

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

Outcome/Agency **8**

DEEWR Question No. **EW1072_09**

Senator Cash provided in writing.

Question

Australian Employment Covenant

Recent media reports indicated some disparity between the training being offered by the Department and the AEC's expectations. What were the main issues from the Department's point of view?

Answer

On 20 February 2009, Minister O'Connor launched the first training initiative under the Australian Employment Covenant (AEC). Crown Limited has signed up to the Covenant to create 300 jobs for Indigenous people, with the project providing pre-employment training and on-the-job mentoring.

ISS Australia have also taken on 11 people to be trained as part of their AEC commitment. The ISS Indigenous Hospitality Work Start Program is preparing a group of Indigenous women from the Pilbara for employment within ISS Australia. The program is a joint partnership between ISS Facility Services, Ngarliyarndu Bindirri Aboriginal Corporation (Roebourne), Pilbara TAFE and Job Futures.