

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0851_12

Senator Back asked on 20 October 2011, Hansard page 103

Question

Progress of the National Partnership Agreement

Senator BACK: At the same time, would you provide me with an update on the progress of the National Partnership Agreement for Skills. Where are we with that?

Mr Griew: The national agreement which covers the administration of the SPP funding skills which we have with the state governments? Senator BACK: Yes.

Answer

- COAG has set up a Senior Officials' Working Group on Skills Reform to progress the re-negotiation of the National Agreement on Skills and Workforce Development (NASWD) and skills reform National Partnership (NP):
 - The Working Group consists of representatives from each jurisdiction from across First Ministers, Treasuries and Training departments.
 - It has now met four times to discuss issues relating to the content and structure of the NASWD and related NP.
- The Commonwealth will continue to work in cooperation with states to finalise details of the NASWD and reform NP in time for a start date of 1 July 2012.