs in Laos were completed between 2014 and 2016.

A three year program in Mozambique was completed in 2014.

A one year program in Myanmar was completed in 2014.

A three year program in Jordan was completed in 2013.

Two programs in Lebanon, over 4 years and 3 years respectively, were completed in 2013 and 2014.

Two programs in Sri Lanka, over 5 years and 3 years respectively, were completed in 2014.

As noted in (a), we continue to support a number of global programs, each operating across a number of countries.

d) Has there been decreasing demand for demining in such countries?

There is no single measure for “demand” in de-mining. However there are indicators of progress in reducing the impact of landmines and similar threats in affected countries. According to the *Landmine Monitor 2016*, 27 states and one other area, previously contaminated, had declared themselves cleared of all known landmines since the Mine Ban Convention entered into force in 1999. These included Mozambique (2015) and Jordan (2014) – both countries in which Australia had supported de-mining efforts. Over the past five years, approximately 960km² of mined areas have been cleared, with around 1.3 million anti-personnel mines and more than 66,000 anti-vehicle mines destroyed.

See: <http://www.the-monitor.org/en-gb/reports/2016/landmine-monitor-2016.aspx>

e) Provide the committee with a table showing the total level of funding for Australian Government involvement in demining programs in each of the years from 2012-13 to 2016-17.

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See attached table. Information for 2016-17 will be released in DFAT's Australian Engagement with Developing Countries (commonly referred to as the Green Book).

Years	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Mine Action Expenditure Global Program	3,499,615	2,978,261	1,911,162	2,839,000
Mine Action Expenditure Bilateral Programs	20,601,596	9,867,454	6,618,146	10,500,000
TOTAL Mine Action Expenditure	24,101,211	12,845,715	8,529,308	13,339,000

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 117

Program: DFAT

Topic: Humanitarian assistance

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) With reference to the article “Australia To Discontinue HIV/AIDS Support For Papua New Guinea” by Alexander Rheeney published by the Pacific Islands Report on 13 October 2016 (<http://www.pireport.org/articles/2016/10/13/australia-discontinue-hivaids-support-papua-new-guinea>), is this report correct?
- b) How did a “confidential Australian Government Briefing Note” end up in the Pacific Islands Report? Has the Department conducted an investigation into the disclosure of confidential information? If so, what are the results of that investigation?
- c) The article quotes a High Commission spokesperson saying new arrangements will be put into place. What are these new arrangements?
- d) What does the Department propose to do to protect the 8,000-10,000 people living with HIV who will be impacted by cuts to this program?

Answer

- A. The article correctly quotes the Australian High Commission statement that Australia is not withdrawing support from the HIV response in Papua New Guinea. All grants related to HIV/AIDS treatment support will continue to 30 June 2017, after which new arrangements will be put in place.
- B. The Post-Courier incorrectly referred to a briefing note prepared by non-government organisations as an Australian Government document. This was subsequently corrected in the Post-Courier on 17 October.
- C. New arrangements for health and HIV investments, including support to non-government organisations, are currently being designed as the current program cycle comes to an end. Details will be made public when approved, in line with usual practice.

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- D. Australia has not made a decision to cut support for HIV services in Papua New Guinea. New arrangements for health and HIV investments are currently being designed. Australia continues to work closely with the Government of Papua New Guinea and other funding partners to ensure HIV services are sustainably funded in the long-term.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 118

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Please provide an update of Australian aid investment in the Lae hospital.

- a) How much has been invested so far and what are the long term expected costs of the project?
- b) What are the anticipated outcomes?
- c) Who are the partners working with DFAT on this project and what are the roles of each?

Answer

- A. Australia has committed up to \$207 million for this project. Approximately \$30 million has been expended to date.
- B. The redevelopment of the Australia New Guinea Administrative Unit Memorial Hospital (ANGAU) is expected to contribute to improved public health services for the inhabitants of the Morobe, Madang and Sepik Provinces.
- C. DFAT is working closely with the management of ANGAU Hospital and Papua New Guinea's National Department of Health to deliver the redevelopment. The roles of the partners are a combination of governance oversight and technical advice.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 119

Program: DFAT

Topic: Humanitarian assistance

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- a) Has the Department established a Pacific Women Mentoring Program?
- b) Who made the decision to establish this program?
- c) What is the associated investment and what is the breakdown of that investment?
- d) What is the purpose of this program?
- e) How is this program different from existing programs?

Answer

- A. The Department is in the preparatory stages of establishing a Pacific Women Mentoring Program as part of a women's leadership initiative.
- B. The program was announced by the Minister for Foreign Affairs as an election commitment in 2016.
- C. The Government announced a commitment of \$5.4 million over five years to support the Pacific Women Mentoring Program. The breakdown will be decided following a full design and procurement process.
- D. The purpose of this program will be to provide leadership development opportunities to women in the Pacific region, and connect them with female leaders in Australia from the public and private sectors. This will build and strengthen their leadership and professional networks. The program will encourage women to take on leadership roles, particularly in policy making, and deepen people-to-people links between Australia and nations in our region. The program will aim to empower women in our region, which is a crucial pillar in building peace and stability.
- E. There are a number of leadership activities supported by the Australian aid program in the Pacific including those funded under Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development at the country and regional levels. These include dedicated activities in public sector governance programs; support for

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women parliamentarians; support for women candidates standing for elections; support for women in business; and support for young women's leadership. The Pacific Women Mentoring Program will have a dedicated focus on women's leadership, promoting networks between emerging women leaders across the region from the private and public sectors, and supporting direct connections with Australian women leaders.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 120

Program: DFAT

Topic: Programs

Question in Writing

Senator Wong and Carr

Question

Please provide an itemised table detailing the following information:

- a) Every program administered by the Department and all portfolio agencies.
- b) The total funding allocated for each program in 2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15.
- c) The number of organisations funded under the program in each of those years, the name of each organisation funded and the dollar value of that funding.
- d) The number of individuals projected to be serviced or services to be delivered through each in 2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15.
- e) The total funding actually expended on each in 2015-16 and 2014-15.
- f) The number of individuals actually serviced or services actually delivered through each in 2015-16 and 2014-15.
- g) The aggregate staff budget for each in 2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15 broken down by i) permanent APS staff and ii) contractors.
- h) The number of permanent APS staff responsible for delivering each in 2016-17; 2015-16 and 2014-15, the classification of these staff and their geographic location.
- i) The dollar value of external advice contracted to support each in 2016-17, as well as the number of contractors engaged, the APS-equivalent classification these contractors were engaged at and their geographic location.

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Answer

- a) Answers provided below relate to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). Questions relating to other agencies under the Foreign Affairs Portfolio should be directed to the relevant agency.

Programs administered by DFAT in 2014-15, and 2015-16 and 2016-17 are set out in the answer to question b).

- b) Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade budget figures by program for 2015-16 and 2016-17:

DFAT Program	2015-16 Budget* \$'000	2016-17 Budget** \$'000
1.1: Foreign Affairs and Trade Operations	738,540	847,638
1.2: Official Development Assistance*	3,354,244	3,163,845
1.3: Official Development Assistance - Multilateral Replenishments	-	2,236,958
1.4: Official Development Assistance - East Asia AIPRD	7,188	-
1.5: Payments to International Organisations	432,649	467,287
1.6: New Colombo Plan - Transforming Regional Relationships	27,817	28,215
1.7: Public Information Services and Public Diplomacy	5,044	4,594
1.8: Programs to Promote Australia's International Tourism Interests	158,018	154,266
2.1: Consular Services	104,183	104,739
2.2: Passport Services	232,420	251,702
3.1: Foreign Affairs and Trade Security and IT	194,815	203,007
3.2: Overseas Property	182,881	176,311

* DFAT 2015-16 Annual Report - Full year budget, including any subsequent adjustments made at 2015-16 Additional Estimates.

** 2016-17 Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio Budget Statements.

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DFAT programs for 2014-15 are presented separately due to restructure of programs from 2015-16 onwards:

DFAT Program	2014-15 Budget* \$'000
1.1: Foreign Affairs and Trade Operations	1,133,548
1.2: Payments to International Organisations	328,421
1.3: Public Information Services and Public Diplomacy	15,182
1.5: New Colombo Plan	11,623
1.6: Official Development Assistance – PNG and Pacific	918,607
1.7: Official Development Assistance – East Asia	1,053,144
1.8: Official Development Assistance – East Asia AIPRD	53,048
1.9: Official Development Assistance – Africa, South and Central Asia, Middle East and Other	1,012,546
1.10: Official Development Assistance – Emergency, Humanitarian and Refugee Program	292,886
1.11: Official Development Assistance – Multilateral Replenishments	106,868
1.12: Official Development Assistance – UN, Commonwealth and other International Organisations	552,600
1.13: Official Development Assistance – NGO, Volunteer and Community Programs	203,972
1.14: Programs to promote Australia's International Tourism Interests	161,455
ODA Program Support	249,066

* DFAT 2014-15 Annual Report - Full year budget, including any subsequent adjustments made at 2014-15 Additional Estimates.

- c) To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.
- d) To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

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e) DFAT expenditure by program for 2015-16:

DFAT Program	Actual Expenses 2015-16* \$'000
Program 1.1: Foreign Affairs and Trade Operations	849,050
Program 1.2: Official Development Assistance	3,359,159
Program 1.3: Official Development Assistance – Multilateral Replenishments	445,921
Program 1.4: Official Development Assistance - East Asia AIPRD	7,188
Program 1.5: Payments to International Organisations	375,887
Program 1.6: New Colombo Plan – Transforming Regional Relationships	27,302
Program 1.7: Public Information Services and Public Diplomacy	4,594
Program 1.8: Programs to Promote Australia's International Tourism Interests	158,018
Program 2.1: Consular Services	98,977
Program 2.2: Passport Services	230,845
Program 3.1: Foreign Affairs and Trade Security and IT	192,424
Program 3.2: Overseas Property	261,157

* DFAT 2015-16 Annual Report.

DFAT expenditure by program for 2014-15:

DFAT Program	Actual Expenses 2014-15* \$'000
Program 1.1: Foreign Affairs and Trade Operations	1,227,982
Program 1.2: Payments to International Organisations	319,910
Program 1.3: Public Information Services and Public Diplomacy	15,138
Program 1.5: New Colombo Plan	11,179
Program 1.6: Official Development Assistance – PNG and Pacific	949,133
Program 1.7: Official Development Assistance – East Asia	1,068,435
Program 1.8: Official Development Assistance – East Asia AIPRD	55,797
Program 1.9: Official Development Assistance – Africa, South and Central Asia, Middle East and other	1,008,833
Program 1.10: Official Development Assistance – Emergency, Humanitarian and Refugee Program	251,294
Program 1.11: Official Development Assistance – Multilateral Replenishments	212,445

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Program 1.12: Official Development Assistance – UN, Commonwealth and Other International Organisations	551,673
Program 1.13: Official Development Assistance – NGO, Volunteer and Community Programs	202,401
Program 1.14: Programs to Promote Australia's International Tourism Interests	161,139
ODA Program Support	231,898

* DFAT 2014-15 Annual Report.

- f) To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.
- g) The actual Departmental expenses for Employee Benefits and Contractors are:

Departmental Expenses	2014-15 \$'000	2015-16 \$'000
Employee Benefits	725,252	781,733
Contractors	14,660	14,813

The actual 2016-17 expenditure will be reported in the 2016-17 Annual Report.

- h) Average staffing level by DFAT program (including locally engaged staff):

Program	2014-15* Actual	2015-16** Actual	2016-17*** Budget
DFAT Program 1	3,762	3,749	3,789
DFAT Program 2	1,088	1,082	1,093
DFAT Program 3	872	869	878

* DFAT 2014-15 Annual Report.

** DFAT 2015-16 Annual Report.

*** 2016-17 Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio Budget Statements.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 121

Program: DFAT

Topic: Programs

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Please provide the following information:

- a) For every program administered by the department and all portfolio agencies, copies of any evaluation reports or program analysis prepared by external advisers in the last five years; and
- b) Copies of any evaluation reports or program analysis prepared within the department in the last five years.

Answer

Copies of aid program evaluation and performance reports published in the past five years are available on the Department's website:

- <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/how-we-measure-performance/ode/strategic-evaluations/Pages/strategic-evaluation-publications.aspx>
- <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/how-we-measure-performance/ode/operational-evaluations/Pages/operational-evaluation-publications.aspx>
- <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/aid-program-performance-reports.aspx>

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 122

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question in Writing

Senator McAllister

Question

Note: Response to exclude EFIC

1. Please provide a breakdown of staffing levels as at 30 June 2016, nationally and for each state and territory, by the following categories:

- a) Full time equivalent (FTE);
- b) Head count;
- c) Gender;
- d) Ongoing;
- e) non-ongoing; and
- f) classification level.

2. How many engagements occurred in the 2015-16 financial year, by:

- a) Classification;
- b) State or territory;
- c) Ongoing staff; and
- d) Non-ongoing staff.

3. How many separations occurred in the 2015-16 financial year, by:

- a) Classification;
- b) State or territory;
- c) Ongoing staff;
- d) Non-ongoing staff; and
- e) Reason for separation.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. What was the total expenditure on contractors and consultants in the 2015-16 financial year.
5. For each contract or consultancy in the 2015-16 financial year, please outline:
- a) The project or engagement;
 - b) The value of the contract;
 - c) The name of each firm or contractor engaged; and
 - d) The purpose of the contract.
6. For each contract or consultancy in the 2015-16 financial year, please outline:
- a) The names of each firm or contractor engaged; and
 - b) Total payments made to each contractor or consultant.
7. For the 2015-16 financial year, please outline:
- a) How many staff were employed through labour hire arrangements;
 - b) Total expenditure on labour hire staff;
 - c) The contractors or labour hire firms engaged to supply these staff;
 - d) Total payments to each of the organisations that provided staff through either a labour hire arrangement or other contractual arrangement; and
 - e) The nature of the work performed by labour hire staff.

Answer

1.

	FTE	Headcount	Female	Male	Ongoing	Non-ongoing
Canberra	2335.1	2615	1524	1091	2529	86
New South Wales	77.4	81	63	18	74	7
Northern Territory	11	11	6	5	11	0
Queensland	56.1	58	41	17	55	3
South Australia	19.8	21	16	5	21	0
Tasmania	17.6	18	11	7	13	5
Victoria	95.9	101	72	29	92	9
Western Australia	40.1	43	33	10	42	1
Grand Total	2653.0	2948	1766	1182	2837	111

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2. FY 2015-16 A-based engagements by

a) classification:

Classification	Number of engagements
APS Class 3	4
APS Class 4	80
APS Class 5	81
APS Class 6	61
Exec Level 1	80
Exec Level 2	31
Graduate	36
SES Band 1	16
SES Band 2	2
SES Band 3	2
Total	393

b) State or Territory:

State or Territory	Number of engagements
Canberra	335
New South Wales	13
Northern Territory	4
Queensland	9
South Australia	2
Tasmania	11
Victoria	13
Western Australia	3
Total	390

** 3 engagements occurred overseas*

c) Ongoing/Non-Ongoing:

Permanency	Number of engagements
Ongoing	244
Non-Ongoing	145
Casual	4
Total	393

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

3. FY 2015-16 A-based separations by:

a) Classification

Classification	Number of Separations
APS Class 1	1
APS Class 2	1
APS Class 3	8
APS Class 4	27
APS Class 5	95
APS Class 6	46
Exec Level 1	74
Exec Level 2	39
Graduate	6
SES Band 1	19
SES Band 2	3
SES Band 3	2
Total	321

b) State or territory

State or Territory	Number of Separations
Canberra	274
New South Wales	9
Northern Territory	0
Queensland	6
South Australia	1
Tasmania	5
Victoria	9
Western Australia	2
Total	306

**15 separations occurred overseas*

c) Ongoing / Non-ongoing staff

Permanency	Number of Separations
Ongoing	209
Non-Ongoing	108
Casual	4
Total	321

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d) Reason for separation

Reason	Number of Separations
Resignation	80
Retirement	32
Death	3
Dismissal	6
Redundancy	22
End of Temporary Assignment	122
Move to APS Agency	55
Move to Parliamentary Dept	1
Total	321

4. Contractor and consultant expenditure information is available from the DFAT Annual Report

5. Details on contract arrangements are made available on Austender.

6. Details on contract arrangements are made available on Austender.

7. Commercial arrangements to deliver services to the department, in line with commonwealth procurement guidelines, are the responsibility of line management areas of the department. The department does not maintain a central register of the number of contractors, however the costs associated with commercial arrangements for services are reported in line with the department's financial framework (Austender and Annual report).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 123

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. How many FTAs is Australia currently negotiating?
2. What analysis does DFAT conduct before signing an FTA?
3. Who conducts this analysis?
4. How is this analysis conducted?
5. Is it made public?
6. Is this research independent of political influence or bias?
7. Is the same methodology used for each trade agreement?
8. How accurate has this analysis been?
9. Do you think the public should have more information and analysis made available to them before a trade deal is signed?
 - a. What affect would this have?

Answer

1. Australia is currently negotiating four free trade agreements.
2. Potential or actual FTA outcomes are analysed ahead of and throughout the course of negotiations, including in consultation with business and civil society. DFAT analyses the complete negotiated outcome in consultation with other relevant agencies and prepares a submission for consideration by Cabinet. This includes a draft National Interest Analysis and Regulatory Impact Statement which describe the potential benefits and costs from the FTA.
3. See answer to question 2, above.
4. See answer to question 2, above.

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5. Advice to and mandates from Cabinet are classified as Cabinet-in-Confidence and are not released to the public. The final National Interest Analysis and the Regulatory Impact Statement are tabled in Parliament at the same time as the FTA.
6. Yes.
7. Advice to Government on the outcomes of FTAs follow the same general pattern and are subject to the same treaty-making process.
8. The Government tracks Australia's trade performance in relevant markets, however an accurate analysis of the differential impact of FTAs encompassing goods, services and investment would require full access to confidential foreign trade data.
9. This is a matter for the Government.
 - a. As above.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 124

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. Does the department have an opinion on ISDS clauses?
2. Do ISDS clauses increase Australia's trade opportunities?
3. Are there any negative effects of ISDS clauses?
4. How could ISDS clauses be taken out of a FTA?
5. Has the Department raised any concerns with the government about ISDS clauses?

Answer

1. The Department assists Government in its consideration of the case-by-case proposition for inclusion of ISDS in FTAs.
2. Investment commitments in free trade agreements create a more predictable environment for investment. ISDS provides investors with the ability to enforce directly specific investment commitments in free trade agreements. It gives greater certainty to Australia's outward investors while at the same time signalling confidence in the strength of our system of governance.
3. Free Trade Agreements, like other international agreements, involve reciprocal commitments by States to undertake certain actions and to refrain from others. The inclusion of an ISDS mechanism in an FTA provides an additional avenue of enforcing certain investment commitments in those agreements, namely, one that can be initiated by an investor.
4. As a general rule, Australia's FTAs may be amended by agreement between the parties in writing. In plurilateral agreements, this would generally require the agreement of all parties to the agreement. Such an amendment may also be subject to each party's domestic approval processes.
5. The Department has provided advice to the Government on a range of topics related to Australia's FTAs. The Government negotiates the inclusion of ISDS provisions on a case-by-case basis.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 125

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPP

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. What happens if the TPP is not ratified?
2. What would the affect be for Australia?
3. Does the Department have a plan if the TPP is not ratified by the US?
4. How advanced are these plans?
5. Would this affect the progress of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)?
6. How progressed are discussions on RCEP?
7. Do you believe we could sign onto both RCEP and the TPP?

Answer

1. If two years elapse from signature, and all signatories have not ratified, the TPP can enter into force if at least six signatories have ratified, provided that, among them, those six represent 85 per cent of the total GDP of the twelve original signatories in 2013.

2. If the TPP does not enter into force, Australia would not benefit from the outcomes obtained in the TPP, including:

- new market access for Australian goods and services (including into countries with whom we have existing FTAs);
- commitments which lower the costs of trade (customs procedures, regional rules of origin and mechanism to address non-tariff barriers); and
- commitments to address contemporary trade challenges (state-owned enterprises, e-commerce, small and medium-sized enterprises, environmental protection, labour rights and combatting corruption).

If the TPP enters into force without Australia, Australia would be at a significant competitive disadvantage as our competitors would obtain more favourable market access into TPP markets than we would enjoy.

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In addition, the TPP is a potential building block for the region-wide Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific. It is in Australia's interests to have a seat at the table of processes that will shape future regional economic integration.

3. Yes

4. Uncertainty around the TPP has not stopped the government taking forward its trade agenda and the government will continue to pursue trade deals of commercial value to Australia in the region and beyond. The Indonesian and Australian Governments have agreed to aim to conclude the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) by the end of next year. Australia is also pushing for an ambitious Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), a mega-regional trade agreement involving 16 countries including China, Korea, Japan, India, ASEAN countries and NZ. Progress has been made on the Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) between 50 economies (23 parties, including the EU (28 WTO members)). The Government has also made clear its intention to broaden and deepen our trade and investment relationships with both the EU and UK, and is continuing to work on an FTA with India. The Government will also seek to make the most of the valuable agreements already in place, including the recent FTAs with Korea, China and Japan.

5. No. RCEP Leaders issued a Joint Statement on 8 September 2016 in the margins of the East Asia Summit committing to further intensify negotiations to reach a swift conclusion.

6. The RCEP negotiations continue to make steady progress

- negotiations on market access for goods, services and investment have entered an intensive phase
- text-based negotiations are also well underway, with the recent conclusion of the draft chapter on Economic and Technical Cooperation.

The recent RCEP Ministerial Meeting in Cebu (*3-4 November 2016, Philippines*) addressed a number of key issues relating to the goods, services and investment negotiations. Indonesia will host the next negotiation round (*2-10 December 2016, Bumi Serpong Damai*), with further rounds and Ministerial Meetings scheduled for 2017.

7. Yes, the TPP and RCEP are complementary. Both present pathways to the realisation of APEC's long-term vision of a Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 126

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade - Trade in Goods and Services - Oceania

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with Oceania in 2013?
2. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with Oceania in 2014?
3. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with Oceania in 2015?
4. Why has it declined?
5. What is the department doing about it?
6. Will this decline be permanent?

Answer

1. \$32.0 billion
2. \$34.2 billion
3. \$33.7 billion
4. From 2013 to 2015, Australia's two-way trade in goods and services with Oceania *increased* by 5.5 per cent.
5. The Department is working closely with Pacific Forum Island Countries (FIC) to negotiate a free trade agreement, PACER Plus, that will safeguard and expand Australia's market access in goods, including dairy, grains and metal, and in services and investment, including construction, education and tourism.

By facilitating and improving the regional flow of goods, services and investment, PACER Plus will also improve FIC economic development prospects and promote social and political stability in our neighbourhood.

6. Over the period 2013-15, the volume of world trade has grown slowly, by 2.6 per cent. The World Trade Organization notes slow trade growth is due to a number of factors including an economic slowdown in China, a severe recession in Brazil, falling

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prices for oil and other commodities, exchange rate volatility, and financial volatility driven by divergent monetary policies in developed countries.

This recent uninterrupted spell of slow trade growth is unusual but not unprecedented. In particular, world trade growth was weaker between 1980 and 1985, when five out of six years saw trade growth below three per cent, including two years of outright contraction.

In the coming years, world trade is projected to grow.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 127

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade - Trade in Goods and Services – South East Asia

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with Southeast Asia in 2013?
2. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with Southeast Asia in 2014?
3. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with Southeast Asia in 2015?
4. Why has it declined?
5. What is the department doing about it?
6. Will this decline be permanent?

Answer

1. \$92.7 billion
2. \$101.2 billion
3. \$96.2 billion
4. From 2013 to 2015, Australia's two-way trade in goods and services with Southeast Asia *increased* by 3.7 per cent.
5. The Government is working to promote closer integration with economies in Southeast Asia with the aim of promoting prosperity and strategic stability. Recently, the Government successfully updated the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement. The Government is developing new agreements directly with Indonesia and with Southeast Asian countries more broadly under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (which includes China, India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand and all ASEAN countries). APEC's Services Competitiveness Roadmap will also provide economic opportunities in the region.
6. Over the period 2013-15, the volume of world trade grew slowly, by 2.6 per cent. The World Trade Organization notes slow trade growth is due to a number of factors including an economic slowdown in China, a severe recession in Brazil, falling prices for oil and other commodities, exchange rate volatility, and financial volatility driven by divergent monetary policies in developed countries.

This recent uninterrupted spell of slow trade growth is unusual but not unprecedented. In particular, world trade growth was weaker between 1980

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and 1985, when five out of six years saw trade growth below three per cent, including two years of outright contraction.

In the coming years, world trade is projected to grow.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 128

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade - Trade in Goods and Services – North Asia

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with North Asia in 2013?
2. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with North Asia in 2014?
3. What was Australia's trade in goods and services with North Asia in 2015?
4. Why has it stagnated?
5. What is the department doing about it?
6. Will this stagnation be permanent?

Answer

1. \$275.4 billion.
2. \$279.4 billion.
3. \$279.0 billion.
4. From 2013 to 2015, Australia's two-way trade in goods and services with North Asia *increased* by 1.3 per cent.
5. The Government is working to promote closer integration with economies in North Asia with the aim of promoting mutual prosperity and strategic stability. Australia's free trade agreements with China, Japan and the Republic of Korea are being implemented actively, and businesses are being encouraged to utilise the agreements through the Government's outreach program, including FTA seminars in numerous regional centres and towns across Australia. The FTAs are contributing to growth in Australian exports across a wide range of products where tariffs have been cut. The Government is developing new agreements under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (which includes China, India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand and all ASEAN countries). APEC's Services Competitiveness Roadmap will also provide economic opportunities in the region.
6. Over the period 2013-15, the volume of world trade grew slowly, by 2.6 per cent. The World Trade Organization notes slow trade growth is due to a number of factors including an economic slowdown in China, a severe recession in Brazil, falling prices for oil and other commodities, exchange

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rate volatility, and financial volatility driven by divergent monetary policies in developed countries.

This recent uninterrupted spell of slow trade growth is unusual but not unprecedented. In particular, world trade growth was weaker between 1980 and 1985, when five out of six years saw trade growth below three per cent, including two years of outright contraction.

In the coming years, world trade is projected to grow.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 129

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. What methods can employees use to communicate with each other?
2. What software is installed on phones for communication?
3. Do you know of colleagues using software such as Whatsapp for communication?
4. Do you know of any sensitive trade information having been communicated via Whatsapp?
5. Are you aware that the Australian Signals Directorate has not authorised WhatsApp as a secure communication channel?
6. Has the department been attacked by online hackers?
7. Has any sensitive trade information been compromised by online hackers?
 - a. Which information?
 - b. Have the appropriate persons been notified?
 - c. What actions were taken in response to these attacks?
8. Can you please outline what is done to protect sensitive trade information?
9. What budget is allocated to protecting trade information from online attacks?
10. Is this sufficient?
 - a. Is this lack of funds risking our security?

Answer

1. Staff can communicate official information using DFAT's network which can be accessed on desktop and mobile devices. The system enables communication via email, instant messaging, cables and telephone. There are a range of policies and guidelines on the handling of official and classified information.
2. Mobile devices have software that connects to DFAT's secure network used for the transfer of official information. DFAT does not prevent the installation of applications on mobile phones issued by the department.
3. DFAT is aware that staff use WhatsApp. Staff are required to adhere to a range of policies and guidelines on the handling of official and classified information.
4. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

5. DFAT is aware that ASD has recommended that WhatsApp is only to be used for unclassified communication.

6. For national security reasons, it is the long-standing practice of successive Australian Governments not to comment on operational security matters.

7. For national security reasons, it is the long-standing practice of successive Australian Governments not to comment on operational security matters.

a. For national security reasons, it is the long-standing practice of successive Australian Governments not to comment on operational security matters.

b. For national security reasons, it is the long-standing practice of successive Australian Governments not to comment on operational security matters.

c. For national security reasons, it is the long-standing practice of successive Australian Governments not to comment on operational security matters.

8. DFAT protects information based on the substantive classification. Sensitive trade information is protected in the same way as any other piece of sensitive information.

To protect information, DFAT operates a whole-of-government secure global telecommunications system which has a range of technical and policy protections to prevent the release of sensitive information.

DFAT also follows the information security controls outlined within the Whole of Government Protective Security Policy Framework and implements the detailed controls of the Australian Government Information Security Manual as applicable to the department. Furthermore, the department implements the mandatory Australian Signals Directorate Top 4 Strategies to Mitigate Targeted Cyber Intrusions.

9. DFAT protects information based on the substantive classification. Protection of trade information is not disaggregated from protection of any other piece of information.

DFAT has a secure global telecommunications system designed to protect information. In addition, a range of technical and policy protections exist to prevent the misuse of sensitive information.

With respect to any further details, for national security reasons, it is the long-standing practice of successive Australian Governments not to comment on operational security matters.

10. Yes.

a. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 130

Program: DFAT

Topic: Efic

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. What was the tender process for the app announced by the Minister on the 27 September 2016?
2. How many applicants were there for the tender?
3. How was the successful applicant chosen?
4. What was the initial budget for the work?
5. What was the final sum paid?
6. How was it intended that this app would increase trade?
7. What methodology was used to show this would be a good investment?
8. How many public servants worked on this analysis?
9. For how long?
10. Has this app been advertised?
11. How has this app been advertised?
12. How much money has been spent on advertising?
13. Was there an advertising strategy for this app?
14. How much money was spent on the creation of this advertising strategy?
15. How many consultants worked on this project?
16. How many times has the app been downloaded?
17. How much trade has this app facilitated?
 - a. How has this been measured?
18. When will there be a review of this app?
19. How much will be spent maintaining this app to ensure the information is current and accurate?
20. When / what review process exists to ensure this app has accurate information?
21. Why and how was it deemed this would be more cost effective than a traditional website?
22. Does the Department plan to create any other apps given its success / failure?

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. The development and delivery of the App was led by the Export Council of Australia (ECA), a peak industry body for Australian exporters. Efic sponsored the App. The tender process and vendor selection was undertaken by ECA.
2. See answer 1.
3. See answer 1.
4. Efic provided \$30,000 worth of sponsorship to ECA to assist with the development of the App.
5. See answer 4.
6. The purpose of the App is to assist Australian companies by providing useful information in relation to exporting, rather than specifically facilitating trade. As an educational tool, it contains information, templates and key contacts to help SMEs develop and implement their export strategies and it also provides a comprehensive contact list of organisations to help businesses achieve their export goals.
7. Efic worked with ECA to ensure that the app had the ability to effectively address frequent questions received by ECA and Efic from Australian SME exporters.
8. The sponsorship proposal was assessed by two Efic staff.
9. Such assessments typically require around four hours of direct analysis, around three hours of meetings to finalise proposals.
10. Yes.
11. It has been promoted via digital channels owned by ECA and Efic. On 27 September 2016, the Minister for Trade, Tourism & Investment officially launched the App with a media release.
12. No paid advertising has been used to promote the App
13. Yes. The App has been promoted via digital channels owned by ECA and Efic. On 27 September 2016, the Minister for Trade, Tourism & Investment officially launched the App with a media release.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

14. None.

15. None

16. As at 15 November 2016, the App had been downloaded 244 times.

17. See answer 6.

a. Not applicable. See answer 6.

18. Pursuant to the sponsorship agreement, ECA commits to regular reporting to Efic.

19. ECA has responsibility for the App's maintenance. The cost to Efic is nominal.

20. ECA has responsibility for reviewing the App's content. Efic will review content that is specifically related to Efic, as part of its regular review of all digital content.

21. The App is not a replacement for Efic's website. It is a complementary educational tool that facilitates Efic reaching more SME exporters.

22. There are no current plans to create further apps.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 131

Program: DFAT

Topic: Efic

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. What methods can employees use to communicate with each other?
2. What software is installed on phones for communication?
3. Do you know of colleagues using software such as Whatsapp for communication?
4. Do you know of any sensitive trade information having been communicated via Whatsapp?
5. Are you aware that the Australian Signals Directorate has not authorised WhatsApp as a secure communication channel?
6. Has the department been attacked by online hackers?
7. Has any sensitive trade information been compromised by online hackers?
 - a. Which information?
 - b. Have the appropriate persons been notified?
 - c. What actions were taken in response to these attacks?
8. Can you please outline what is done to protect sensitive trade information?
9. What budget is allocated to protecting trade information from online attacks?
10. Is this sufficient?
 - a. Is this lack of funds risking our security?

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. Employees can communicate using email, mobile phone devices and desk phones.
2. The following software is installed on staff phones for communication: (i) the Shoretel mobile communicator app, which is a secure mobile extension of our telephone system; and (ii) the Mobileiron device management app, which secures the sending and receiving of emails and attachments and enforces security policies including encryption.
3. WhatsApp is not used by Efic staff for work-related communication.
4. Not applicable. See answer 3.
5. Yes.
6. No. Efic has not been subject to a targeted attack on its systems.
7. No.
 - a. Not applicable. See answer 7.
 - b. Not applicable. See answer 7.
 - c. Not applicable. See answer 7.
8. Efic undertakes the following measures to protect sensitive trade information:
 - Use of firewall and filtered communications;
 - IP white-listing;
 - Application white-listing;
 - Ensuring that all web service communication occurs over HTTPS, using TLS 1.2 for external integrated systems;
 - Data encryption at rest;
 - Penetration testing;
 - Verification tokens on transactions;
 - HTML encoding of all user input to help prevent Cross Site Scripting (XSS) attacks;
 - Use of sensitive configuration settings securely stored within a KeyVault; and
 - Use of unique user hashes for session management.
9. Efic's budget is \$355,100, which includes physical and data security (excludes staff salaries).
10. Yes.
 - a. Not applicable. See answer 10.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 132

Program: DFAT

Topic: Efic

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

1. Please provide an itemised table detailing the following information:
 - a) Every program administered by the department and all portfolio agencies within it:
The total funding allocated for each in 2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15;
 - b) The number of organisations funded under the program in each in those years, the name of each organisation funded and the dollar value of that funding
 - c) The number of individuals projected to be serviced or services to be delivered through each in 2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15;
 - d) The total funding actually expended on each in 2015-16 and 2014-15;
 - e) The number of individuals actually serviced or services actually delivered through each in 2015-16 and 2014-15;
 - f) The aggregate staff budget for each in 2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15 broken down by i) permanent APS staff and ii) contractors.
 - g) The number of permanent APS staff responsible for delivering each in 2016-17; 2015-16 and 2014-15, the classification of these staff and their geographic location;
 - h) The dollar value of external advice contracted to support each in 2016-17, as well as the number of contractors engaged, the APS-equivalent classification these contractors were engaged at and their geographic location.
2. Please provide the following information:
 - a) For every program administered by the department and all portfolio agencies within it:
 - b) Copies of any evaluation reports or program analysis prepared by external advisers in the last five years;
 - c) Copies of any evaluation reports or program analysis prepared within the department in the last five years.

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Answer

Not applicable to Efic.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 133

Program: DFAT

Topic: HOM/HOP

Question in Writing

Senator Moore

Question

Can the Department provide a complete list of thematic Ambassadors and include:

- a) what their terms of employment periods are?
- b) advise if the roles are full time or part time?
- c) Is there any independent auditing process for delivery objectivities and outcomes for these positions?

Answer

Position title	Name of appointee	Date commenced
Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism	Paul Foley	August 2016
Ambassador for Cyber Affairs	Tobias Feakin	Commences January 2017
Ambassador for the Environment	Patrick Suckling	February 2016
Ambassador for HIV/Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria	James Gilling	October 2012
Ambassador for People Smuggling and Human Trafficking	Andrew Goledzinowski AM	December 2014
Ambassador for Women and Girls	Natasha Stott Despoja AM	December 2013 (term ends 30/12/16) (part-time)

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- a) As with Heads of Mission and Heads of Post and thematic ambassadors are appointed by the Government.
- The duration of these appointments is a matter for the Government.
 - There is no usual term of office for thematic ambassador appointments.
- b) Natasha Stott-Despoja AM is part-time in the role of Ambassador for Women and Girls. Ms Stott-Despoja's term ends on 30 December 2016.
- c) Thematic ambassadors report to departmental supervisors on the performance of their duties. There is no separate "independent auditing process for delivery objectives and outcomes".

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 134

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change

Question in Writing

Senator Moore

Question

- A. What priority is the Department giving to ensure that our international Development investments support long term sustainable development outcomes?
- B. Is the Department aware of DFAT investments in aid projects (or those given through DFAT contracts) that have been directly negatively affected by Climate change?
- C. Does DFAT intend to introduce a framework to be 'climate smart' across the wider aid programs (other than the Pacific)? Is there a formal process in which this happens?

Answer

- A. The purpose of the aid program is to promote Australia's national interests by contributing to sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction.

Australia's development priorities are well aligned with the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda), which includes the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development. The 2030 Agenda sets the globally agreed road map for sustainable development and brings together all aspects of development: social, economic and environmental.

Australia has also committed to global agreements on development effectiveness (at Paris in 2005, Accra in 2008 and Busan in 2011), which provide a framework for development cooperation that emphasises the principles of country ownership, a focus on results, multi-stakeholder partnerships, transparency and mutual accountability.

- B. No, though the countries we work in are regularly impacted by climate-related natural disasters such as floods, cyclones and droughts. Following a disaster, our first priority (if invited) is assisting with life-saving disaster response followed by recovery and reconstruction. Our aid investments in countries like Fiji can contain contingency funds to allow individual projects to respond directly to disaster-related impact.

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- C. Yes. DFAT has established a department-wide Climate Change and Development Working Group at Assistant Secretary level. The Working Group is preparing a principles-based framework for climate action and development and will provide practical guidance on how to integrate climate action into the aid program. The working group also has representatives from other agencies such as the Department of Environment and Energy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 135

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sustainable Development Goals

Question in Writing

Senator Moore

Question

What DFAT partnerships are being developed with specific countries in regards to the 2030 Agenda:

- A. How will development 2030 Agenda be monitored with these countries?
- B. How will development 2030 Agenda be measured with these countries?
- C. Who in DFAT will be responsible for overseeing the gathering of monitoring of SDGs with developing countries?
- D. Who in DFAT will be responsible for overseeing the gathering of measured of SDGs with developing countries?

Answer

A & B. DFAT will remain closely engaged with our development partner countries in their approaches to implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda). We work particularly closely with partner countries in the Asia-Pacific region to give effect to our shared priorities, and our aid investments support many aspects of the 2030 Agenda. Implementation and reporting of the 2030 Agenda is voluntary and country-led and each country will determine how they best measure and report on progress.

C & D. Many areas of DFAT are engaged with the 2030 Agenda, with shared responsibility for monitoring and reporting the contribution of development initiatives – at both country and regional level – to the advancement of the 2030 Agenda. First Assistant Secretary of the Multilateral Development and Finance Division holds overarching responsibility for coordinating DFAT's reporting, internationally, on progress to advance the 2030 Agenda.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 136

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sustainable Development Goals

Question in Writing

Senator Moore

Question

- A. Will DFAT be responsible for measuring Australia's 2030 Agenda for the SDGs?
- B. How will Australia's development 2030 Agenda be monitored by DFAT?
- C. How will Australia's development 2030 Agenda be measured by DFAT?
- D. Who in DFAT will be responsible for overseeing the gathering of monitoring of Australian SDGs?
- E. Who in DFAT will be responsible for overseeing the gathering of measured of Australian SDGs?

Answer

- A. The Departments of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Prime Minister and Cabinet jointly lead a high-level whole-of-government process to consider how Australia gives effect to the 2030 Agenda, including how Australia monitors and reports. In general, we expect relevant agencies will continue to monitor and report on their activities which advance the 2030 Agenda.

B & C.

Many areas of DFAT are engaged with the 2030 Agenda. All relevant areas hold shared responsibility for monitoring and reporting the impacts of their initiatives to advance the 2030 Agenda. Broader assessment of how Australia's development activities are advancing the 2030 Agenda will be reflected in aid program performance reports for country and regional programs and the annual Performance of Australian Aid report.

D & E.

Measuring and monitoring Australia's development activities to advance the 2030 Agenda is a shared responsibility across relevant areas of DFAT. First Assistant Secretary of the Multilateral Development and Finance Division holds overarching responsibility for coordinating DFAT's reporting, internationally, on progress to advance the 2030 Agenda.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 137

Program: DFAT

Topic: InnovationXchange

Question in Writing

Senator Moore

Question

- A. Will the innovationXchange be responsible for developing the 2030 Agenda with specific countries?
- B. How will the 2030 Agenda be monitored by the innovationXchange?
- C. How will the 2030 Agenda be measured by the innovationXchange?
- D. What specific process will the innovationXchange undertake to achieve the 2030 Agenda?
- E. Has the innovationXchange developed a framework to achieve the 2030 Agenda?
- F. Are specific SDG goals being prioritised and what are they?

Answer

A.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Prime Minister and Cabinet are leading a whole-of-government process to support how Australia gives effect to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda). Seventeen Australian Government agencies are currently involved in this process and meet – through an Inter-Departmental Committee – to consider how the Australian Government will advance and report against the 2030 Agenda, both domestically and internationally.

Australia is closely engaged with regional partners in their approaches to implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda. We will continue to support our regional partners, particularly in the Pacific, to support their ability to give effect to the 2030 Agenda.

DFAT's innovationXchange does not lead on the process of how Australia is monitoring, measuring, or giving effect to the 2030 Agenda, but rather seeks to identify, test and help scale up innovations with the potential to generate significant development results.

The 2030 Agenda is well aligned with Australia's foreign, security and trade interests - and with Australia's aid policy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Investments supported by the innovationXchange are consistent with the development policy of the current Australian Government, *Australian aid: promoting prosperity, reducing poverty, enhancing stability, and making performance count.*

The innovationXchange supports investments to reduce hunger and poverty, promote good health and well-being, improve employment opportunities and advance gender equality, and conserve water resources and ensure sustainable development. These are all important components of the 2030 Agenda.

B, C, D, E.

The UN has developed a set of 230 indicators to assist Member States measure and report their progress to advance the 2030 Agenda. Australia is an observer on this group, represented by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Australia is well positioned to report on our progress against the 2030 Agenda and already publishes data, through the ABS, on a wide range of indicators.

Australia is closely engaged with regional partners in their approaches to implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda. We will continue to support our regional partners, particularly in the Pacific, to support their ability to give effect to the 2030 Agenda.

DFAT's innovationXchange does not lead on the process of how Australia is monitoring, measuring, or giving effect to the 2030 Agenda, but rather seeks to identify, test and help scale up innovations with the potential to generate significant development results.

F.

The Australian Government's aid program aims to promote prosperity, reduce poverty and enhance stability with a strengthened focus on our region, the Indo-Pacific.

Internationally, Australia is advancing the 2030 Agenda through our aid program, including through investments in:

- food security (SDG 2)
- health, education and water and sanitation (SDGs 3, 4, and 6)
- gender equality and women's empowerment (SDG 5)
- infrastructure and aid for trade (SDGs 9 and 17)
- addressing climate change and sustainable use of oceans (SDGs 13 and 14)
- economic growth and good governance (SDGs 8 and 16).

The Department's actions in these areas advance both Australia's interests and the 2030 Agenda. Many of the priorities reflected in the SDGs are already part of Australia's aid program - for example, gender, governance, health, education and economic growth.

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Question No 138

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sustainable Development Goals

Question in Writing

Senator Moore

Question

- a) What is the membership of the Development Policy Committee?
- b) Has the committee met to discuss how the 2030 Agenda will be prioritised within DFAT?
- c) Has the committee met to discuss how the 2030 Agenda will be discussed within the development area?
- d) Has any other DFAT committees met to discuss specifically the 2030 Agenda?
- e) Will there be a focus on Australia developing a response for delivering on the SDG targets, given their date is 2030 in the White Paper?
- f) Has the committee met to discuss how the 2030 Agenda will be prioritised within DFAT?
- g) Has the committee met to discuss how the 2030 Agenda will be discussed within the development area?
- h) Has any other DFAT committees met to discuss specifically the 2030 Agenda?
- i) Will there be a focus on Australia developing a response for delivering on the SDG targets, given their date is 2030 in the White Paper?
- j) Will the White Paper look at examining the how to prioritise international development and the important role it plays in DFAT?
- k) Will the White Paper identifying core goals for foreign affairs and international development, and then examine how to allocate resources accordingly?

Answer

- a) The Development Policy Committee's permanent membership for 2016 is:
 - o Deputy Secretary – Ewen McDonald (Chair)
 - o FAS Development Policy Division (Deputy Chair)
 - o Chief Economist (Development)

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- FAS Multilateral Development and Finance Division
 - FAS Multilateral Policy Division
 - FAS Pacific Division
 - FAS South and West Asia Division
 - FAS Investment and Economic Division
 - FAS Office of Trade Negotiations
 - FAS South East Asia Maritime Division
 - FAS South East Asia Mainland & Regional Division
 - FAS Contracting and Aid Management Division
 - FAS Middle East and Africa Division
 - FAS Public Diplomacy and Communications Division
 - AS Policy Planning Branch
- b) The Committee formally discussed issues related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and DFAT's response to it in meetings held on 24 March 2016, 18 May 2016, 21 July 2016 and 10 November 2016.
- c) See b) above.
- d) Many areas of DFAT are engaged with the 2030 Agenda and meet as required to discuss particular aspects. There is a DFAT reference group on the 2030 Agenda which met in June this year.
- e) The government will give consideration to Australia's aid work as part of the White Paper process. Discussion of the 2030 Agenda will form part of that process.
- f) See b) above.
- g) See c) above.
- h) See d) above.
- i) See e) above.
- j) See e) above.
- k) See e) above.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 139

Program: DFAT

Topic: Humanitarian assistance

Question in Writing

Senator Moore

Question

- a) How is DFAT implementing humanitarian assistance using your Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy to help ensure that their rights and safety are protected and prioritised?
- b) How is DFAT delivering reproductive health rights in support of the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy?

Answer

- a) Australia has a steadfast and ongoing commitment to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, including through its humanitarian assistance. DFAT's Humanitarian Strategy (2016) includes a commitment to gender equality in humanitarian action, supports the active participation of women, girls, boys and men, and the increased disaggregation of data by sex. Some examples of this work are as follows.

Through DFAT's humanitarian partnerships with Australian NGOs and the Australian Red Cross, gender equality and women's empowerment is a key consideration and is incorporated throughout all programs. Partners are required to complete gender action plans to respond to different needs and priorities of women, girls, men, boys.

Australia provides dedicated humanitarian funding to United Nations Population Fund to preposition Sexual and Reproductive Health commodities across identified disaster prone countries in the Asia Pacific region, for rapid distribution in the event of humanitarian crises.

Australia also provides targeted funding to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian crises, including through the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

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The Australian Civilian Corps (ACC) contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment, directly, through the deployment of gender specialists and protection officers and more broadly by ensuring gender equality is incorporated in all deployments.

- b) DFAT works to support realisation of universal access to reproductive health services and rights in accordance with the outcomes of the International Conference on Population Development and as an important element of achieving women's equality and empowerment. Funding for sexual and reproductive health programs is delivered through organisations with demonstrated capacity to effectively advance reproductive health rights. The Department strongly advocated to ensure targets related to the achievement of universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights were included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 140

Program: DFAT

Topic: Humanitarian assistance

Question in Writing

Senator Moore

Question

Can DFAT clarify total expenditure on family planning for 2015/16 financial year including a breakdown of which organizations are to be funded for 2016-17?

Answer

Expenditure for the financial year 2015/16 has not yet been finalised. Data will be released in DFAT's *Australian Engagement with Developing Countries* (commonly referred to as the Green Book).

For 2016/17, core funding has been committed to the United Nations Population Fund and the International Planned Parenthood Federation. Funding has also been provided or committed to Marie Stopes International and Family Planning New South Wales for activities that include family planning related components. The Department also supports a range of health activities funded through country, regional and global programs that may have family planning related components.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 141

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Offices

Question in Writing

Senator Brown

Question

- a) What are the funding arrangements for Minister Ciobo's office?
- b) Is there a specific budget for the office? Or has a specific funding allocation been set aside within the department to meet the costs of operating the ministerial offices in the portfolio.
- c) Are there administrative arrangements that apply to these budgets? Please provide details.
- d) Can you advise the Committee of the arrangement for expenditure by Minister Ciobo or his office on hospitality?
- e) Has Minister Ciobo or his office used the office budget or directly drew on departmental funds for hospitality purposes? If so what are the details.

Answer

- a) The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provides an annual allocation of funds for office administration and support.
- b) Yes.
- c) The allocation is managed by DFAT's Executive Branch and is used to facilitate the day-to-day operations of the Minister's office by covering expenses in accordance with section 1.2.2 of the Ministers of State Entitlements Handbook.
- d) The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade can cover expenses associated with portfolio-related hospitality, in accordance with section 1.2.2 of the Ministers of State Entitlements Handbook.
- e) The Office has not used its funding allocation for the purposes of hospitality. DFAT assists portfolio ministers to host many official functions, receptions, events and gatherings to advance Australia's foreign, trade and development interests, both in Australia and at Australian Government posts overseas. To provide specific detail would involve a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 142

Program: DFAT

Topic: HOM/HOP

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. Was there any knowledge that the Australian Ambassador to the USA, Joe Hockey, was claiming his child care expenses before this story broke in the media?
2. How much money has been paid for Mr Hockey's child care costs?
3. What are the costs that Ambassadors from Australia are covered for?
4. Are there guidelines for what Ambassadors, diplomats and diplomatic staff can claim for?
 - a. Can those guidelines be publicly released? If yes please provide those guidelines.
5. If Ambassadors or other diplomats or diplomatic staff from Australia claim child care costs as part of their workplace expenses are they doing that as general workplace expenses or are child care costs specifically set out as a claimable cost?
6. How many other Ambassadors, diplomats or diplomatic staff have been paid for child care costs they have incurred?
 - a. Who are the staff who have claimed these costs?
7. What is the total amount that has been paid out for the child care costs of Ambassadors, diplomats or diplomatic staff and please itemise these costs for each staff person?

Answer

1. DFAT guidelines allow overseas employees to be reimbursed for child minding expenses when the employee and their partner are required to attend an official function. Ambassador Hockey's acquittal of the expenditure met Departmental guidelines.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2. Since Ambassador Hockey's arrival at post, he has claimed a total of \$A4,350 in child minding costs against his representational funds for official events when both he and his spouse were required to attend. Ambassador Hockey has attended 164 official functions/events, including 50 with his spouse.
3. The Department's guidelines for the management of representation funds provides a list of possible admissible expenses of representational funds, including child minding costs when both the employee and spouse attend a representation function.
4. See response to Question 1. The guidelines are an internal document.
5. See response to Question 1.
6. Information on DFAT expenditure on child minding costs is not separately recorded. It would entail significant diversion of resources to collate this expenditure and to break it down into business groups. In these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.
7. See response to Question 6.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 143

Program: DFAT

Topic: EFIC

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. Andrew Hunter, Managing Director and CEO of Efic was asked in Senate estimates on 20 October 2016 whether the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) prepared for the Boikarabelo coal mine is of a standard that would be acceptable in Australia. He replied “yes, it is”. In coming to this conclusion, please indicate which of the following Australian regulators has Efic consulted with:
 - a) Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy
 - b) NSW Department of Planning and Environment
 - c) NSW Department of Industry, Division of Resources and Energy
 - d) NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
 - e) Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
 - f) Queensland Department of State Development
 - g) Please name any other agencies consulted
2. Which of these agencies indicated that the rehabilitation and closure plans for the Boikarabelo project were of a standard acceptable in their jurisdiction?
3. Which South African environment and community groups has Efic consulted with in assessing the Boikarabelo project?
4. Which South African government agencies has Efic consulted with in assessing the Boikarabelo project?
5. The 2011 ESIA devotes only 4 pages to site rehabilitation and closure, suggesting that there was no detailed plan in 2011:

It is recommended that Resgen formulate a rehabilitation and closure plan during the pre-construction phase. This rehabilitation plan must be updated on an annual basis and submitted to the DMR. (p361)

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Rehabilitation of the open pit area is currently forecasted to only be initiated in year 9 of operation. (p365)

- a) Has Efic received or reviewed any more recent environmental assessment, rehabilitation or closure plans? If so:
 - i. why was this not provided for public comment?
 - ii. please provide a copy of those documents.
- 6. Does Efic agree that the project does not at present have an adequate rehabilitation and closure plan?
- 7. Jan Parsons, Efic Environment Manager, implied in Senate Estimates on 20 October 2016 that Efic 'will make sure that there is a closure plan prepared for the project', citing that it is a requirement of IFC Performance Standards. Mr Parsons went on to say that Efic would not approve a loan for such a project unless a closure plan was 'in black and white or or at a satisfactory stage of preparation where we can be confident that it would be in place'.
 - a) Will Efic require Environmental and Social Action Plan to be covenanted under the project financing if Efic approves the project, as Mr Parsons implied?
 - b) Would this Plan include a more complete rehabilitation and closure plan?
- 8. When will Efic release the covenanted Environmental and Social Action Plan so that the public can reassure itself that it is sufficiently protective of the communities and the environment?

Answer

- 1. See information Efic provided regarding its due diligence process at its Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing (Hansard pp.124-126).

Efic is currently undertaking due diligence on the proposed Boikarabelo Project. Pursuant to Efic's Policy for Environmental and Social Review of Transactions, due diligence requires consideration of two benchmarks. Firstly, Efic will use host country standards, which in this case are South African standards. Secondly, Efic will benchmark the Project against the International Finance Corporation Performance Standards (IFC Performance Standards). The IFC

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Performance Standards are recognised by financial institutions both in Australia and internationally as a benchmark for the environmental and social review of projects. Efic may also request an Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) from the Project Sponsor, to ensure that relevant environmental and social benchmarks are met.

Efic has not consulted with any of the listed Australian regulators or entities as the Project is located in South Africa, not Australia.

2. See answer 1.

3. Efic disclosed its potential support for the Boikarabelo Project on its website and invited public submissions. No submissions were received from South African environment and community groups.

The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) prepared by ResGen included public consultation and community engagement in the Lephalale region of South Africa.

4. ResGen, as the Project Sponsor, was responsible for obtaining approval and for ensuring that the Project will meet the requirements of the South African Government and those of the provincial Government.

5. Efic received an independent report from a qualified environmental consulting firm. In addition, ResGen has submitted a range of mine closure strategies to the South African Department of Mineral Resources, which is considering the proposals.

All documents are commercial-in-confidence.

6. Efic is currently undertaking due diligence on the proposed Boikarabelo Project. Whether or not an ESAP, and the level of detail of such a plan, will be required will be considered as part of Efic's due diligence for the Project.

7. There is no requirement that Efic publish a Project's ESAP under its Policy for Environmental and Social Review of Transactions nor under the Equator Principles nor the OECD Common Approaches for Officially Supported Export Credits and Environmental and Social Due Diligence (Common Approaches). The publishing of such a document is matter for the Project Sponsor.

8. See answer 7.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 144

Program: DFAT

Topic: Activity

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. In media reports, Resource Generation (ResGen) says that it is determined that: *Feasibility studies for a 600 MW power station have begun and ResGen has also started engaging with potential power plant contractors and funders. "This project component will happen, it is part of our plans and the necessary work to deliver on this is well underway."*

Andrew Hunter, Managing Director and CEO of Efic stated in Senate Estimates on 20 October 2016 that the application to Efic was for a coal wash facility.

- a. What is the Boikarabelo project as Efic understands it? As part of its development of the Boikarabelo coal deposit, please indicate which of the following ResGen has proposed and the proposed capacity:

- Coal mine
- Coal handling and processing facilities
- Coal transport infrastructure:
 - Rail
 - Conveyor belts
 - Road
 - Export terminal
- Coal fired power station
- Other

2. The OECD Export Credits Working Group has agreed that export credit agencies will no longer support the construction of new coal fired power stations. Given the above, is Efic of the opinion that financing a project that will involve the development of a new coal fired power plan, so long as the component which

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Efic finances is not the power plant itself, is acceptable under the OECD Export Credits agreement?

3. Resgen also notes: *The Boikarabelo tenement is enormous – it has a 200+ year lifespan with a 7.4 Bt resource. Realistically, the current JORCcompliant 760 Mt resource offers an initial 35 year lifespan though.*

The implications on the world's future climate of extracting and burning this amount of fossil fuel are enormous.

- a. Will Efic take into account the implications for climate change in financing the development of a coal resource with such large reserves in coming to its decision?
 - b. If so, how will it do this?
4. Would any consideration include consideration of the rail infrastructure associated with the Boikarabelo mine project to facilitate further development of the Waterberg coalfield?
5. Does Efic have a requirement in its Policies or Procedures documents for environmental and social considerations for transactions?
- a. If not, why not?
6. Are other Australian companies applicants to Efic for support for this project?
7. Does Efic consider ResGen to be an Australian company, for the purposes of this project?
8. Does ResGen have any staff working in Australia?
9. If so, how many? In what state do they work?
10. How many Australian citizens are on the board and in senior management of ResGen?
11. Is ResGen the principal applicant for Efic support for this project?
12. If Efic is not the principal application, who is?

Answer

1. The Boikarabelo Project is for the development of a coal mine in South Africa. Further details are provided in the following table:

a	Coal mine	The mine is approved for a maximum of 18Mtpa of run-of-mine (ROM) coal for the first 5 years of operation.
b	Coal handling and	Proposed to process 15Mtpa of ROM coal.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

	processing facilities	
c	Coal transport infrastructure	<p>The Project will require access to railway infrastructure.</p> <p>Conveyor belts will be including in the development of the coal handling and washing plant.</p> <p>The Project does not include the development of an access road to the site nor an export terminal, as there is existing infrastructure.</p>
d	Coal fired power station	<p>This has not been proposed, nor is Efic considering providing support in relation to a coal fired power station.</p>
e	Other	<p>Not applicable.</p>

2. Yes. The OECD Sector Understanding on Export Credits for Coal-Fired Electricity Generation Projects (Sector Understanding) only applies to new coal fired power plants.

This Sector Understanding relates to official support for new coal fired power stations, or components of power stations, and specifically excludes items that are located outside of the coal fired electricity generation project site boundary.

Further information is available on the OECD website:

<http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/statement-from-participants-to-the-arrangement-on-officially-supported-export-credits.htm>

3. Efic has not made a decision whether or not to provide support to the Project and is currently undertaking due diligence.

Consistent with Efic's Policy for Environmental and Social Review of Transactions, the Project will only be eligible for Efic support if it is consistent with two benchmarks: (i) host country standards and (ii) the IFC Performance Standards

4. Efic has not received a request to provide financing in relation to the Project's rail infrastructure.

5. Yes. Efic's Policy for Environmental and Social Review of Transactions is available on Efic's website: <https://www.efic.gov.au/about-efic/our-corporate-responsibility/transactions/environmental-and-social-review/>

6. Potential Efic support for the Project is predicated on there being substantial Australian content in the Project's development, including from Australian SMEs.

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7. ASX/JSE listed Resource Generation Limited (ResGen) is the Project Sponsor. However, the key driver for Efic's consideration of the Project is the involvement of Australian exporters, including SMEs, in the Project's development.
8. Information on ResGen is available on its website - <http://www.resgen.com.au/>
9. See answer 8.
10. See answer 8.
11. Yes. ResGen is the Project Sponsor and therefore responsible for arranging the required finance.
12. See answer 11.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 145

Program: DFAT

Topic: EFIC

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. The 2011 ESIA approval is for 32 million tonnes per year of run-of-mine coal, while in recent media reports suggest 6-12 million tonnes of saleable coal.

- a. Is Efic doing economic projections on the financial viability of the mine as part of its due diligence?
- b. If so, on which of the above figures are the projections being done?

2. Has Efic assessed the impact on Australian coal exports to markets such as India if Boikarabelo goes ahead?

- i. If so, please indicate which of the following Efic consulted with in its assessment:

- Commonwealth Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, Office of the Chief Economist
- Queensland Treasury
- Queensland Department of State Development
- NSW Treasury
- NSW Department of Industry, Division of Resources and Energy
- Queensland Resource Council
- NSW Minerals Council
- Minerals Council of Australia
- Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union
- Australian Workers Union

- ii. If not, why not?

3. Does Efic believe that new South African coal exports would have no impact on Australia's exports?

- a. How did Efic reach this conclusion?

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4. Is Efic aware of Indian government policy [to end coal imports](http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-04-25/india-s-energy-minister-wants-to-cut-coal-imports-to-nothing) (<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-04-25/india-s-energy-minister-wants-to-cut-coal-imports-to-nothing>)?
- a. Is the financial viability of the project affected by the Indian government's ability to meet this policy?
5. Will Efic weigh up the benefits to specific Australian companies against the negative consequences on other companies and on the coal sector as a whole? If so, how will it do this?

Answer

- 1.
- a. Yes.
- b. Efic considers a range of plausible production and demand projections as part of its due diligence for any project it considers. In regards to the Boikarabelo Project, Efic is using the projected 6mtpa of sales for Stage 1 of the development. This is publicly available on ResGen's website.
2. Under Efic's mandate, potential Efic support would be predicated on the Project:
- being financially viable;
 - having a financing gap; and
 - having substantial Australian content, including from Australian SMEs (e.g. mining engineering and technical services companies).

Any financing provided by Efic would be on commercial terms.

For further information on Efic's mandate please see:
<https://www.efic.gov.au/about-efic/our-governance/>

- a. Not applicable. See answer 2.
- b. Not applicable. See answer 2.
3. Refer to the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science website for an outlook on the coal market.
- a. Not applicable.
4. Yes.
5. See answer 2.
- a. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 146

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo export countries

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What representations has the Australian government or any of its representatives made in relation to lifting the Californian ban on the importation of kangaroo products since the ban was resumed?

- a. Please provide details of those representations, including to whom they have been made and by whom.
- b. Please advise what work is being done lift the Californian ban? What is the strategy?
- c. Has the department met with or hosted any representatives of the Kangaroo Industry Association of Australia in relation to the Californian ban this year? Please provide details of when, where and with whom?
- d. Is the Australian government supporting the introduction of legislative instruments in California to lift the ban? What is the approach being taken in this regard?

Answer

- a. The Australian Government has not made any formal representations to Californian lawmakers on the issue of kangaroo market access to California in 2016. The Australian Government briefed officials from the United States Trade Representative during the AUSFTA Joint Coordination Meeting on 4 May 2016.
- b. DFAT continues to monitor the situation. The kangaroo industry has not pressed the issue in the lead up to Californian state elections, which coincided with the United States Presidential elections on 8 November 2016.
- c. No.
- d. No action has been taken by the Australian Government in 2016 in relation to new legislative instruments to lift the ban in California.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 147

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq

Question on Notice

Page: 35

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: On notice what I would like is the email from ambassadors Sharma and Langman. I assume you will have to take that on notice unless you are prepared to give that to me now.

Senator Brandis: We will take that on notice.

Answer

Email included below:

From: Sharma, Dave

Sent: Thursday, 15 September 2016 12:29 PM

To: Langman, Christopher

Cc: Gilbert, Jonathan; Anderson, Cameron

Subject: RE: Wyatt Roy [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Chris,

I've told him about the level of the advice and recommended he read, and he does know about the prescribed areas.

Cheers

Dave

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

From: Langman, Christopher
Sent: Thursday, 15 September 2016 11:46 AM
To: Sharma, Dave
Cc: Gilbert, Jonathan; Anderson, Cameron
Subject: RE: Wyatt Roy [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Dave, Thanks for letting us know. You might to tell him that we strongly advise against travelling to Iraq, including Erbil, and suggest he look at the Travel Advice. You might also want to mention that a number of areas in Iraq are prescribed and it would be illegal to travel to them. Cheers, Chris

From: Sharma, Dave
Sent: Thursday, 15 September 2016 1:08 AM
To: Langman, Christopher
Subject: Wyatt Roy [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Chris,

Letting you know that Wyatt Roy will be visiting up in Erbil from 20 Sep, and spending about 10 days there. He's with me now in Tel Aviv.

If there is anyone you want to direct him towards, or pass on, let me know. It's entirely personal travel.

Best wishes

Dave

Australian Ambassador to Israel
+972 3 693 5011
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Facebook: Australia in Israel

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 148

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo export countries

Question on Notice

Page: 100-111

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: I will move on to the Russian market. How are things going with reopening—I think we are talking about reopening—the Russian market? Is that where it is that?

Mr Barty: Yes. I will pass that back to my DFAT colleague who knows about protocols and acceptance.

Senator RHIANNON: Who does that one?

Mr Hackett: I think we will take that on notice.

Senator RHIANNON: Really? There is nobody here—?

Mr Hackett: I certainly cannot give you evidence on Russia.

Senator RHIANNON: When we had that earlier discussion, I did not seem to figure that that was department one. I thought that was an Austrade one. Did I misunderstand?

Mr Brown: I think the issue with Russia may a photo-sanitary issue or a tariff issue—in other words, a regulatory barrier. Unfortunately we do not have anyone from our Europe division, which would be responsible for handling that issue, in the room. I am sorry, but we will have to take that on notice.

Senator RHIANNON: I think you were referring there, in talking about the Russian situation, to issues around health. You may need to take this on notice, but I hope you can answer it. Does the government advise importing countries that kangaroo meat is not tested for zoonotic diseases such as toxoplasmosis, Q fever or the host of other zoonotic diseases known to be of high human health risk which are specifically in kangaroo meat? Is that one of the obstacles we are coming up against?

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Mr Brown: I can only answer the question in the broad. Each country sets its own import requirements for food products on the basis of their own scientific assessment and other issues. Russia and many other countries are parties to the WTO agreement, so there is a requirement for any import barriers to be consistent with the provisions of those WTO rules. The short answer to your question is—and I am sorry I cannot give you more precision on the Russian situation—that countries do have significant latitude to define what import requirements they impose on products coming in from other countries, such as kangaroo meat.

Senator RHIANNON: Is it correct that Russia stopped the trade because of concerns about—?

Mr Brown: Sorry, I am going to have to take that on notice. I do not want to mislead you, and we can give you a response on notice.

Senator RHIANNON: Thank you.

Answer

A. No. In 2014, Food Standards Australia New Zealand conducted a risk assessment and found that the microbiological hazards of kangaroo meat are consistent with those identified for other meat animals commonly consumed in Australia and were adequately managed by current meat processing requirements. Importing countries may conduct post-entry testing of imported food to manage food safety risks as they deem necessary.

B. Is that one of the obstacles we are coming up against? No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 149

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPP

Question on Notice

Page: 113

Senator Moore

Question

Senator Moore: If you did not have labour market testing, if you moved labour market testing in negotiations around the TPP, would it affect all industries equally? Have you looked at the impact on industries of not having a labour market testing program in the TPP?

Mr Brown: We as a portfolio do not have responsibility for the labour market testing program.

Senator Moore: I understand—that would be an industrial area—

Mr Brown: The Department of Employment.

...

Mr Brown: I think that question would be better directed to the Department of Employment and probably to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, who—

Senator Moore: But they do not sign the agreement. They are not responsible for putting the agreement up to the minister to sign off on.

Mr Brown: That is true.

Senator Moore: So you cannot answer that question?

Mr Brown: I would need to take that away and consult with those agencies which are responsible for those programs. It is perhaps worth reiterating that these are truly whole-of-government agreements.

...

Senator Moore: You would be able to take it on notice though?

Mr Brown: I am certainly happy to take it on notice.

Senator Moore: As the lead agency in the negotiation of the FTA—

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Mr Brown: We will do our best to respond.

Answer

Australia's commitments on temporary entry under the TPP would be implemented through the existing 457 visa programme, which is employer-demand driven. The number of workers entering Australia to work (in specific industries) under this programme varies based on domestic and global economic conditions. The employer-demand driven nature of this program would not change as a result of Australia's commitments under the TPP. The waiver of labour market testing will not remove protections for Australian workers' rights, as there are additional settings to the subclass 457 visa programme to ensure that overseas workers are not favoured over Australian workers.

Analysis of ABS Labour Force Survey and Department of Immigration and Border Protection visa grant data shows that, on average and across industries and occupations:

- Primary Subclass 457 visa holders consistently represent less than 1 per cent of employed persons.
- There are some occupations and industries where the reliance on primary Subclass 457 visa holders is higher, but this can usually be explained by other economic and labour market factors.

Analysis of data supports an association between primary subclass 457 visas and the Department of Employment's skill shortage research findings. For example, the use of primary subclass 457 visas has fallen in recent years in occupations such as nursing and engineers where the Department's research and analysis show skill shortages are no longer evident.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 150

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question on Notice

Page: 128

Senator Fawcett

Question

Senator FAWCETT: I will look forward to the next estimates to ask you how you have gone with that. One thing that I did not draw out—and perhaps I just missed it—was the percentage of businesses you have helped that have been rurally or regionally based as opposed to being in metro areas. Do you have that kind of stat to hand?

Mr Hunter: I will take the question on notice, but I can share with you: since we launched our Small Business Export Loan, one of the sectors that we have opened ourselves up to in the rural space is actually in wine. What we are finding is exporters of wine have a very long working capital cycle. So from the time that you prune your vines, the grapes grow, you pick your grapes, you crush your grapes, you make your wine, you export it and then, finally, you get paid from your customer it can be as long as 15 months—so a very long working capital cycle. Those companies really struggle with access to finance. We have, through our Small Business Export Loan, provided working capital to a number of wineries.

Answer

For FY2015-16, around one-third of the SMEs that Efic supported were regionally and rurally based (that is, the company is based outside the metropolitan areas of State and Territory capital cities).

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 151

Program: DFAT

Topic: Clinton Foundation

Question in Writing

Senator Roberts

Question

- A. How much money has been donated to the Clinton Foundation in the past five years and for what purpose?
- B. How do you know that the money was spent on the purpose for which it was given?
- C. Do you expect to donate more taxpayer money to the Clinton Foundation and if so for what purpose?

Answer

- A. No money has been donated to the Clinton Foundation.
- B. All funding agreements between DFAT and development partners have clear outcomes and deliverables, and are subject to performance standards.
- C. See response to A.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 152

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate

Question in Writing

Senator Gallacher

Question

1. What types of credit and transaction cards (including Cabcharge, Fastcard and eTickets) does your department issue?
2. What was the total expenditure for each type of card over the last 3 financial years?
3. Can you break down the expenditure into categories?
4. What is the highest and lowest credit limit for each type of card?
5. How many times in the last 5 years has the credit limit been reviewed?
6. What are Credit Cards used for?
7. What are the Governance/probity rules for employees to follow?
8. Are cash advances allowed?
 - a) Can you list the total amount of cash advances from credit and other transaction cards over the last 3 years?
 - b) Can you provide details on the 10 largest cash advances in your department and provide particulars such as how much was accessed?
 - c) Who approves cash advances in your department in the event of paying suppliers
9. Who reviews transactions in regards to all cards?
10. Who provides assurance to the Minister in respect to probity governance and fraud control?

Answer

1. DFAT issues the following credit and transaction cards:
 - Cabcharge cards (Fastcard and eTickets);
 - Corporate credit cards

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2.

	FY 13/14	FY 14/15	FY 15/16
Card Type	Amount	Amount	Amount
Cabcharge	\$ 458,237.06	\$503,330.20	\$394,009.16
Credit cards	\$11,076,160.00	\$9,111,150.32	\$9,693,039.51

3. The table below provides a breakdown of corporate credit card expenditure by category. Expenditure prior to September 2014 is listed as uncategorised as prior to this the Department's credit card system did not capture expenditure in such a way that would readily enable further breakdown. To manually collect this information would entail a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

Expense Category	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Property related expenses (excluding rent)	-	\$117,211.65	\$259,724.61
Security expenses	-	\$71,726.73	\$130,877.44
Information and communication technology	-	\$690,536.85	\$1,640,835.57
Travel expenses	-	\$3,354,170.54	\$4,642,163.24
Staff related expenses	-	\$30,148.55	\$53,707.87
Office expenses	-	\$718,607.71	\$1,328,224.06
Consultants	-	\$22,818.66	\$178,689.09
Other expenses	-	\$1,182,279.72	\$1,458,817.63
Uncategorised	\$11,076,160.00	\$2,923,649.91	-
	\$11,076,160.00	\$9,111,150.32	\$9,693,039.51

4.

- Cabcharge Cards

No limit.

- Corporate Credit Cards

The highest credit limit is \$100,000.00

The lowest credit limit is \$1.00. This limit is applied to cards of staff on extended leave to maintain their inactive account.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

5.

- Cabcharge Cards

Not applicable.

- Corporate Credit Cards

The billing account limit has been reviewed twice (early 2014 and May 2016).

Individual cardholder limits are set on recommendation by the card holders' supervisor at the time the staff member applies for a credit card, and based on operational requirements.

6.

- Cabcharge Cards

Taxi travel.

- Corporate Credit Cards

Purchase of goods and services relating to official business, including travel.

7.

- Cabcharge Cards

Cardholders are required to sign an agreement and acknowledgement that establishes appropriate use and cardholder responsibilities.

In addition, Cabcharge cards must be managed in accordance with DFAT's policy on the use of taxi cards within Australia.

- Corporate Credit Cards

Cardholders are required to sign an agreement that establishes appropriate use and cardholder responsibilities. In addition, credit cards must be managed in accordance with DFAT's credit cards policies which define both card holder and card manager responsibilities.

8.

- a) Cabcharge Cards - Not applicable.

Corporate Credit Cards

Cash advances are permitted in limited circumstances as specified in DFAT's credit card policies.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- b) Cabcharge Cards - Not applicable.

Corporate Credit Cards

\$33,663.93

AMOUNT AUD	DATE	DESCRIPTION
\$ 5,173.95	16.06.2015	Visit program per diems
\$ 1,569.00	31.07.2015	Travel
\$ 1,459.95	28.08.2015	Visit program per diems
\$ 1,294.25	12.03.2015	Visit program per diems
\$ 1,123.20	03.09.2014	Fraudulent transaction - DFAT and NAB policies carried out
\$ 962.29	17.02.2016	DFAT Consular Crisis Response Team mobile phone credits Feb 16
\$ 950.00	12.11.2014	Travel
\$ 841.67	29.09.2014	Fraudulent transaction - DFAT and NAB fraud policies and procedures followed
\$ 790.00	20.11.2015	Personal transaction whilst travelling - repaid immediately
\$ 761.95	20.05.2016	Water cooling system - SAO residence

- c) The appropriate delegate for expenditure considers cash advance requests on a case-by-case basis.

9. Cabcharge Cards

Divisional Co-ordination Units review transactions when acquitting monthly Cabcharge statements, prior to arranging payment of associated tax invoices.

- Corporate Credit Cards

Appropriate expenditure approvers (s23 delegates), Divisional Co-ordinators or cardholder supervisors review transactions before approving the cardholder's acquittal statement.

A monthly review of a representative sample of card transactions is also carried out by the central card management area to ensure compliance with Departmental policy.

10. The Secretary of the Department provides assurance to the Minister in respect to probity, governance and fraud control as the per the Letter of Transmittal, required as part of the audited annual financial statements.