

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 1

Program: DFAT

Topic: People Smuggling

Question in Writing

Senator Milne

Question

In relation to Lieutenant-Commander Sanjeewa Annatugoda, the Sri Lankan naval officer now in custody accused as a key player in people smuggling operations to Australia:

- 1. When did the Department become aware of the case of Annatugoda?*
- 2. Did Annatugoda have direct contact with Australian Government officials?*
 - a. Specifically, did Annatugoda brief members of the Australian High Commission in Sri Lanka?*
 - b. If so, whom did he brief? Did this group include High Commissioner Robyn Mudie?*
 - c. When did these brief(s) occur?*
 - d. What was the purpose of these brief(s)?*
 - e. Was Annatugoda a recipient of training by the Australian Government?*
 - f. Was Annatugoda paid money by the Australian Government?*

Answer

1. The Department became aware that Lieutenant-Commander Sanjeewa Annatugoda had been arrested by Sri Lankan authorities for alleged people smuggling offences in September 2013.

2a-d. As part of a broad program of meetings during an official visit to Sri Lanka in November 2012 to discuss people smuggling cooperation, Australian Government officials accompanied by the High Commissioner (Robyn Mudie) and relevant High Commission staff, received briefings from a number of Sri Lankan Naval personnel. It is possible that Annatugoda was included by the Sri Lanka Navy in a group briefing provided to the delegation but he was not a principal interlocutor.

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2e-f. The Department is not aware of any training or payments provided to the officer by the Australian Government.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 2

Program: DFAT

Topic: Antarctic Treaty

Question in Writing

Senator Milne

Question:

Is the department aware of a 21 October 2013 news report in the Sydney Morning Herald quoting the Australian Strategic Policy Institute which questions whether the Chinese government could use its Antarctic base for intelligence gathering? If so, what are Australia's options under the Antarctic Treaty for dealing with countries which act in contravention of the treaty?

Answer:

Yes.

Under the Antarctic Treaty, Antarctica is reserved for peaceful purposes. The Antarctic Treaty expressly prohibits any measure of a military nature in Antarctica, such as the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military manoeuvres and the testing of weapons. The Treaty does not prevent, however, the use of military personnel or equipment for non-military purposes, such as the conduct of, or support for, scientific research.

Antarctic Treaty Parties are required to report annually on the use and location of any military personnel or equipment which they intend to introduce into the Antarctic Treaty area (south of 60 degrees South latitude).

The Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol on Environmental Protection permit Parties to carry out inspections of other nations' Antarctic installations, stations or equipment at any time, and ships and aircraft at points of discharging or embarking cargoes or personnel. Inspections are conducted for the purpose of promoting the objectives of the Treaty and Protocol, and ensuring observance of their provisions. Such inspections are regularly undertaken by Antarctic treaty parties. Australia has, in recent years, conducted inspections of stations in Antarctica.

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Inspection reports are submitted to the annual Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, at which the Parties consider the findings and any recommendations arising. We are not aware of any inspection reports that have raised concerns with respect to the issues raised by the relevant Australian Strategic Policy Institute report.

Australia supports the use of inspections to verify compliance with the Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol on Environmental Protection or to record and draw attention to non-compliance. Australia seeks to have due consideration given to the findings of inspections (conducted by any Party) at Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and encourages those Parties inspected to give frank responses to issues that have been identified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 3

Program: DFAT

Topic: Antarctic Treaty

Question in Writing

Senator Milne

Question:

The news report also alleges that abuses of the Antarctic Treaty's controls on use of military personnel have occurred. Is this true? If so, what action was taken by treaty signatories? If not, does Australia intend to instigate investigations into the allegations?

Answer:

Under the Antarctic Treaty measures of a military nature, such as the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military manoeuvres, as well as the testing of any type of weapon in Antarctica are expressly prohibited. The use of military personnel or equipment for conducting, or in support of conducting, scientific research is permitted.

Antarctic Treaty Parties are required to report annually on the use and location of any military personnel or equipment which they intend to introduce into the Antarctic Treaty area (south of 60 degrees South latitude). The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is not aware of any breaches of the prohibitions under the Antarctic Treaty with respect to measures of a military nature.

The Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol on Environmental Protection permit Parties to carry out inspections of other nations' Antarctic installations, stations or equipment at any time, and ships and aircraft at points of discharging or embarking cargoes or personnel. Inspections are conducted for the purpose of promoting the objectives of the Treaty and Protocol, and ensuring observance of their provisions. Such inspections are regularly undertaken by Antarctic treaty parties. Australia has, in recent years, conducted inspections of stations in Antarctica.

Australia supports the use of inspections to verify compliance with the Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol on Environmental Protection or to record and draw attention to non-compliance. Australia seeks to have due

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consideration given to the findings of inspections (conducted by any Party) at Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and encourages those Parties inspected to give frank responses to issues that have been identified. Inspection reports are submitted to the annual Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, at which the Parties consider the findings and any recommendations arising.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 4

Program: DFAT

Topic: Polio eradication

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

Australia made a commitment of \$80 million to the Polio Eradication Initiative in May 2013, to cover the 2014-2018 eradication drive, which was additional to \$50 million Australia had pledged for 2011-2014.

How much of these pledges has been disbursed in 2013-14, and what is the outstanding amount from the Australian pledge?

Answer

Implementation of the revised 2013-14 budget is currently under discussion with partner governments and organisations.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 5

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mae Tao Clinic Funding

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

The Australian aid program recently ceased funding the Mae Tao Clinic on the Thai Burma border, run by the Sydney Peace Prize Winner Dr Cynthia Maung.

A. Considering the importance of this clinic in the health of the Burmese people and the support of the clinic by the Thai government, what are the prospects for this funding to be re-instated next year?

Answer

A. There are no prospects for funding to be reinstated. The tender process for an expanded program of Australia support to the border, valued at \$8 million over two years (2013-15), was completed in July 2013. The Mae Tao Clinic competed in this merit-based process; its proposal was unsuccessful.

Further detail of Australia's assistance to refugees on the Thai-Burma border can be found

here: <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/LatestNews/Pages/australia-to-increase-support-for-refugees-on-the-thai-burma-border.aspx>

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 6

Program: DFAT

Topic: RAMSI

Question in Writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

Does DFAT (or any another agency) intend to provide a summary report of all funding and all programs that Australia has provided to RAMSI since operations began in July 2003 (until the end of the 20112-13 reporting period)?

Answer

Funding for RAMSI programs by agency and program from July 2003 to July 2013 is included in our response to question 7.

There is no consolidated summary report of all Australian agencies' assistance to Solomon Islands through RAMSI. However, an overview of Australia's activities is provided in two publications: RAMSI's 'Rebuilding a Nation – Ten Years of the Solomon Islands – RAMSI Partnership' and the Australian Civil-Military Centre's 'Partnering for Peace – Australia's peacekeeping and peacebuilding experiences in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville in Papua New Guinea, and in Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste'.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 7

Program: DFAT

Topic: RAMSI/Integration

Question in Writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

Can the new amalgamation of DFAT and AusAID please provide the Committee with a list of all programs and all funding over the 10 year life of RAMSI, that specifically clarifies which government departments (or agencies) have funded each initiative or program.

Answer

Australia's total expenditure for RAMSI from 2003-04 to 2012-13 was approximately \$2.3 billion. Please see the attached table for a breakdown of programs and agencies.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 8

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question in Writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

What changes are proposed to Consular resourcing over the next 5 years?

Answer

The Department is actively considering options for how consular services can continue to be delivered to an appropriate standard to those most in need, in particular through the development of a Consular Strategy for the period 2014-2016. The development of the Strategy has included an invitation for public comment and input, and further public and stakeholder outreach will be undertaken before the Strategy is finalised and released. Details on the strategy are available on the Department's website.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 9

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question in Writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

***Which posts are expected to grow in priority or consular workload?
Which posts are expected to decline?***

Answer

It is not feasible to predict accurately how posts' consular workload may evolve over time. Consular workload is determined by a range of variable factors, including seasonal changes in visitor numbers, new or expanded aviation connections or as a result of incidents or major events and attractions in specific locations. Those posts in locations where the numbers of Australian visitors are high and expected to increase in the future, such as Bali, Bangkok, Phuket and in parts of the South Pacific, can be expected to have a rise in consular workload. Other posts may experience a spike in consular workload as a result of a high-profile or complex case in their area of responsibility.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 10

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question in Writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

Has the incoming government asked DFAT (or any other government agency) to consider or evaluate a “consular levy”?

Answer

No. The Department is considering options for how consular services can be delivered to an appropriate standard and in a cost-effective way as part of the development of a Consular Strategy for the period 2014-16. The public has been invited to provide input to the Strategy. The Minister for Foreign Affairs has stated publicly that she would like to see the issue of cost recovery for consular services addressed in the context of the Strategy. We expect this issue to be covered by some submission to the Strategy.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 11

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question in Writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

Is there a formal (or informal) policy for high level representation or assistance in Consular cases provided to Ministers? (i.e. political interference in local legal and court cases)

Answer

Every consular case is different and decisions on management are made taking into account the specific circumstances, including jurisdiction, the nature of the incident and the interest of the client. In some instances, the post, in consultation with the Department in Canberra, may judge that official representations or similar actions would be appropriate to facilitate the timely resolution of the case. Such decisions are made on the basis of a careful assessment of the facts and the likely impact of representations on the clients' interests

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Question No. 12

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question in Writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

Does DFAT provide policy advice to all parliamentarians regarding their possible representation or assistance in Consular cases, or is policy advice provided on a case by case basis?

Answer

Advice to parliamentarians is provided on a case by case basis.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 13

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question in writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

Is there a formal, presumably inter-departmental, evaluation procedure for determining whether to evacuate Australian nationals?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's consular policy guidelines include advice on the handling of the evacuation of Australian citizens from foreign countries. The decision to evacuate is determined by a range of practical considerations, the situation on the ground and available assistance from the host government. A decision to evacuate Australian citizens is the result of a recommendation by the senior government representative in the country concerned, usually the Head of Mission, to an Inter-Departmental Emergency Task Force (IDETF). Depending on the scale of the operation, the decision may also be one for government.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 14

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question in writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

Is there a policy threshold to (offer to) evacuate Australian citizens as a result of a crisis (Egypt 2011)?

Answer

No. The decision to evacuate Australian citizens from foreign countries is made on a case-by-case basis and takes into consideration a range of factors specific to the circumstances at the time.

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Question No. 15

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular

Question on Notice

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Senator Dastyari

Question

Is there a policy threshold to evacuate Australian citizens as a result of civil disobedience (Thailand 2008)?

Answer

No. The decision to evacuate Australian citizens from foreign countries is made on a case-by-case basis and takes into consideration a range of factors specific to the circumstances at the time.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 16

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular (Phuket)

Question in Writing

Senator Dastyari

Question

- A. How many Australian tourists arrive in Phuket each month?*
- B. What was this number 10 years ago? (monthly arrivals of Australian citizens)*
- C. What resources have DFAT allocated to the changing nature of the Consular workload in Phuket?*
- D. What research has DFAT (or any other government agency) done into the changing nature of the Consular workload in Phuket?*
- E. What is the current status of the proposal to upgrade the Phuket Honorary Consulate to a full Consulate?*
- F. On 30 September, Australian Honorary Consul Larry Cunningham retired after eight years of public service. What is known of allegations that Mr Cunningham was threatened by local government official prior to his retirement?*
- G. In cases where Honorary Consuls, who are presumably outside of the normal protections offered to Diplomats and Consular officials under international agreements, are threatened in the course of performing their duties – what assistance or protection can the Australian government offer?*
- H. DFAT has advertised for a replacement for Mr Cunningham in the Phuket press, can confirm whether you are having any difficulty filling the position? (given that the threats against him are well known)?*
- I. Can DFAT advise whether the Minister was briefed on this issue before the November estimates hearings?*

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Answer

- A. From January to September 2013 there were 210,047 direct Australian arrivals through Phuket International Airport (approximately 21,000 per month) and we estimate an additional 3,000 Australians visit Phuket each month from other points of origin.
- B. There are no statistics available from Thai authorities that break down the number of Australian arrivals in Phuket ten years ago.
- C. A new Honorary Consul in Phuket will be announced shortly. This position is supported by the supervising post in Bangkok and Consular staff in Canberra.
- D. DFAT closely monitors the consular workload in Phuket through reporting by the Australian Embassy in Bangkok.
- E. Any decision on changes to the overseas network is a matter for government.
- F. In August 2013, Mr Cunningham assisted an Australian involved in a dispute with a jet-ski operator. Following this dispute, Mr Cunningham received a text message that appeared to be from a Thai Government official that said that Mr Cunningham should thank the governor instead of complaining and advised that it was not wise to say bad things about Phuket while living and doing business in that city. Mr Cunningham raised this matter with the Ambassador in Bangkok, who raised the issue at a senior level in the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ambassador also met with the Thai official who sent the text message, who advised that there was no threat intended. This was conveyed to Mr Cunningham by the Ambassador.
- G. Under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, receiving States are obliged to protect the consular premises of a consular post headed by an Honorary Consul and to protect Honorary Consuls in their official position. If a threat is received, it would normally be brought to the attention of the host government. Where it is judged necessary, additional security measures would be implemented, appropriate to the nature of the threat.
- H. No. The process to appoint a new honorary consul is underway in line with normal practice.

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I. In accordance with long-standing practice, it would not be appropriate to disclose the details of confidential briefings provided to the Minister by the Department.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 17

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid

Question in Writing

Senator Boswell

Question

A. What was the total amount of Australian aid funds expended in 2012-13 on activities which allow for the provision of abortion services?

B. Please specify the amounts given to each agency which was funded in 2012-13 for activities involving the provision of abortion services.

C. What is the total amount of Australian aid funds budgeted to be expended in 2013-14 on activities which allow for the provision of abortion services?

D. Noting the answer to my written question on notice number 45 for the February 2013 Additional Budget Estimates, if it is not possible to identify where and on what International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and IPPF South Asia spend AusAID funding because it is pooled alongside other donor funds, how is it possible to ensure that not a single Australian dollar is expended on abortions performed solely because of the sex of the child or on late term abortions performed for social reasons?

Answer

A. In 2012-13, Australia expended \$10.5 million on health activities implemented by organisations with mandates that allow, within the laws of the countries concerned, the provision of safe abortion and post-abortion services as part of their comprehensive response to reproductive healthcare needs.

B. In 2012-13, Australia supported the following activities which allow for the provision of safe abortion services in line with national laws:

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- \$1.4 million to Marie Stopes International for supporting the Cambodian Government to increase access to family planning and provide training and quality assurance of government health providers in comprehensive safe abortion care.
- \$5 million to the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) in South Asia and \$4 million in core funding to IPPF. In 2012, of the 112.7 million sexual and reproductive health care services delivered globally by IPPF, approximately 2 million (1.9 per cent) were abortion related services (includes medical and surgical abortions, training, counselling, and post abortion care).
- \$122,600 to ChildFund to work with local government health staff in Ethiopia delivering youth friendly reproductive health services. These services were primarily focused on improving access to family planning and counselling, with provision for safe abortions delivered by government health staff.
- In some countries, Australia also provides funding for broader health sector support, either through pooled funds with other donors or through direct support to national governments. Where abortion is legal, national governments may utilise these funds to provide safe abortion services.

C. The Government is currently considering its funding priorities, including for its foreign aid program.

Information on the funding priorities of Australia's aid program will be provided by the Government in due course.

D. The Australian Government's *Family Planning and the Aid Program: Guiding Principles* support the same range of reproductive health and family planning services for women in developing countries as are supported for women in Australia, subject to the national laws of the relevant nation concerned. There is a ban on sex-selection throughout Australia and in countries where it has been raised as an issue, such as India, China and Vietnam, sex-selective abortion is illegal. The Guidelines place a gestational term limit on abortion of up to 20 weeks.

IPPF is contractually obliged to comply with the Guiding Principles and work within national legislative frameworks. Non-compliance would be a breach of the contract which could lead to penalties such as loss of funding, a requirement to repay funds, and penalties under local law. IPPF has put in

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place checks including an audit and reporting process to ensure compliance to Australian requirements on late term abortion.

IPPF also actively advocates around the world to address the root causes of sex-selection: gender inequality and the low status of girls.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 18

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA)

Question(s) in Writing

Senator Wong

Questions

- A. What is the status of these negotiations?*
- B. What countries are currently involved in these negotiations?*
- C. Are there any additional countries who are seeking to join negotiations for this agreement?*
- D. What is the status of the public consultations process?*
- E. Who has participated in the public consultations?*
- F. What issues have been raised in the public consultations to date?*
- G. When is the next round of negotiations scheduled to take place?*
- H. What is the relationship between this TISA agreement and the Doha Round trade talks happening in December?*
- I. Has an industry representative been appointed to be involved in these negotiations?*
- J. If so, who is it and how were they appointed? What are they paid? Who pays for their travel, if required?*
- K. Has a special envoy been appointed?*
- L. If so, who is it and how were they appointed? What are they paid? Who pays for their travel, if required?*

Answers

- A. Negotiations on the Trade in Services Agreement are currently ongoing.
- B. The 23 parties currently involved in the TiSA negotiations comprise Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, European Union (representing its 28 Member States), Hong Kong, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New

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Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Korea, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey and the United States.

- C. China and Uruguay have expressed interest in joining the TiSA negotiations.
- D. Public consultations are ongoing. Consultations were held in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne in 2013. Further public consultations are planned for 2014.
- E. Participants in the public consultations have included representatives of Australia's services industries, civil society groups, academics and interested individuals.
- F. Issues raised in the public consultations have included the structure of the TiSA agreement, how TiSA could eventually feed back into the multilateral trading system, membership of the agreement, Australia's offer on market access, and improving market access for Australian services providers in key markets.
- G. The next round of TiSA negotiations is scheduled to occur in Geneva, from 17-24 February 2013.
- H. The TiSA negotiations are not formally part of the Doha Round trade talks, but are taking place under the auspices of a decision by Ministers at the 8th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC8) to explore new pathways to concluding the Doha Round of negotiations.
- I. No.
- J. N/A
- K. No.
- L. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 19

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. *What is the status of the Australia-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement negotiations?***
- B. *What industry consultation has taken place so far on this agreement?***
- C. *When is the next round of negotiations scheduled to be held?***
- D. *Has a special envoy been appointed?***
- E. *If so, who is it and how were they appointed? What are they paid? Who pays for their travel, if required?***
- F. *The Coalition stated it would “devote increased resources within DFAT to fast track the conclusion of free trade agreements”. What resources have been reallocated to the India FTA?***

Answer

A. Negotiations to conclude a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between Australia and India were launched on 12 May 2011. Five negotiating rounds have been held to date, the most recent in Canberra in May 2013. The sixth CECA round is yet to be scheduled, but is likely to take place in New Delhi in the first half of 2014.

Incremental progress has been achieved to date. Initial goods market access offers have been exchanged and detailed market access negotiations are underway. Some progress has been made on chapter text of the agreement but the scope of certain chapters has not yet been agreed. Both sides are working towards exchanging market access offers on services and investment.

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B. As part of a joint feasibility study commenced in April 2008, stakeholders were consulted on the merits of initiating CECA negotiations between Australia and India.

When CECA negotiations were launched in 2011, DFAT, in conjunction with relevant Commonwealth agencies, conducted an extensive program of direct consultations and discussions with stakeholders to ensure their views informed the development of the Government's negotiating strategy. This included holding public forums and roundtable meetings in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth. DFAT also conducts trade policy briefings open to all stakeholders on an annual basis.

DFAT has conducted and continues to offer ad hoc briefing sessions for interested stakeholders, including industry representative groups.

To date, over 35 written submissions have been received from interested individuals and groups on a potential CECA. DFAT continues to welcome written submissions from stakeholders.

C. The sixth CECA round is yet to be scheduled, but is likely to take place in New Delhi in the first half of 2014.

D - E. No, a special envoy has not been appointed for the Australia-India CECA negotiations.

F. Staff numbers increased across the branches of the Free Trade Agreement Division from 35 in September 2013 to 45 by 1 January 2014, in line with the Government's priority focus on FTA negotiations.

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Question No. 20

Program: DFAT / ASNO

**Topic: Australia-India Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement
Negotiations**

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. What is the status of the Australia-India Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement negotiations?***
- 2. Will the Government place the same level of conditions on India as it does on other countries with whom Australia sells uranium?***
- 3. The Coalition's Policy for Trade states that it "will seek to provide a greater voice for local industry through the appointment of at least one industry representative who will be directly included in the negotiation of free trade agreements". Has an industry representative been appointed to be involved in these negotiations?***
- 4. If so, who is it and how were they appointed? What are they paid? Who pays for their travel, if required?***

Answer

1-2. Australia and India have undertaken three rounds of negotiations to date, the most recent of which was held on 26-27 November 2013 in New Delhi. There will be a fourth round of negotiations in Canberra in February 2014. Negotiations between Australian and Indian officials have been professional and constructive. There is no set deadline for the negotiations to be concluded. Exports could only commence after the Government is satisfied Australia's safeguards and other requirements, including IAEA safeguards, are met. The precise details of an agreement are a matter for negotiation.

3-4. No industry representative has been designated to be involved in these negotiations. This negotiation is distinct from that of free trade agreements.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 21

Program: DFAT

Topic: Doha WTO round

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. *Will the Minister be attending the Doha Round in Bali this December?***
- B. *How many staff will accompany him, personal and departmental?***
- C. *What industry consultations have taken place in regards to the topics of consideration for this round?***
- D. *Are industry representatives being appointed for multilateral trade negotiations?***
- E. *If so, will they be appointed in time for the December negotiations?***
- F. *Have additional resources been devoted from within DFAT to facilitate agreement of multilateral WTO agreements? (In terms of extra funding, or FTE equivalent)***
- G. *What is the timeline for meetings for Doha for the 2014 calendar year?***

Answer

A. Yes.

B. One personal staffer (Chief of Staff) and seven departmental staff.

C. Industry consultation relevant to Doha Round topics on the table at the Bali Ministerial Conference occurred throughout 2013 included ACCI, AiGroup and members of the National Farmer's Federation. Other relevant industry leaders were also invited to participate in a briefing session prior to the Bali conference.

D. No.

E. No.

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F. The Office of Trade Negotiations (OTN) is responsible for WTO multilateral negotiations and works with post in Geneva to facilitate WTO trade agreements. The number of staff involved in facilitating WTO agreements fluctuates depending on the pace and scope of negotiations.

G. There are no WTO Ministerial meetings scheduled for 2014.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 22

Program: DFAT - FTD

Topic: China-Australia Free Trade Agreement

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. What non-trade barriers have been identified by industry which impact on market access to China?***
- 2. Will these barriers be subject to negotiation during the China-Australia free trade agreement?***
- 3. When will be the next round of consultations with industry, given the Prime Minister's commitment to see this agreement finalized within the next 12 months?***
- 4. The Coalition stated it would "devote increased resources within DFAT to fast track the conclusion of free trade agreements". What resources have been reallocated to the China FTA?***

Answer

1. A number of non-trade barriers have been identified by Australian industry as impacting on market access to China. Barriers to services and investment, and to goods, include the following:

Services and Investment

There are a range of 'behind the border' domestic regulation issues identified by Australian services suppliers and investors which affect the ability of Australian companies to do business effectively in China. Business has identified a lack of transparency of regulatory and administrative requirements as a key barrier. Issues include discriminatory and opaque licensing processes, qualifications recognition, business scope restrictions, domestic industry experience requirements, equity caps, and high asset or capitalisation requirements. Inflexible foreign currency controls make remittance of profits out of China difficult for some Australian companies. Inadequate protection for, and a lack of enforcement of, intellectual property

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rights has been raised by business as a market access impediment to Australian business in China.

Goods

Many Australian businesses have indicated they face significant Chinese non-tariff barriers (NTBs). Barriers identified include, for example, local content quotas; complex distribution channels; complex and expensive regulatory procedures; lack of transparency relating to existing or new regulatory measures; onerous labelling requirements, lengthy processes to register new products; onerous inspection requirements for agricultural imports; and the use of questionable sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT) measures.

2. Some but not all of the barriers identified in question 1 are subject to negotiation in the Australia-China FTA negotiations. Details are as follows:

Services and Investment

All 'behind the border' issues affecting Australian services suppliers and investors noted in question 1 are subject to negotiation.

Goods

Non-tariff barriers (NTBs) include a diverse range of measures applied at and behind the border. Such measures can serve a legitimate policy objective, such as food safety or product standards. However, some specific measures can be overly burdensome, discriminatory, or otherwise inappropriate posing problems to foreign traders, particularly small- and medium-sized enterprises. Dealing with these types of NTBs is challenging, as addressing one type of measure can result in the issue persisting through the introduction of another measure with similar effect.

To the extent possible, Australian trade negotiators seek to significantly improve the trading environment through free trade agreements. For example, a feature of recently concluded FTAs is the creation of a review mechanism to address non-tariff measures on a case-by-case basis. Such a mechanism provides scope to address existing and future non-tariff measures.

FTAs negotiated by Australia seek to increase transparency and legal certainty for traders, by providing for example: advance rulings; appeal

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procedures; requirement to publish on the internet customs and trade related legislation; and, the establishment of enquiry points.

A key objective of FTAs is to simplify and streamline border procedures, by including for example, provisions on: risk management; electronic submissions; simplified customs procedures; and use of international standards.

Australia does not use FTA negotiations to address quarantine issues for specific products. In the same way, Australia does not negotiate on our quarantine standards in FTAs – these are driven by science and risk assessment. However, FTAs do typically include sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT) chapters in which we seek to encourage mutual recognition of regulations and compliance regimes as appropriate, and build cooperation.

3. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) consults regularly with various stakeholder groups. In addition to keeping interested stakeholders involved as much as possible as negotiations progress, DFAT also consults with representative organisations on occasions when a need arises. Should new issues arise during negotiations involving specific stakeholders, the Department's practice is to consult with interested parties to ensure their views are understood and considered.

Additionally, we respond to any industry requests for consultation. This includes regular general updates when industry representatives are in Canberra or negotiators are visiting capital cities or by telephone, as well as specific consultations on discrete issues pertinent to the negotiations.

DFAT welcomes written submissions from interested parties.

4. Staff numbers increased across the branches of the Free Trade Agreement Division from 35 in September 2013 to 45 by 1 January 2014, in line with the Government's priority focus on FTA negotiations.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 23

Program: DFAT

Topic: PACER Plus

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. Please outline the Government's approach to the PACER Plus negotiations.*
- 2. What is the schedule for meetings and negotiations?*
- 3. What consultations have taken place in Australia with relevant stakeholders since September 7?*
- 4. Are any further consultations scheduled for the remainder of the financial year?*

Answer

1. Australia's primary objective for the PACER Plus negotiations is to promote the economic growth prospects of Forum Island countries. PACER Plus should be seen as a long term opportunity to promote jobs, private sector growth and economic growth in Forum Island countries.

The Government recently announced it would provide \$1.8 million over three years to the Office of the Chief Trade Advisor (OCTA) to help Forum Island Countries progress the PACER Plus negotiations with Australia and New Zealand.

2. The sixth PACER Plus officials' negotiating meeting was held in Auckland on 28 November 2013. The next inter-sessional negotiating meeting is scheduled to be held in late March/ early April 2014 (exact dates to be confirmed). No further negotiating meetings are scheduled at this stage, although more are expected to be held in 2014.

3. Australian Government officials participated in the third PACER Plus Non State Actor (NSA) Dialogue held in Auckland on 29 November 2013. The Dialogue provided an opportunity for officials involved in the PACER Plus negotiations to brief interested NSAs on the progress of PACER Plus

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negotiations. The Dialogue also provided an opportunity for interested NSAs to discuss PACER Plus issues of interest to them with officials involved in the negotiations and other NSAs. More information on the Dialogue can be found on: <http://forumsec.org/pages.cfm/economic-governance/regional-trade-1/third-nsa-dialogue-on-pacer-plus.html>

The Australia Government continues to provide updates on the PACER Plus negotiations, and provide opportunities for stakeholders to make submissions and comments on Australia's participation in PACER Plus negotiations for the Government to consider. More information can be found on: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/fta/pacer/>.

Interested stakeholders can also seek updates from Australian Government officials on the negotiations and request meetings with Australian Government officials to discuss the PACER Plus negotiations.

4. At this stage, no specific consultations with domestic stakeholders are scheduled for the remainder of this financial year in relation to the PACER Plus negotiations.

The Australia Government continues to provide updates on the PACER Plus negotiations, and provide opportunities for stakeholders to make submissions and comments on Australia's participation in PACER Plus negotiations for the Government to consider. More information can be found on: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/fta/pacer/>.

Interested stakeholders can also seek updates from Australian Government officials on the negotiations and request meetings with Australian Government officials to discuss the PACER Plus negotiations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 24

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. Is Minister Robb required to seek approval from the Prime Minister or his office prior to all overseas visits?***
- 2. What are the total costs of Minister Robb's overseas travel to date including for his personal and departmental staff?***
- 3. At what class are they flying for these overseas visits?***
- 4. What is the standard of room Minister Robb requires when travelling overseas for his ministerial duties?***
- 5. Are there any special requests Minister Robb has made in regards to his personal room or travelling office while overseas?***

Answer

1. Yes.
2. Costs for Minister Robb's overseas travel to date are available from the Department of Finance (DoF), which is responsible for the cost of airfares, accommodation, meals and incidentals, ground transport, non-portfolio-related hospitality and miscellaneous incidentals for Ministers and their staff. DoF tables a document on Ministerial Travel expenses every six months. For costs of departmental staff that accompanied Minister Robb see the department's response to question 158.
3. Business class.
4. Standard room.
5. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 25

Program: DFAT

Topic: Foreign Investment

Question on Notice

Page: 6

Senator Wong

Question

A. Is there a formal relationship between DFAT and Treasury (agreed in a memorandum of understanding or similar) in relation to responsibility of foreign investment?

B. If not, why not?

C. Please outline the Government's policy on thresholds for both agricultural and non agricultural investment.

Answer

A. No

B. The Department of the Treasury is responsible for the regulation of foreign investment in Australia. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provides advice on foreign investment. Austrade is responsible for investment promotion.

C. This relates to the regulation of foreign investment and is therefore a matter for the Department of Treasury.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 26

Program: DFAT

Topic: Annual Statement on Investment

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. With reference to the Coalitions policy that “the Minister will make an annual statement to Parliament outlining the quantum of new investment in Australia”. When will the Minister be making a statement to the Parliament?

Answer

A. As noted in the Government’s ‘The First 100 Days of Government – Delivering on Our Plan’, the Minister for Trade and Investment will make his first annual statement to Parliament prior to September 2014.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 27

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Advisory Council

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. What is the timeframe around appointing members to the Trade Advisory Council?***
- 2. What is the process being followed to appoint council members?***
- 3. What resources will the council receive once established?***

Answer

1. There is no timeframe.
2. The Minister for Trade and Investment has the matter under consideration.
3. Resources will be considered once a council is established.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 28

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. What meetings have been scheduled at both a ministerial and officials level for the next twelve months?*
- 2. What consultations with stakeholders have been scheduled for the next twelve months?*
- 3. Please advise of the process involved in 'legal scrubbing' and indicative timeline once draft text is received.*

Answer

1. Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) Negotiators and Ministers plan to meet in early 2014. No formal dates have been set yet.
2. Consultations with stakeholders are ongoing. TPP negotiators are available to meet with interested stakeholders as required.
3. 'Legal scrubbing' refers to the process where lawyers from each negotiating party review and amend the draft text to address issues such as drafting inconsistencies, spelling and grammatical inaccuracies and definitional issues. The length of time for the legal scrub varies from treaty to treaty depending on the length of the text, the complexity of the subject matter and the number of parties involved.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question 29

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Negotiations

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. The Foreign Minister has responsibility for international climate change negotiations - why didn't the Foreign Minister attend the latest round of talks in Warsaw?***
- B. Did the Department advise against the Minister attending the talks?***

Answer

- A. The Foreign Minister represented Australia at the Australia-United States Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN). This coincided with the Conference of the Parties (COP).
- B. We do not comment on advice to Government.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 30

Program: DFAT

Topic: UN VOTING

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. Please provide a list of all the votes currently before the UN for Australia's consideration

B. Has the Government changed Australia's voting intention on any of these votes?

C. If yes, which ones?

D. Why?

E. Is the Government's change in Australia's voting intention consistent with advice and recommendations from the Department?

F. How does the Government plan to make the most of Australia's membership of the Security Council and how will the Government define a successful term for Australia on the UN Security Council?

Answer

A. There are no votes currently before the UN for Australia's consideration.

B. N/A

C. N/A

D. N/A

E. N/A

F. The Government is committed to ensuring Australia's term on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) advances our national interests and, by serving with distinction, enhances our credentials as a capable and respected contributor to international peace and security. Australia is

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working across the Council's agenda, continuing to press for timely action by the UNSC to address serious challenges to international peace and security, and reflecting the concerns and interests of importance to our region.

The Government is making the most of Australia's UNSC membership by focusing the weight of its efforts on issues that engage our core national security interests, including proliferation threats (North Korea and Iran), counter-terrorism (Afghanistan), and developing effective responses to instability in the Middle East. Australia's term on the UNSC is also an opportunity to strengthen and broaden our engagement on these issues with our regional and global partners well beyond our term.

In 2013 Australia helped drive UNSC action in response to the proliferation threat from DPRK, the use of chemical weapons in Syria, and new UNSC-authorized missions to counter the terrorist threat in the Sahel (Mali). As Chair of the Al Qaida, Iran and Taliban UNSC Sanctions Committees, we have worked to counter terrorism and proliferation threats by improving the implementation, effectiveness and transparency of these sanctions regimes.

As the policy lead on Afghanistan in the Council, Australia facilitated the mandate renewals for the UN mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in 2013. Looking ahead, Australia will again facilitate the UNAMA mandate renewal in 2014, as well as appropriate Council consideration of the post-2014 international presence in Afghanistan.

Australia has actively contributed to the Council's consideration of challenges in the Middle East, particularly the situation in Syria. Australia, with fellow Council member Luxembourg, developed by consensus a Presidential Statement in October 2013 on the humanitarian situation in Syria, which has helped to improve humanitarian access and enhance the delivery of medical, food and other supplies.

We have played an active role in the Council's efforts towards peace and stability in Africa. We continue to work with Council members to ensure that the mandates of UN political and peacekeeping missions are strong and realistic, including for new and ongoing African missions.

We are also focused on advancing the Council's work on conflict prevention and disarmament, including by building on the successful adoption of the

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first resolution on measures to limit the impact of small arms and light weapons under Australia's Security Council presidency in September 2013.

Australia will continue to advocate, in conflict situations and in peacebuilding, the centrality of respect for human rights, the protection of civilians, including women and children, and the prevention of and response to sexual violence in conflict. We are also advocating for adherence to human rights law and international humanitarian law, including through support by the Council for International Criminal Court proceedings.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 31

Program: DFAT

Topic: International Organisations

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. Can you please provide a list of current membership of international organisations managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade?***
- B. Can you please provide details of the Australian Government contributions to these organisations, including assessed and voluntary contributions?***
- C. Can you confirm any changes to membership arrangements since the election?***
- D. Can you clarify whether any changes to membership are under consideration - is Australian membership of any of the organisations under review?***
- E. Can you provide details of when assessed and voluntary payments fall due for each organisation***

Answer

A and B. Membership and contributions to international organisations are set out in two tables (Attachments A and B) which reflect those managed under the Australian Aid Program and those managed by other areas of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

C. Since the election in September 2013, the Government has extended its commitment to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to 2016 by pledging a further \$200 million.

D. The Government is currently in the process of considering its strategic, budget and funding priorities including those relating to international organisations.

E. Attachment B provides details of when assessed and voluntary payments fall due for international organisations managed by DFAT. However, with the large number of multilateral organisations and individual arrangements for

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each organisation managed under the Australian Aid Program
(Attachment A) it is not practical to provide details of every arrangement.

Australia has multi-year Partnership Frameworks or agreements with the majority of our major multilateral partners and these are often linked to contribution agreements. The lengths of these agreements vary but is generally three to seven years and payments are made in tranches. In some cases there may be a formal replenishment system. For example, contributions are due to the Asian Development Bank in January each year and payments are made between July and December the previous calendar year.

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ATTACHMENT A

International and Multilateral Organisations managed by DFAT under the Australian Aid Program

These are estimated figures for core funding, managed by DFAT, in financial year 2012-13. The Total Core amount is inclusive of assessed and voluntary core.

These figures exclude common humanitarian funds.

Variations in these figures may occur because of different interpretations of assessed core and discretionary or voluntary core or of core and non-core. Attribution of funding can sometimes be made to either the financial partner or the implementing partner. Further, figures may vary because of exchange rates, differences in reporting periods and accrual verses cash accounting.

| Multilateral Organisations | Org Acronym | Funding 2012-13 FY (A\$m)* |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| World Bank | WB | 207.00 |
| Asian Development Bank | ADB | 83.10 |
| United Nations Development Program | UNDP | 20.66 |
| World Food Programme | WFP | 36.00 |
| United Nations International Children's Fund | UNICEF | 34.10 |
| United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees | UNHCR | 19.00 |
| Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria | GFATM | 59.88 |
| International Committee of the Red Cross | ICRC | 22.00 |
| GAVI Alliance | GAVI | 47.50 |
| United Nations Population Fund | UNFPA | 15.00 |
| Global Partnership for Education | GPE | 30.00 |
| United Nations Office of Project Services | UNOPS | 0.00 |
| Global Environment Facility | GEF | 20.08 |
| United Nations Relief and Works Agency | UNRWA | 17.60 |
| UN Women | UNWOMEN | 8.00 |
| Forest Carbon Partnership Facility | FCPF | 0.00 |
| United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs | UNOCHA | 9.60 |
| Commonwealth Secretariat | ComSec | 9.96 |
| Private Infrastructure Development Group | PIDG | 0.00 |
| International Finance Corporation | IFC | 0.00 |
| United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization | UNESCO | 7.00 |
| Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | UNAIDS | 7.24 |
| Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development | OECD | 3.33 |

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| | | |
|--|-----------|------|
| Global Fund for Disaster Reduction and Recovery | GFDRR | 4.46 |
| United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime | UNODC | 0.00 |
| United Nations Capital Development Fund | UNCDF | 0.00 |
| United Nations Mine Action Service | UNMAS | 0.30 |
| The Global Green Growth Institute | GGGI | 0.00 |
| International Finance Facility | IFF | 4.87 |
| United Nations Human Settlements Programme | UNHabitat | 0.00 |
| World Organisation for Animal Health | WOAH | 0.00 |
| United Nations Economic Commission for Africa | UNECA | 0.00 |
| Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol | MPMF | 3.18 |
| United Nations Peace Building Fund | UNPBF | 3.00 |
| World Trade Organization | WTO | 0.00 |
| Climate Investment Funds | CIF | 0.00 |
| Partnership for Market Readiness | PMR | 2.50 |
| United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights | UNOHCHR | 0.00 |
| United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs | UNDESA | 0.00 |
| United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction | UNISDR | 2.10 |
| Global Crop Diversity Trust | GCDT | 2.00 |
| International Atomic Energy Agency | IAEA | 1.65 |
| International Water Management Institute | IWMI | 0.00 |
| International Institute for Democracy Electoral Assistance | IDEA | 0.50 |
| United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change | UNFCCC | 0.00 |
| United Nations Development Programme Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Reduction • Includes Thematic Trust Fund for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (CPR TTF) | UNDP BCPR | 1.00 |
| World Intellectual Property Organization | WIPO | 0.00 |
| United Nations Department of Political Affairs | UNDPA | 1.00 |
| United Nations Support Facility for Cooperation on Arms Regulation | UNSCAR | 0.00 |
| Regional Office for Asia Pacific of UNOHCHA | ROAP | 1.00 |
| Consultative Group to Assist the Poor | CGAP | 1.00 |
| Inter-American Development Bank | IaDB | 0.00 |
| International Trade Centre | ITC | 1.00 |
| International Organization for Migration | IOM | 0.87 |
| United Nations Democracy Fund | UNDEF | 0.50 |
| United Nations Development Operations Coordination Office | UNDOCO | 0.65 |
| United Nations Peace Building Support Office | UNPBSO | 0.00 |
| United Nations Department of Peacekeeping | UNDPKO | 0.00 |

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| | | |
|--|----------|------|
| Operations | | |
| United Nations Information Centre for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific | UNIC | 0.00 |
| United Nations University - International Institute of Global Health | UNU-IIGH | 0.00 |
| United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific | ESCAP | 0.00 |
| Global Agriculture & Food Security Program | GAFSP | 0.00 |
| International Monetary Fund | IMF | 0.00 |
| Least Developed Countries Fund | LDCF | 0.00 |
| United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs | UNODA | 0.00 |
| United Nations Organisations General Trust Fund | UNGTF | 0.00 |
| United Nations Volunteers | UNV | 0.00 |
| Caribbean Development Bank | CDB | 0.00 |
| European Bank for Reconstruction and Development | EBRD | 0.00 |
| Green Climate Fund | GCF | 0.00 |
| International Fund for Agricultural Development | IFAD | 0.00 |
| Global partnership for outputs based Aid | GPOBA | 0.00 |

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ATTACHMENT B

International Organisations managed by DFAT

| International Organisations | Original Budget (A\$) Allocation for 2013-14 FY | Month payment due in 2013-14 FY |
|--|--|--|
| United Nations | 57,253,190 | Jan |
| UNESCO | 7,539,039 | Dec |
| Other UN Affiliates – International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) | 572,005 | Dec |
| Commonwealth Secretariat | 3,090,253 | Aug |
| Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) | 971,331 | Jun |
| Bureau of Permanent Court of Arbitration | 28,858 | Feb |
| International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) | 97,034 | Jan |
| International Humanitarian Fact Finding Commission | 8,697 | Feb |
| International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia | 2,688,772 | Mar |
| International Criminal Tribunal Rwanda | 1,905,490 | Mar |
| UN Master Capital Plan | 8,191,855 | Jan |
| Antarctic Treaty Secretariat Contribution | 61,781 | Feb |
| International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals | 550,435 | Feb |
| International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) | 8,625,933 | Nov |
| Wassenaar Arrangement | 60,569 | Jan |
| Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons | 1,900,504 | Dec |
| Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) | 2,560,475 | Dec |
| Conventional Weapons Convention (CCW) | 26,512 | Mar |
| Biological Weapons Convention | 32,633 | Mar |
| Ottawa Convention | 9,924 | Mar |
| Convention on Cluster Munitions | 17,690 | Mar |
| Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons | 29,984 | Dec |
| Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) | 11,612,138 | Mar & Jun |
| Energy Charter Conference | 201,284 | May |
| Pacific Economic Cooperative Membership | 25,185 | Mar |
| ABAC Secretariat | 35,526 | Jan |
| APEC Secretariat | 408,541 | Feb |
| VPI - Voluntary Principles on Security & Human Rights | 11,000 | Sep |
| World Trade Organisation (WTO) | 2,683,061 | Dec |

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| | | |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Internal Bureau of Expositions | 21,536 | Jun |
| Asia Europe Foundation (ASEM) | 55,766 | Apr |
| Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs) | | |
| UN Mission for Referendum Western Sahara (MINURSO) | 1,236,271 | Aug |
| UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) | 14,031,476 | Aug & Nov |
| UN Org Mission in Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC) | 29,062,625 | Aug & Jan |
| UN Disengagement Observation Force (UNDOF) | 991,547 | Aug & Mar |
| UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) | 1,160,385 | Aug & Feb |
| UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) | 11,320,579 | Aug & Feb |
| UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) | 955,874 | Aug |
| United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) | 10,741,053 | Aug & Oct |
| United Nations Operation in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) | 12,487,401 | Aug & Oct |
| UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) | 0 | Oct |
| UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) | 31,407,533 | Aug |
| UN Support Mission to the AU Mission in Somalia (UNSOA) | 9,564,233 | Aug & Dec |
| UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) | 18,131,467 | Aug |
| UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNIFSA) | 5,659,555 | Aug & Dec |
| UN Stabilization Mission in Syria (UNSMIS) | 0 | Aug |
| UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) | 0 | Aug |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 32

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid (regional programs)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Could the Department please provide the Committee with a list of all programs under the PNG and Pacific Program, including funding recipients and annual funding for each year 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15; and 2015-16?

Answer

Information on 2012-13 expenditure and 2013-14 proposed expenditure under Australia's aid program – including for PNG and Pacific programs – is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/publications/pages/five-billion-dollar-aid-budget-to-focus-on-the-region.aspx>

Details on each country and regional program are available in the AusAID Annual Report 2012-13:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/AnnualReports/Pages/rep13default.aspx>

Implementation of the revised 2013-14 proposed expenditure is currently under discussion with partner governments and organisations.

The Government will consider its 2014-15 and 2015-16 funding priorities as part of the 2014-15 budget process.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 33

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid (Regional Programs)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Could the Department please provide the Committee with a list of all programs under the East Asia Program, including funding recipients and annual funding for each year 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15 and 2015-16?

Answer

Information on 2012-13 expenditure and 2013-14 proposed expenditure under Australia's aid program – including for East Asia programs – is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/publications/pages/five-billion-dollar-aid-budget-to-focus-on-the-region.aspx>

Details on each country and regional program are available in the AusAID Annual Report 2012-13:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/AnnualReports/Pages/rep13default.aspx>

Implementation of the revised 2013-14 proposed expenditure is currently under discussion with partner governments and organisations.

The Government will consider its 2014-15 and 2015-16 funding priorities as part of the 2014-15 budget process.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 34

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid (Regional Programs)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Could the Department please provide the Committee with a list of all programs under the Africa, South and Central Asia, Middle East and other Program, including funding recipients and annual funding for each year 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15; and 2015-16.

Answer

Information on 2012-13 expenditure and 2013-14 proposed expenditure under Australia's aid program – including for Africa, South and West Asia, Middle East and Other Programs – is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/publications/pages/five-billion-dollar-aid-budget-to-focus-on-the-region.aspx>

Details on each country and regional program are available in the AusAID Annual Report 2012-13:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/AnnualReports/Pages/rep13default.aspx>

Implementation of the revised 2013-14 proposed expenditure is currently under discussion with partner governments and organisations.

The Government will consider its 2014-15 and 2015-16 funding priorities as part of the 2014-15 budget process.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 35

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid (Regional Programs)

Question on Notice

Senator Wong

Question

A. Could the Department please provide the Committee with a list of all programs under the Emergency, humanitarian and refugee Program, including funding recipients and annual funding for each year 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15; and 2015-16.

Answer

Information on 2012-13 expenditure and 2013-14 proposed expenditure under Australia's aid program – including for the emergency, humanitarian and refugee program – is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/publications/pages/five-billion-dollar-aid-budget-to-focus-on-the-region.aspx>

Details on each country and regional program are available in the AusAID Annual Report 2012-13:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/AnnualReports/Pages/rep13default.aspx>

Implementation of the revised 2013-14 proposed expenditure is currently under discussion with partner governments and organisations.

The Government will consider its 2014-15 and 2015-16 funding priorities as part of the 2014-15 budget process.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 36

Program: DFAT

Topic: Other Programs

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Could the Department please provide the Committee with a list of all programs under the Multilateral Replenishments Program, including funding recipients and annual funding for each year 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15; and 2015-16.

Answer

In 2012-2013, Australia pledged \$629,150,610 towards the twelfth replenishment of the Asian Development Fund (ADFXI).

In 2013-2014

- Australia pledged \$735 million towards the 17th replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA 17) in Moscow. This includes:
 - \$585 million to the replenishment;
 - approximately \$57 million to IDA's debt relief initiatives; and
 - approximately \$93 million to the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI).*
- No funding was provided to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

The Government will consider its 2014-15 and 2015-16 funding priorities as part of the 2014-15 budget process.

* Approximate figures can only be provided as exact figures are yet to be provided by the World Bank.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 37

Program: DFAT

Topic: Other Programs

Question Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Could the Department please provide the Committee with a list of all programs under the UN, Commonwealth and other International Organisations Program, including funding recipients and annual funding for each year 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15; and 2015-16.

Answer

In 2012-13, the following payments were made under the UN, Commonwealth and Other International Organisations Program:

- UNICEF (Child Fund) (\$34,100,000)
- UNDP (Development Program) (\$20,660,000)
- UN Other (\$3,735,022)
- International Labour Organization (\$4,290,000)

In 2012-13, Australia provided \$17.4 million in assistance to Commonwealth organisations for activities run by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, the Commonwealth Youth Programme, the Commonwealth Foundation and the Commonwealth of Learning. This amount also included Australia's \$5 million contribution to the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund.

Information on 2013-14 proposed expenditure under Australia's aid program – including for UN, Commonwealth and other International Organisations programs – is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/publications/pages/five-billion-dollar-aid-budget-to-focus-on-the-region.aspx>

The Government will consider its 2014-15 and 2015-16 funding priorities as part of the 2014-15 budget process.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 38

Program: DFAT

Topic: Other Programs

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Could the Department please provide the Committee with a list of all programs under the NGO, Volunteer and Community Programs Program, including funding recipients and annual funding for each year 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15; and 2015-16.

Answer

Information on 2012-13 expenditure under Australia's aid program on NGO, Volunteer and Community Programs is available in the AusAID Annual Report 2012-13 at pages 169 and following:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/AnnualReports/Pages/rep13default.aspx>

Recipients of funding in 2012-13 are set out below:

Table 1: ANCP

| NGO Name | 2012-13 \$ |
|--|-----------------------|
| Act for Peace – National Council of Churches | 1,578,737 |
| ActionAid Australia | 623,119 |
| Adventist Development & Relief Agency (ADRA) | 1,631,139 |
| Anglican Board of Mission | 614,549 |
| AngliCORD | 668,888 |
| Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief and Aid Fund | 150,000 |
| Assisi Aid Projects | 150,000 |
| Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP) | 1,436,970 |
| Australian Himalayan Foundation Ltd | 150,000 |
| Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) | 1,450,276 |
| Australian People for Health Education & Development Abroad | 1,413,409 |

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| NGO Name | 2012-13 \$ |
|---|-----------------------|
| (APHEDA) | |
| Baptist World Aid Australia | 2,866,458 |
| Burnet Institute | 715,725 |
| CARE Australia | 6,005,954 |
| Caritas | 7,919,124 |
| CBM Australia | 7,345,191 |
| ChildFund Australia | 6,381,004 |
| Credit Union Foundation Australia | 607,331 |
| Every Home Global Concern | 430,452 |
| Family Planning NSW | 300,000 |
| Habitat for Humanity Australia | 743,683 |
| International Centre for Eyecare Education (ICEE) | 1,342,004 |
| International Needs Australia | 585,971 |
| International Nepal Fellowship Australia | 150,000 |
| International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) | 603,314 |
| Interplast Australia and New Zealand | 150,000 |
| Marie Stopes International Australia | 1,233,968 |
| Nusatenggara Association (NTA) | 150,000 |
| Opportunity International Australia | 1,766,120 |
| Oxfam Australia | 10,284,224 |
| Plan International Australia | 6,025,279 |
| Quaker Service Australia | 300,000 |
| Reledev Australia | 150,000 |
| Salvation Army International Development | 150,000 |
| Save the Children Australia | 5,005,334 |
| TEAR Australia | 5,488,199 |
| The Fred Hollows Foundation | 4,160,551 |
| The Leprosy Mission Australia | 978,849 |
| Uniting World | 1,106,698 |
| WaterAid Australia | 791,504 |
| World Education Australia Limited (WEAL) | 351,976 |
| World Vision Australia | 28,680,000 |
| World Wide Fund for Nature Australia (WWF) | 150,000 |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Table 2: Partnership with Civil Society Organisations

| Organisation name | 2012-13 \$ |
|--|-----------------------|
| Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) | 1,066,850 |
| CIVICUS (World Alliance for Citizen Participation) | 149,600 |

Table 3: Australian Volunteers for International Development Program

| Organisation name | 2012-13 \$ |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Austraining International | 32,598,115 |
| Australian Volunteers International | 15,849,975 |
| Australian Red Cross | 9,000,000 |

Information on 2013-14 proposed expenditure under Australia's aid program – including for NGO, Volunteer and Community Programs – is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/publications/pages/five-billion-dollar-aid-budget-to-focus-on-the-region.aspx>

The Government will consider its 2014-15 and 2015-16 funding priorities as part of the 2014-15 budget process.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 39

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. What was the FTE staff establishment for the department – that is, what was the establishment as at the 2013/14 budget?*
- B. Please provide details of FTE numbers by division?*
- C. Please provide details of the actual staffing levels in each division as at the 2013/14 Budget?*
- D. Can you please provide the FTE staff establishment for the department by division now that AusAID has been integrated into the Department?*
- E. How many former AusAID employees were moved to DFAT under the machinery of government changes?*
- F. Please provide details of the number of staff that were employed by DFAT on fixed term contracts or were employed on a temporary basis as at the election?*
- G. Please provide details of the number of staff that were employed by AusAID on fixed term contracts or were employed on a temporary basis as at the election?*
- H. Please provide details of the number of staff who are now employed on contract or other non-ongoing basis? How many of these are former employees of AusAID?*

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Answer

A. The FTE establishment for the Department at 1 Jul 2013 was 4161. This is comprised of 1650.5 FTE in the pre-integrated AusAID and 2510.5 FTE in the pre-integrated DFAT.

B - C. **Table One** details the actual FTE by division as at 1 July 2013 and 30 Nov 2013.

Table One: Actual FTE by Division

| Division | 1 Jul 2013 | 30 Nov 2013 |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Corporate Management Division | 196.9 | 188.3 |
| Australian Passport Office | 381.0 | 385.8 |
| International Organisations & Legal Division | 77.8 | 76.6 |
| Overseas Property Office & Service Division | 40.3 | 38.6 |
| Information Management & Technology Division | 193.8 | 186.3 |
| Government Finance & Information Services Division | 197.2 | 186.6 |
| Corporate Enabling Division | 152.8 | 161.0 |
| Office of Trade Negotiations | 58.6 | 66.0 |
| Trade & Economic Policy Division | 49.6 | 47.8 |
| Free Trade Agreement | 31.6 | 34.7 |
| Americas & Africa Division | 28.5 | 25.1 |
| South & West Asia & Middle East Division | 33.0 | 26.0 |
| Europe Division | 20.6 | 22.6 |
| International Security Division | 39.7 | 36.7 |
| Pacific Division | 27.4 | 29.4 |
| North Asia Division | 26.9 | 26.0 |
| South East Asia Division | 36.1 | 34.7 |
| Australian Safeguards & Non-Proliferation Division | 15.8 | 16.7 |
| Consular Public Diplomacy & Parliamentary Affairs Division | 103.5 | 101.0 |
| Executive Planning and Evaluation Division | 58.0 | 52.8 |
| Graduates and Trainees (pre-integrated DFAT) | 90.0 | 96.8 |
| Overseas Posts | 648.0 | 616.0 |
| State Offices | 44.2 | 39.7 |
| Staff Offline (Staff on leave without pay, long term leave, language training, and maternity leave. | 349.8 | 404.9 |
| Integration Taskforce | 0.0 | 6.0 |
| Audit Office | 10.7 | 10.7 |
| Program Effectiveness & Performance Division | 116.3 | 122.5 |
| Pacific Development Division | 250.0 | 253.1 |
| East Asia Development Division | 187.4 | 203.6 |
| Africa Development & Community Programs Division | 136.9 | 128.5 |

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| Division | 1 Jul 2013 | 30 Nov 2013 |
|--|------------|-------------|
| South & West Asia Development Division | 122.8 | 120.4 |
| Humanitarian & Stabilisation Division | 94.2 | 94.3 |
| Policy & Sector Division | 155.1 | 143.5 |
| International Policy & Partnerships Division | 91.4 | 100.2 |
| Economics Advisory Group | 19.4 | 20.2 |
| DDGs and Support Staff | 16.0 | 8.9 |
| Total | 4101.4 | 4112.0 |

D. The FTE establishment for the Department following integration has not been amended and remains 4161. This is comprised of 1650.5 FTE in the pre-integrated AusAID and 2510.5 FTE in the pre-integrated DFAT. A revised FTE establishment for FY 2014-15 will be developed as integration is progressed and as part of the 2014-15 budget process.

E. A total of 2374 AusAID staff moved to DFAT under the machinery of government changes. This is comprised of 1723 Australian based APS and 624 Locally Engaged Staff (LES).

F **Table Two** details the number of non-ongoing APS employees engaged by AusAID and DFAT at 7 Sep 2013 and at 21 Nov 2013. The increase in non-ongoing employees in DFAT reflects an increase in resources in the Australian Passports Office in response to fluctuating demand.

Table Two: Non-Ongoing APS at 7 Sep 2013 and 21 Nov 2013

| | Pre -Integration Organisation | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| | AusAID | DFAT |
| Number Non-Ongoing APS at 7 Sep 2013 | 70 | 87 |
| Number Non Ongoing APS at 21 Nov 2013 | 70 | 121 |

G. There were 374 non-APS contractors engaged by the pre-integration DFAT organisation on 7 Sep 2013. This number fell to 239 by 30 Nov 2013. The pre-Integration AusAID organisation did not maintain a centralised reporting framework for the total number of non-APS contractors it engaged. Work is underway to collect contractor data in the integrated organisation and further detail will be available at a later time.

H. DFAT does not maintain previous employment history records for non-ongoing APS employees or contractors and is therefore unable to provide

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statistics on the number of non-ongoing APS employees or contractors who are former ongoing AusAID employees.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 40

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. Is the department currently involved in any process to contract out or outsource any current functions? If so:

i) What functions?

ii) How many staff are needed for this work?

iii) Why is it not being done in-house?

iv) What is the estimated cost of this work?

B. Do you have any people working in the department as external contractors, who aren't included in the head count in the annual report?

i) How many?

ii) What work are they undertaking?

iii) Do you expect this number to change?

Answer

A. DFAT intends to outsource its passport scanning and verification function. This is currently resourced with 11 APS employees and 35 contractors. The use of a third party large scale document preparation centre will be more efficient and cost effective. The estimated annual cost of this function is \$6 million.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

B. Non-APS contractors are not included in APS Staffing figures compiled for Departmental annual reports.

i. There were 239 contractors engaged by the pre-integration DFAT organisation on 21 November 2013.

The pre-Integration AusAID organisation did not maintain a centralised reporting framework for the total number of contractors it engaged. Work is underway to collect contractor data in the integrated organisation and further detail will be available at a later time.

ii. The Department does not maintain data on contractor numbers by function. Work is underway to review the way in which contractor data is collected and monitored in the integrated organisation.

iii. The number of contractors engaged by DFAT will change in response to fluctuations in Departmental workload, realisation of additional capacity in the APS workforce due to AusAID integration, and progress of workforce planning initiatives to address specialist skill requirements.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 41

Program: DFAT

Topic: Charter Letters

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

Has the Minister received a charter letter from the Prime Minister or is it expected that a charter letter will be received by the Prime Minister?

Answer

Yes, the Minister has received a charter letter from the Prime Minister.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 42

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial division of responsibility

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. Can you detail the division of responsibilities between the Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary?***
- B. What is the division of responsibility between the Minister and the Minister for the Environment on international climate negotiations?***
- C. If the Australian Government had sent a Cabinet Minister (rather than a departmental officer) to the Climate Change discussions in Warsaw – would it have been the Minister for Foreign Affairs?***
- D. Can the Department therefore confirm that ministerial responsibility for representing Australia at the 2015 talks in Paris would rest with Minister Bishop?***
- E. Is the responsibility between Ministers and the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs finalised or could they change? For example on receipt of a charter letter from the Prime Minister?***
- F. Where are these arrangements on responsibilities recorded – where can we find them?***

Answer

A. The division of responsibilities between the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary are determined by the Minister and agreed by the Prime Minister. Please refer to the following website:

<http://www.dpmc.gov.au/parliamentary/index.cfm>).

B. The Administrative Arrangement Orders (AAO) published on 18 September and updated on 12 December 2013 state that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has responsibility for the development and co-ordination of international climate change policy and international climate change negotiations. The AAO can be found

at: http://www.dpmc.gov.au/parliamentary/docs/aao_20130918.pdf

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C. Yes.

D. Yes.

E. The Prime Minister has provided charter letters to the ministers.

F Charter letters set out the priorities to be met in this term of Government and may ask for certain matters to be brought forward for Cabinet consideration. The nature and content of those priorities is not disclosed to maintain Cabinet confidentiality.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 43

Program: DFAT

Topic: Regulatory Reform Policy

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. *Regarding the Government's regulatory reform policy announced before the election -What methodology will this department use to calculate the cost of regulation within the portfolio?***
- B. *The policy suggests there will be a standard approach based on a model used in Victoria?***
- C. *The policy requires the department to establish a dedicated unit led by an officer of at least SES1 level?***
- D. *Has the unit been established, how many staff have been assigned to this new unit and from where have the staff be redeployed?***
- E. *Is this a full time job for these officers?***
- F. *Is the officer who is heading this new unit available for appear?***
- G. *According to the policy (the Secretary) will set a specific regulatory performance target both in terms of the number of regulations to be cut and the extent of the impact of those regulations?***
- H. *Has that target been set for this department yet?***
- I. *If so, what is the target?***
- J. *If no, when do you expect to finalise this target?***
- K. *The performance in this area is to be linked to SES pay and also the reappointment of departmental secretaries?***
- L. *How will this work – will missing the target result in a pay cut for SES officers?***
- M. *The policy also requires this Department to establish a Ministerial Advisory Council –What is the process for establishing this new council?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

- A. The government is currently considering the methodology to calculate the cost of regulation.
- B. The government is currently considering the methodology to calculate the cost of regulation.
- C. The portfolio has established its Deregulation Unit which is led by an SES Band 1 officer.
- D. The portfolio is in the process of establishing its Deregulation Unit. Officers staffing the unit will be existing permanent APS officers.
- E. Staff will take on responsibilities relating to deregulation as part of their normal duties.
- F. Refer to answer (c) above.
- G. The government is currently considering specific regulatory performance targets.
- H. Refer to answer (g) above.
- I. Refer to answer (g) above.
- J. Refer to answer (g) above.
- K. The government is currently considering arrangements for the implementation of the deregulation agenda.
- L. The government is currently considering arrangements for the implementation of the deregulation agenda.
- M. The portfolio is currently considering arrangements to establish a Ministerial Advisory Council.

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Question No. 44

Program: DFAT

Topic: Discretionary Grants Program

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. *How many discretionary grants programs are managed by this portfolio?***
- B. *Could the Department provide a list of these programs?***
- C. *In each case how are they administered – who is the decision maker?***
- D. *In relation to each of these programs is there an advisory body that is involved in the assessment process for grant applications – get the details of who is on them etc.?***
- E. *Were these bodies in place before the election – have there been any changes in operation or membership since the election?***
- F. *Has there also been a pause in the release of funding for grants under these programs – for example because of a review of spending in the Department - if so, what are the details?***
- G. *What advice has been provided to stakeholders about the nature and purpose of the pause?***
 - *Have grant applicants or current recipients been advised about this in writing?***
 - *Can you provide an example of the advice provided?***
- H. *If there has been a pause or review:***
 - *Does this pause include grants that had been advertised but not yet finalised?***
 - *Does this pause include grants where decisions had been finalised but recipients had not yet been notified***
 - *If so, is there an indicative timeline as to when successful recipients of grants can expect to hear from the Government?***
- I. *Since the election has there been any change to these assessment processes and decision making arrangements?***
- J. *Are all grants in each program the subject of a pause?***
- K. *Are there any exceptions to the pause either in terms of programs or individual grants within a particular program?***
- L. *If so, what has been the process around determining any exemptions?***

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- M. How many grants or programs in this portfolio have been exempted? What are the details?*
- N. What was the process used to identify a grant or a program that would be excluded from the pause?*
- O. Who was the decision maker in each case where a grant or program was exempted from the pause?*

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

A and B

- i. All DFAT and Austrade managed discretionary grants programs are publicly available on the DFAT and Austrade websites, including details of the grant recipient, amount, purpose and funding location.

Remaining agencies within the portfolio (Tourism Australia, EFIC, ASIS and ACIAR) do not manage any discretionary grants programs – NIL response to subsequent questions B through O.

C.

- i. In DFAT the authority for approving grant applications has been delegated by the Secretary to SES officers of relevant divisions.
- ii. In Austrade, the Asian Business Engagement (ABE) Plan is administered by a secretariat. Authority for approving grants has been delegated under s8(a)(ix) of the *Australian Trade Commission Act 1985* by the Chief Executive Officer to the Executive Director, International Operations.

For tourism grants programmes, the programme guidelines detail that the Minister responsible for Tourism has delegated decision-making responsibility to a senior officer in the then Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism. Following machinery of government changes, this delegation has been changed to a senior officer from Austrade.

D.

- i. In DFAT spending proposals are approved on the recommendation of the relevant board, being the advisory body. Details of all boards and board members are available on the department's website.
- ii. To date there has been one grant round of the ABE Plan. A panel of three SES officers (two Austrade, one DFAT) assessed the applications and provided advice to the delegate.

For tourism grants programmes the process is as follows:

- (a) Applications are reviewed for eligibility and completeness by officers of Austrade; and
- (b) All eligible applications are assessed by two assessors from Austrade, Tourism Australia or representatives of state and territory tourism organisations.

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Applications are then ranked by merit, and top ranking applications are the subject of a financial viability assessment. The programme delegate is then provided with a set of recommendations based on merit, and the programme delegate makes the final decision as to which applicants would receive funding.

E.

- i. In DFAT there was no change in operation of each of the boards; all were in place prior to the 2013 election.
- ii. In Austrade, the first ABE grant round was run prior to the election. A different panel from Austrade and another relevant department or agency will assess applications each year.

Tourism programme assessment bodies are convened for each assessment round. No tourism programme assessments have taken place since the 2013 Election.

F.

Following the 2013 election, the Government announced that it would review discretionary grants programmes where contracts had not been signed, including rounds yet to be advertised and advertised rounds yet to be finalised. This was to ensure that each programme aligned with its policy priorities and commitments.

A pause was initiated by the previous Government with effect from 27 August 2012 when the Government decided that all upcoming grant rounds for 2012-13 which had not been advertised, and advertised rounds which had not been finalised, were to be paused. The purpose of the pause was to enable analysis of the levels of existing program expenditure and the extent to which this was either committed or uncommitted as part of the Budget process.

G and H.

In DFAT emails were sent to Board Chairs informing them of the pause initiated by the previous government and keeping them informed. An example is as follows:

| Details | Text |
|--|---|
| Email sent from AS EXB to all FCI Chairs on 31 August 2012 | FCI Chairs and Board members may have seen an article in the Australian on 30 August reporting that the Government has decided to 'freeze and assess' grant programs. Specifically, the Government has decided that all upcoming grant |

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| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>rounds for 2012-13 which have not been advertised, and advertised rounds which have not been finalised, are to be paused with effect from 27 August 2012.</p> <p>This applies across the Commonwealth, and includes grants managed by the FCIs under the department's International Relations Grants Program.</p> <p>In accordance with this Government decision, FCIs are asked for the time being to refrain from finalising any existing grant applications and prospective agreements, and from inviting any new applications.</p> <p>The Government intends as soon as possible to determine a course of action for all paused grant programs.</p> <p>The department will keep the FCIs informed of developments. In the meantime, FCIs are asked to handle this information – which relates to an ongoing Government process – with appropriate discretion.</p> <p>This message will be copied separately to the FCI Secretariats and relevant senior departmental staff.</p> |
|--|--|

In Austrade, the first ABE grant round was run prior to this pause and the next round has not yet commenced for this annual program.

For Tourism programmes, T-QUAL (National Tourism Accreditation Framework) Tourism Quality Projects (TQPs) successful applicants were advised that the programme would resume on 11 November 2013. Tourism Industry Regional Development Fund (TIRF) applicants were advised that the programme would not proceed on 15 November 2013.

I.

In DFAT and Austrade there was no change in the assessment process or decision-making arrangements.

No tourism programme assessments have been conducted since the 2013 Election.

In managing grants, DFAT **and Austrade** adhere to the [Commonwealth Grant Guidelines \(CGGs\)](#), which are a legislative instrument issued by the Finance Minister under section 64 of the [FMA Act](#) and [FMA Regulation 7A](#). Regulation 7A requires staff members to act in accordance with the CGGs when performing duties in relation to grants administration.

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J through O.

All grants in each program managed by DFAT and Austrade were subject to the pause (refer to answer F) - there were no exceptions.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 45

Program: DFAT

Topic: Budget (Savings Options)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. Since the last election has the department been requested to develop savings options either by the Minister or Prime Minister and Cabinet or Treasury or Finance?

B. If so, when was the request made and has that work been completed?

Answer

A. DFAT is routinely asked to provide policy advice to Government. Questions regarding the details of policy advice (including costings and savings options) are provided in-confidence and are matters for the Government.

B. N/A.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 46

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change- Warsaw Mechanism

Question in Writing Senator Wong

Question

- A. Does Australia support the establishment of the “Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage” as agreed in Warsaw?***
- B. Does Australia accept the decision of the Conference of Parties that it is “to address loss and damage associated with impacts of climate change, including extreme events and slow onset events, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change”?***
- C. Has the Government consequently accepted this decision that increased extreme weather events like bush fires and cyclones are the result of climate change?***

Answer

- A. The Australian Government supported the decision to establish the Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage.
- B. Yes
- C. It is difficult to directly attribute individual extreme weather events to climate change because these events occur as a part of natural climate variability.

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 47

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Durban Platform

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. In the decision on further advancing the Durban Platform it was agreed that countries “revisit its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target under the Convention and, if it is also a Party to the Kyoto Protocol, its quantified emission limitation or reduction commitment for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, if applicable, in accordance with decision 1/CMP.8, paragraphs 7–11” what is Australia doing with regards to this commitment?

B. What consultation will be undertaken and how will the process be transparent?

Answer

A. Australia will unilaterally reduce its emissions by 5 per cent below 2000 levels by 2020. Australia will review its climate change policy in 2015, considering further action and targets on the basis of comparable real global action, in particular by major economies and trading partners, and progress on the new agreement.

B. Decisions on the detail of the review will be made closer to its commencement.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 48

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Warsaw Climate Targets

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. It was agreed in Warsaw that post 2020 targets would be worked on and Governments were asked ‘to communicate them well in advance of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (by the first quarter of 2015... in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the intended contributions’, how is the Department preparing to meet this requirement?

B. What consultation and modelling will be undertaken? Will the Department use the work of the Climate Change Authority for this process?

Answer

A. Australia will review its climate change policy in 2015, considering further action and targets on the basis of comparable real global action, in particular by major economies and trading partners, and progress on the new agreement.

B. The Government will conduct this review; the Climate Change Authority will be abolished as part of the carbon tax repeal. Decisions about details of the review will be made closer to its commencement.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 49

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Warsaw Decisions

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. In the Warsaw decisions it was stated that "climate change represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies, future generations and the planet, that continued emissions of greenhouse gases will cause further warming and changes in all components of the climate system and that limiting climate change will require substantial and sustained reductions of greenhouse gas emissions" does this reflect the Australia's position?

B. What does Australia understand by 'substantial and sustained reductions' in relation to Australia's emissions to 2030 and 2050?

Answer

A. The Government accepts that climate change is real and we must collectively take strong and effective global action to deal with it.

B. The Government has not made a decision on Australia's post-2020 targets.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 50

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Finance

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. How important do other nations see the issue of international climate finance in getting a global agreement signed?

B. Does the agreement originally in Copenhagen to scale up to \$100 billion of private and public international climate finance by 2020 still remain Australia's position?

C. What is Australia's position on the Green Climate Fund?

D. Does Australia support the decisions reached at Warsaw in relation to the fund?

E. Does Australia accept that this commitment means scaling up the level of international climate finance from levels achieved as part of our fast start financing?

F. Does Australia's share of the fast start finance commitment form the basis of our share of the long term finance commitment?

G. What is the expected amount of international climate finance over the forward estimates?

H. Australia has stated it would contribute its 'fair share' of this goal to scale up international climate finance, does this remain the case? What would be the consequences for shaping a global solution for Australia not to live up to this commitment?

I. How important was the delivery of Australia's \$699m fast start finance in our region and for Australia's international reputation?

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Answer

A. In discussions on the new agreement at the recent Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP) in Warsaw, climate finance was one of a range of issues considered.

B. Australia supports the decision at the UNFCCC COP at Copenhagen, which stated “in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation, developed countries commit to a goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion dollars a year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. This funding will come from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources of finance”.

At Warsaw, Australia delivered a statement making clear its approach to a number of elements in the Warsaw decision. The statement read:

“Australia is unable to join calls for the capitalisation of the Green Climate Fund or for individual countries to maintain continuity in the level of their climate financing, or to increase their climate financing contributions in future years at this time.

Accordingly, Australia’s participation in the decisions of COP19 does not indicate its acceptance of the provisions at para 7 of the Decision titled “Work programme on long-term finance” and paras 13 and 14 of the Decision titled Report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the Green Climate Fund”.

C. See answer for 50(b).

D. See answer for 50(b).

E. See answer for 50(b).

F. No.

G. Australia’s levels of climate finance over the forward estimates have not been finalised. The Government is currently in the process of considering its strategic, budget and funding priorities, including for Australia’s foreign aid program.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

H. The Australian Government is committed to playing a role consistent with the actions of all countries, including the major economies and Australia's major trading partners.

Australia's international climate finance commitments are those shared across all developed country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

As these commitments are not unique or specific to Australia, meeting this commitment is the collective responsibility of all UNFCCC Parties.

I. Australia's total fast-start finance commitment was \$599 million between FY2010/11 and FY2012/13.

Further information on Australia's fast-start finance is available at: <http://www.climatechange.gov.au/international/actions/australias-contribution/international-climate-finance/fast-start-finance>.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question 51

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Fossil Awards

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. How many 'Fossil' awards did Australia get at the Warsaw conference?***
- B. Why was each award made?***
- C. What media coverage of these awards was there?***

Answer

- A. Details of the 'Fossils' can be found at the Climate Action website at

<http://www.climatenetwork.org/fossil-of-the-day>
- B. See Answer for 51(a)
- C. There was limited media coverage.

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 52

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - National Impact Assessment – Kyoto

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- A. Has work been done on preparing a national impact assessment for the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol second commitment period?***
- B. When is that likely to be finished?***
- C. How do other nations, particularly developing nations, see the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol to international progress?***
- D. Would Australia be able to purchase and use Clean Development Mechanism units if it does not ratify the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol?***

Answer

A&B. The Government will consider the question of ratification of the Doha amendment to the Kyoto Protocol in due course.

C. 144 Parties would need to ratify the amendment to the Kyoto Protocol before it would come into force. Four Parties have ratified to date (UAE, Mauritius, Barbados and Bangladesh).

D. Under the Doha decisions, countries like Australia that joined the second commitment period are able to purchase and use Clean Development Mechanism units should they choose, ahead of any ratification.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 53

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Cancun Agreement

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. Has the Department provided any analysis or view as to whether it agrees with the Climate Change Authority's assessment that the conditions which are part of the Cancun Agreements for moving beyond the 5 % target is correct?

B. Has this been raised internationally?

Answer

A. The Department advised Government that the Climate Change Authority (CCA) produced a draft report on its Progress and Targets Review on 30 October. The CCA is due to provide its final report on 28 February, if the Authority has not already been abolished as part of the carbon tax repeal.

The Government has made clear it will unilaterally reduce its emissions by 5 per cent below 2000 levels by 2020. This represents real effort.

Australia will review its climate change policy in 2015, considering further action and targets on the basis of comparable real global action, in particular by major economies and trading partners, and progress on the new agreement.

The Government will conduct this review, not the CCA. Decisions about details of the review will be made closer to its commencement.

B. No.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 54

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - G20 Climate Change Deal

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. Why is it important Australia help shape a global solution to climate change?

B. What does Australia stand to lose?

C. What preparations have been made for the Prime Minister to seek a climate change deal through the G20 as promised before the election?

D. Will the Prime Minister facilitate an agreement with the G4 on climate change?

Answer

A. All countries will need to play a part in an effective global response to climate change, consistent with their national circumstances and capabilities.

B. All countries, including Australia, are susceptible to the impacts of climate change.

C. Australia's G20 priorities are promoting stronger economic growth and employment outcomes and making the global economy more resilient to deal with future shocks.

D. Australia will work with all countries towards adopting a new international climate change agreement by 2015 that would establish a common platform for climate action post-2020. Australia expects the major economies, and our major trading partners and competitors to play their part in the new agreement.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 55

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - International Commitments

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

A. Do other nations pay attention to what domestic policies are in place to meet our international commitments?

B. What has been their response to the news Australia might be repealing the Clean Energy Act?

C. Has anyone expressed concerns or asked about meeting our targets?

Answer

A. Yes.

B. There has been limited reaction by other countries to date.

C. Australia discusses domestic climate change policies with a wide range of countries internationally and has used the opportunity to outline the Government's Direct Action Plan.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 56

Program: EFIC

Topic: Exxon-Mobil in PNG

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. How much funding has EFIC provided to the Exxon-Mobil LNG project in PNG?**
- 2. In January 2012 a massive landslide at an Exxon quarry killed several dozen people. International landslide expert Professor Dave Petley wrote on November 4 this year: “Everyone involved in the pipeline project denied that the quarry was in any way a factor in the landslide, even though this is by far the most likely cause ... What I find unbelievable is that a slide that killed so many people has not been properly investigated. That is surely a scandal”.**
 - a. Can EFIC confirm whether any investigation was ever conducted into this fatal event given the clear evidence the Exxon quarry was one significant cause?**
 - b. What information has EFIC requested in regards to this incident? May I have a copy please?**
- 3. May I have details of what accountability and transparency EFIC demands from projects it supports? From this project?**
- 4. What information has EFIC sought from Exxon-Mobil in regards to this incident?**

Answer

1. EFIC provided a US\$100 million loan on its Commercial Account. EFIC also manages a US\$250 million loan on the Government’s National Interest Account.
2.
 - a. The Tumbi landslide occurred at a quarry previously used by a contractor working on the PNG LNG Project. Use of the quarry for the Project ceased prior to the end of September 2011 as advised in the Project’s *PNG LNG Quarterly Environmental and Social Report 3rd Quarter 2011*. The Lender’s Independent Environmental and Social Consultant (D’Appolonia) also noted in November 2011 that the Project “no longer operates Quarry QA1 [Tumbi Quarry]. The site is benched and slopes have been

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

stabilized such that the quarry is safe” (see http://www.pnglng.com/quarterly_reports/previous_iesc_reports.html see November 2011 report section 4.5.2). When the landslide occurred the Project provided support to the local community and to the Government-led rescue effort.

As the area is not under Project control any investigation into the landslide is the responsibility of the PNG Government. The PNG Government National Disaster Committee (NDC) Technical Assessment Team provided advice to its Minister of its initial assessment of the Tumbi Landslide in a report dated 26th January 2012. The report identified naturally occurring geological weaknesses assisted by abnormally high rainfall as the landslide’s trigger. EFIC is not aware of any subsequent PNG Government investigation or report.

- b. EFIC received advice from D’Appolonia (the Independent Environmental and Social Consultant engaged by the Lenders to monitor environmental and social management of the Project) on the landslide and its aftermath. D’Appolonia visited the Project following the landslide in March 2012 and their report on the visit, including commentary on the Tumbi landslide, is publicly available on the PNG LNG website at: www.pnglng.com/quarterly_reports/previous_iesc_reports.html

The Project also publicly reports on its environmental and social performance. The Project report for the first three months of 2012 provides commentary on the Tumbi landslide and is publicly available at: http://www.pnglng.com/quarterly_reports/previous_e_s_reports.html

3. EFIC’s Policy and Procedure for Environmental and Social Review of Transactions (Policy and Procedure) applies to all projects that EFIC considers. The Procedure details how EFIC screens and classifies proposed transactions and how risks are evaluated - including the global standards and benchmarks used and the information and disclosure requirements necessary for this process. The Policy and Procedure are available at: www.efic.gov.au/corp-responsibility/envr-responsibility/Pages/default.aspx.

EFIC’s general benchmark for transactions associated with projects with potentially significant environmental and/or social impacts is the International Finance Corporation Performance Standards. Performance Standard 1 includes the accountability and transparency

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

standards EFIC expects of clients involved in such transactions. The Performance Standards are publicly available at:

http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/Topics_Ext_Content/IFC_External_Corporate_site/IFC+Sustainability/Sustainability+Framework.

EFIC's support of the PNG LNG Project required the Project to operate in accordance with Lender Environmental and Social Requirements (which reflect the OECD Common Approaches, the IFC Performance Standards and the Equator Principles). The Project's accountability and transparency obligations are detailed in its public Environmental and Social Management Plan which is available at:

<http://www.pnglng.com/commitment/>.

To ensure the Project is fulfilling its obligations, the Lenders to the Project, including EFIC, have engaged, for the life of their funding, D'Appolonia, an Independent Environmental and Social Consultant (IESC). D'Appolonia assesses and monitors Project compliance with the Lender Environmental and Social Requirements and publicly reports any areas of non-conformance. D'Appolonia's reports are publicly available at http://www.pnglng.com/quarterly_reports/

4. See response to 2 b.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 57

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo exports

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

May I please have the data for the export of each kangaroo product, expressed in quantities (weight or quantity), from 2005 to the present, to every recipient country, please?

A. What are the sources for this data?

B. Which countries import kangaroo meat that is, or will be processed or labelled as unidentified meat or protein product?

Answer

Data for the export of kangaroo products from 2005 to the present is attached.

A. The data is from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade STARS Database, based on Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data in ABS Catalogue Number 5368.0, October 2013.

B. Australia's export certification requires that exports of edible kangaroo meat are clearly identified.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

**Australia's Exports of Kangaroo Products
(by quantity)**

Tariff code 0208911 – Meat and edible meat of kangaroo, fresh, chilled or frozen

(quantity – kilograms)

| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | Jan-Oct 2013 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Total | 9,639,783 | 12,193,499 | 13,904,212 | 10,002,901 | 5,885,890 | 2,682,769 | 4,125,908 | 3,610,891 | 3,558,164 |
| Albania | | | | | 25,102 | | | | |
| Belgium | 251,293 | 225,898 | 318,678 | 379,229 | 1,073,005 | 311,010 | 488,163 | 366,579 | 378,151 |
| Canada | 4,598 | 4,283 | 21,354 | 10,400 | 2,837 | 23,004 | 45,320 | 49,794 | 32,008 |
| China | 118,881 | | | | 18,027 | | | | |
| Cote d'Ivoire | | | | 19,000 | | | | | |
| Czech Republic | 120,531 | 18,079 | | 23,679 | | 22,274 | 46,267 | | |
| France | 683,764 | 570,605 | 607,926 | 686,192 | 170,424 | 132,992 | 105,216 | 243,780 | 104,061 |
| French Polynesia | | 44 | | | 140 | 674 | 226 | | |
| Germany | 416,375 | 453,000 | 572,596 | 409,316 | 659,074 | 660,022 | 819,681 | 783,390 | 728,524 |
| Hong Kong | 56,271 | 146,809 | 50,099 | 30,158 | 126,525 | 116,046 | 63,356 | 89,775 | 32,819 |
| Iceland | | | | 276 | | | | | |
| Indonesia | 9 | | 49,086 | 70 | | | | 41,000 | |
| Italy | | 31,337 | | | | | 1,101 | 500 | |
| Japan | 6,765 | 6,798 | 4,804 | 3,361 | 26,333 | 11,561 | 10,504 | 15,063 | 21,332 |
| Macau | 34,965 | 170,601 | 152,388 | 19,575 | | 4,990 | | | |
| Malaysia | | 87,659 | 19,000 | | | | | | |
| Maldives | 32 | | | | | | | | |
| Mauritius | | | 302 | 100 | 515 | | | | |

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| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | Jan-Oct 2013 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Netherlands | 283,053 | 194,100 | 262,914 | 216,810 | 195,653 | 228,214 | 623,760 | 582,811 | 347,168 |
| New Caledonia | 158 | 299 | | 257 | 218 | 447 | | 617 | 386 |
| New Zealand | 46,975 | 4,017 | 3,215 | 33,348 | 79,451 | 19,766 | 39,658 | 38,176 | 20,899 |
| Papua New Guinea | 210,662 | 47,637 | 283,308 | 263,778 | 300,343 | 279,856 | 456,056 | 600,064 | 371,113 |
| Republic of Korea | 269,140 | 158,959 | 84,189 | 91,643 | 16,154 | 15,972 | 17,167 | 36,686 | 40,637 |
| Reunion | 2,006 | 8,680 | 2,770 | 3,555 | 3,317 | 3,523 | 2,041 | | 5,345 |
| Russia | 6,701,757 | 8,815,250 | 10,663,799 | 7,132,763 | 1,951,740 | | | | 1,265,703 |
| Singapore | 52,261 | 26,933 | 40,382 | 7,800 | 407 | 107 | 2,918 | 1,199 | |
| Solomon Islands | | | | | | | | | 1,000 |
| South Africa | 11,973 | 990,273 | 684,301 | 586,617 | 1,190,437 | 775,715 | 1,320,825 | 686,329 | 140,795 |
| Spain | | | | | | 32,330 | | | |
| Switzerland | 1,458 | 1,992 | | | | | | 204 | |
| Thailand | | 123 | | | | | | | |
| Timor-Leste | | | | | | | | | 120 |
| UK | 25,372 | 29,819 | 30,071 | 26,083 | 17,378 | 18,480 | 24,801 | 25,771 | 14,178 |
| US | 320,313 | 159,492 | 47,324 | 18,208 | 24,560 | 25,786 | 29,008 | 49,153 | 30,124 |
| Vietnam | 21,171 | 40,812 | 5,706 | 40,683 | 4,250 | | 29,840 | | 23,801 |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tariff code 02109950 – Meat and edible meat offal of kangaroo, salted, in brine, dried or smoked; edible flours and meals of meat and meat offal

(quantity – kilograms)

| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total | 513,348 | 981,265 | 307,594 | 6,680 | 86,432 | 239,601 | 135,020 |
| Fiji | | | | 3 | | | |
| Hong Kong | | 28 | 22,126 | 150 | 100 | | |
| Japan | 8,405 | 8,291 | 9,277 | 6,527 | 4,390 | 1,925 | 1,095 |
| Papua New Guinea | | | 38,000 | | 81,942 | 237,325 | 133,925 |
| Philippines | 19,000 | | | | | | |
| Republic of Korea | 94,000 | | 19,040 | | | | |
| Russia | 391,500 | 965,820 | 215,000 | | | | |
| Singapore | 443 | 104 | | | | 351 | |
| US | | 7,022 | 4,151 | | | | |

Note: From 1 January 2012, tariff code changes to this item (arising from implementation of the 2012 update of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System) no longer allow the kangaroo component to be separately identified.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tariff code 05119920 – Kangaroo and wallaby meat, unfit for human consumption

(quantity – kilograms)

| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total | 265,589 | 819,073 | 359,477 | 427,188 | 234,312 | 219,668 | 155,525 |
| Austria | | | | | | | 423 |
| Belgium | | | | | | | 128,680 |
| Germany | | | | 11,605 | | 2,785 | 2,000 |
| India | 16,320 | 16,320 | | | | | |
| Indonesia | 114,240 | 147,968 | 163,200 | 212,160 | 163,700 | 147,398 | |
| Japan | 2,440 | 37,502 | 33,843 | 15,525 | 32,217 | 19,432 | 19,540 |
| New Caledonia | | | 550 | | | | |
| New Zealand | 66,221 | 109,200 | 90,000 | | | | |
| Papua New Guinea | | | 38,080 | | | | |
| Republic of Korea | | 18,000 | | | | | |
| Singapore | | 33,364 | 280 | | 3,984 | | |
| US | | 456,719 | | 154,034 | | 473 | 4,882 |
| Vietnam | 66,368 | | 33,524 | 33,864 | 34,411 | 49,580 | |

Note: From 1 January 2012, tariff code changes to this item (arising from implementation of the 2012 update of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System) no longer allow the kangaroo component to be separately identified.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tariff code 41039020 – Raw hides and skins of kangaroo, fresh, salted, dried, limed, pickled or otherwise preserved, but not tanned, parchment-dressed or further prepared, whether or not dehaired or split

(quantity – number)

| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total | 1,694,772 | 1,574,192 | 1,682,439 | 1,366,150 | 772,225 | 774,479 | 1,078,337 |
| Bangladesh | 8,000 | | | 10,000 | | | 80,000 |
| Brazil | 32,049 | | | | | | |
| China | | | | 49,700 | 40,000 | 15,000 | 24,800 |
| Denmark | 1,000 | | | | | | |
| Fiji | | 4,400 | | | | | |
| France | 200 | | | | | | |
| Germany | 10,500 | | 117,100 | 197,550 | 38,000 | 150,477 | 256,420 |
| Hong Kong | | 64 | 550 | 36,640 | 58,001 | 87,871 | |
| India | | | | 600 | 4,709 | | 2,612 |
| Indonesia | | | | | | | 210 |
| Italy | | | | 653,439 | 547,035 | 418,670 | 501,094 |
| Japan | | | | 13,000 | 6,800 | 66,500 | 1,200 |
| Mexico | | | 2 | | | | |
| New Zealand | | | | | | 295 | |
| Pakistan | 24,000 | 16,000 | 120,500 | 74,400 | 15,000 | | 21,000 |
| Republic of Korea | 59,404 | | 200 | | | | |
| Sierra Leone | 59,500 | 152,000 | 153,000 | 30,500 | | | |
| Singapore | 1,456 | | | | | | |
| Slovak Republic | 75,500 | | 750 | | 16,230 | | |
| Spain | | | | 8,700 | 15,000 | 6,000 | 16,000 |

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| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Switzerland | | | | 12,600 | | | |
| Taiwan | 2,000 | | | | | | |
| Thailand | 1,400 | | | | | 500 | |
| Turkey | 7,000 | 256,759 | 152,350 | 241,714 | 30,344 | 29,000 | 175,000 |
| US | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2,807 | 1,106 | 8 | 1 |
| Vietnam | | | | | | 158 | |
| No country details | 1,412,761 | 1,144,964 | 1,137,984 | 36,500 | | | |

Note 1: From 1 January 2012, tariff code changes to this item (arising from implementation of the 2012 update of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System) no longer allow the kangaroo component to be separately identified.

Note 2: For this tariff item, the Australian Bureau of Statistics has some country of export confidentiality restrictions in place. The category 'no country details' provides the total of these exports.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tariff code 41069110 – Tanned or crust hides and skins of kangaroos, without wool or hair on, in the wet state (including wet blue), whether or not split, but not further prepared

(quantity – number)

| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total | 12,529 | 44,097 | 78,327 | 33,992 | 2,127 | 3,500 | |
| Brazil | 11,374 | | | 400 | 600 | | |
| France | 109 | 37 | | | | | |
| Germany | | | | | | 3,500 | |
| Hong Kong | 839 | 15 | | | | | |
| Italy | | 43,900 | 76,802 | 33,164 | | | |
| Japan | 200 | | | | | | |
| Netherlands | 7 | 18 | 25 | | 2 | | |
| Pakistan | | | 1,500 | | | | |
| Taiwan | | 127 | | | | | |
| UK | | | | 13 | | | |
| US | | | | | 1,525 | | |
| Vietnam | | | | 415 | | | |

Note: From 1 January 2012, tariff code changes to this item (arising from implementation of the 2012 update of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System) no longer allow the kangaroo component to be separately identified.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tariff code 41069240 –Tanned or crust hides and skins of kangaroos, without wool or hair on, in the dry state (crust), whether or not split, but not further prepared

(quantity – number)

| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total | 6,926 | 6,457 | 6,790 | 4,600 | 1,338 | 2,631 | 12,804 |
| China | 3,000 | | | | | | |
| Denmark | | | | | 32 | 396 | |
| Germany | 1,771 | 2,107 | 4,337 | 1,323 | 1,074 | 909 | 823 |
| Hong Kong | 898 | 698 | 987 | 2,479 | 153 | 198 | |
| Indonesia | | 528 | | | | | |
| Italy | | | | | | | 301 |
| Japan | | 1,000 | | | | | |
| New Zealand | | | | 509 | | 15 | |
| Pakistan | | | | | | | 11,469 |
| US | 1,257 | 2,124 | 746 | | 79 | 1,113 | 211 |
| Vietnam | | | 720 | 289 | | | |

Note: From 1 January 2012, tariff code changes to this item (arising from implementation of the 2012 update of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System) no longer allow the kangaroo component to be separately identified.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tariff code 41139020 – Leather further prepared after tanning or crusting (including parchment-dressed leather), of kangaroo, without wool or hair on, whether or not split (excluding chamois, patent, patent laminated and metallised leather)

(quantity – number)

| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total | 1,065,026 | 851,454 | 862,375 | 1,034,289 | 579,252 | 699,786 | 515,180 |
| Austria | | | 660 | | | | |
| Belgium | | | | | 7 | | |
| Cambodia | | | | 23,678 | 7,616 | | |
| China | | | 16,671 | 13,536 | 9,709 | 19,886 | 22,063 |
| Czech Republic | | | 191 | | | | |
| Germany | | | 8,069 | 21,517 | 36,942 | 35,444 | 31,009 |
| Hong Kong | | | 143,374 | 436,537 | 263,261 | 332,797 | 203,170 |
| Hungary | | | 257 | | | | 211 |
| India | | | 22,197 | 10,792 | 11,048 | 10,007 | 14,438 |
| Indonesia | | | 74,012 | 164,181 | 71,167 | 84,977 | 73,508 |
| Italy | | | 30,634 | | 613 | 50,100 | 29,594 |
| Japan | | | 40,089 | 176,422 | 74,999 | 53,237 | 43,833 |
| Latvia | | | | 300 | | | |
| Malaysia | | | | | 380 | | |
| Netherlands | | | 96 | | | | |
| New Zealand | | | 12,338 | 16,454 | 4,301 | 2,663 | 1,030 |
| Pakistan | | | 390 | 4,044 | 3,361 | 9,632 | 2,719 |
| Philippines | | | 118 | 464 | | | |
| Republic of Korea | | | 3,475 | 10,137 | 6,400 | 2,673 | 7,371 |

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| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Singapore | | | 220 | | | 685 | 573 |
| Slovak Republic | | | 211 | | | | |
| Sweden | | | | 150 | | | |
| Taiwan | | | 209 | 973 | 1,115 | 245 | 167 |
| Thailand | | | 217 | | 1,182 | 2,697 | 918 |
| Turkey | | | | 25,529 | | | |
| UK | | | 294 | 405 | 838 | 138 | 27 |
| US | | | 19,506 | 11,634 | 11,969 | 14,299 | 11,265 |
| Vietnam | | | 35,957 | 117,536 | 74,344 | 80,306 | 73,284 |
| No country details | 1,065,026 | 851,454 | 453,190 | | | | |

Note 1: From 1 January 2012, tariff code changes to this item (arising from implementation of the 2012 update of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System) no longer allow the kangaroo component to be separately identified.

Note 2: For this tariff item, the Australian Bureau of Statistics has some country of export confidentiality restrictions in place. The category 'no country details' provides the total of these exports.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tariff code 43018040 – Raw, whole furskins of kangaroo, wallaby and possum

| Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total | 2,910 | 45 | 200 | 1,280 | 4 | | 400 |
| China | | | | | 4 | | |
| New Zealand | 2,910 | 45 | 200 | | | | 400 |
| US | | | | 1,280 | | | |

Note: From 1 January 2012, tariff code changes to this item (arising from implementation of the 2012 update of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System) no longer allow the kangaroo component to be separately identified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 58

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo exports

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In a spreadsheet of DFAT data, showing the dollar value of each exported kangaroo data (from 2005 -2012), there is a third sheet labelled "Confidential", with a heading: "5372055001 – International Merchandise Trade: Confidential Commodities List", released on 10 October 2013 and containing Table 4: All Export Items Subject to Confidentiality Restrictions.

- A. With regards to Column I and the heading of "Restriction applied":**
- (i) Is the statement "no state details" listed under that heading because the small number of exporters can be too easily identified if details about the State the product comes from is provided?**
 - (ii) What else can "Restriction applied" refer to? What does this mean?**
 - (iii) Why are only certain countries listed under this heading?**
 - (iv) Why is "no Country" is listed in the third row in that column?**

May I have that information please?

Answer

This question should be referred to the Australian Bureau of Statistics which is responsible for confidentiality issues relating to trade data.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 59

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo exports

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What tax concessions or other government support has the kangaroo industry received at federal level since 2003, including representations of the industry's interests by government officials or MPs to overseas Trade or Foreign Affairs delegates?

Answer

Tax concessions are primarily the responsibility of the Treasury.

The Department of Agriculture has provided financial support to assist with the costs of government veterinary services at export registered establishments. This support ceased on 31 December 2013.

The Australian Government undertakes market access activities, including representations to overseas trade and foreign affairs officials, to support agricultural export industries, such as the kangaroo industry. These overseas representations cover a range of commodities and market access issues, and may include kangaroo meat access if relevant to the country being engaged.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 60

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo exports

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Specifically, has the government funded any kangaroo industry representatives to join overseas delegations either overseas or in Australia to open up or maintain export markets since 2003?

A. May I have details for each project or delegation, the aims and the issues, the country, and the costs or funding for each relevant delegation?

Answer

The Kangaroo Industry Association of Australia (KIAA) accompanied the then Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon. Tony Burke MP, during his visit to China in April 2009. The Department of Agriculture did not fund KIAA's involvement in this visit.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 61

Program: DFAT

Topic: Border protection

Question in Writing

Page: 16

Senator Hanson-Young

Question

Has any Australian Consulate/Embassy/High Commission been contacted by a returnee regarding any threats or concerns following their return?

Answer

The Australian High Commission in Colombo has received a small number of claims of mistreatment of returnees. None of these claims have been substantiated. Any reports of harm befalling individuals following their return from Australia are taken seriously and followed up where appropriate.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 62

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo exports

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

May I have details about any representations made by Australian government officials or Ministers to open up or increase the import of kangaroo products for each relevant country:

- A. What are the outcomes, barriers and concerns encountered in each of those countries?*
- B. What are the agreed Australian strategies to overcome those challenges?*
- C. What are the roles of key contacts in/from each country?*
- D. Which countries are being currently targeted by the Australian Government and kangaroo industry, and for which kangaroo products?*
- E. Referencing the above questions, what is the current status of the kangaroo trade extending to China? May I have details of the strategy and cost supporting efforts to grow this market?*

Answer

- A. The Australian Government negotiates technical protocols and import conditions to open trade. Exports of kangaroo meat are continuing successfully to countries where there is existing trade. Markets may occasionally notify changes to import requirements for meat products (including kangaroo meat).
- B. Where required, the Australian Government negotiates with importing country authorities to ensure any changes to import requirements for kangaroo meat are science-based and least trade restrictive, in accordance with World Trade Organization principles.

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- C. Australian agricultural counsellors and other Australian staff in overseas posts perform a vital role in facilitating trade negotiations.
- D. The Australian Government is seeking to expand market access for kangaroo meat and meat products to the Asian region (including India and the Philippines), as well as South America.
- E. Chinese authorities have cited animal welfare concerns which will need to be resolved before the trade can commence. This issue has been raised with Chinese authorities on a number of occasions and a substantial amount of information has been provided to Chinese authorities. These efforts are ongoing. Estimated total public funding spent on specific negotiations with, and representations to, China for kangaroo access for the past twelve months has been approximately \$20,000.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 63

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo exports

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Peru recently opened up to imports of kangaroo products. What is the agreed quantity of each kangaroo product to this market? How was the KIAA involved in this market?

Answer

All product that complies with Peru's import requirements is eligible to be exported to Peru. The Department of Agriculture consulted with the Kangaroo Industry Association of Australia (KIAA) during negotiations to finalise export certification conditions.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 64

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo exports

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

On the Food Standards

website: <http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/publications/Documents/Toxoplasma%20gondii.doc> there is a document titled Toxoplasma Gondii. Its Table 1 on page 7 lists 13 fatalities during 1993 in Australia associated with toxoplasmosis (T.gondii), caused by consumption of undercooked kangaroo meat.

- a) Is it the responsibility of Australian government agencies to advise importing countries of the serious health risk undercooked kangaroo meat can present to humans?***
- b) Is DFAT aware that kangaroo meat for human consumption is not tested for zoonotic food-borne pathogens such as Toxoplasma gondii" or Salmonella spp, both which are zoonitic agents present in kangaroos, because this is not a requirement of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code?***
- c) Does DFAT advise importing countries or relevant overseas Ministers and agencies that raw kangaroo meat is not tested in Australia for these zoonotic pathogens, particularly T.gondii which is rife in kangaroo populations? If not, why not?***
- d) Is DFAT aware that exporters and the Kangaroo Industry Association of Australia are promoting undercooked or raw kangaroo meat to the food and cooking industry, and to consumers generally (see the KIAA's recipe book on its website <http://www.kangaroo-industry.asn.au/>)***
- e) Is DFAT concerned that Australian meat is being promoted in a way that could present a potentially serious health risk to consumers? If not, why not?***

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Answer

It is the role of the Department of Agriculture to negotiate technical protocols and import conditions for the kangaroo trade and these questions would best be directed to them.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 65

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kangaroo exports

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question:

What are the details regarding the current status of the Russian ban on imports of kangaroo meat?

- A. What funding, efforts and personnel are being provided to open up the market again?*
- B. There seems to be conflicting reports of why the ban came back into place so soon after it was lifted on a trial basis. May I have the dates, sequence of events, and reasons for Russian concern please?*
- C. Have any other countries expressed concern or asked for information as a consequence of the Russian ban? May I have details of which countries, and their concerns please?*
- D. In answer to a Estimates QoN in 2009 (TMA12) it was stated that "relevant Australian overseas posts, including in Brussels, Moscow and Beijing [were] provided with detailed and balanced information on the hygiene, sustainability and animal welfare practices of the kangaroo industry to respond to any approaches by host governments, industry or the public" .*
- i. May I have the details and costs of this exercise?*
 - ii. May I have copies of all the "detailed and balanced information" referred to in the provided answer? If not, how may I access that package of information?*
 - iii. The package of information sounds like a 'messaging' package: May I have details of the KIAA's role in the writing and advising of this information?*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- iv. What was the role of the RIRDC in this exercise? Which materials or information was provided or funded by the RIRDC?*
- v. What formally peer-reviewed and non-industry associated or funded science (non- RIRDC) was part of this balanced information?*
- vi. Were/are the Russian authorities aware of the industry's involvement in government-disseminated RIRDC materials on kangaroos – that is, RIRDC funded projects and research must "demonstrate that it will add significant value to the industry and its profitability"?*
- vii. Is there any requirement to divulge this explicitly demanded industry bias when providing RIRDC materials as 'balanced' information?*
- viii. Is there any requirement to divulge this explicitly demanded industry bias when providing RIRDC materials as 'balanced' information?*
- ix. May I have the costs funded by the Australian Government for each component of this exercise? From which budgets did this financial support come?*
- x. How many Australian companies were involved in the export of kangaroo products to Russia at that time?*

Answer

A. The Department of Agriculture is the lead agency on kangaroo meat exports. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade makes use of existing resources to support efforts to open up the market again. Moscow Post has supported the Department of Agriculture through advocacy with the Russian authorities. Since the ban was implemented in 2009, Ministers for Trade have raised this issue with their Russian counterparts at appropriate opportunities.

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- B. Market access was suspended in 2009 following an audit by Russia where food safety concerns were raised regarding our system for kangaroo meat production. Russian authorities did not elaborate on the basis of their food safety concerns. Information was provided to Russian authorities between 2009 and 2012 regarding improvements made to the Australian system. This culminated in a meeting in Russia in October 2012, where Russia agreed to audit Australia's revised system in November-December 2012. The audit confirmed the approval of one plant to continue to export to Russia, following Russia granting it re-approval to export several weeks prior to the audit. This plant continues to export to Russia.
- C. Defer to the Department of Agriculture to respond to this question.
- D. Defer to the Department of Agriculture to respond to this question.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 66

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ambassador for Disability Inclusive Development

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. In July 2013 Australia announced the decision to establish a new Australian Ambassador for Disability Inclusive Development. Where is this appointment up to? B. What are any barriers to this moving ahead in a timely fashion?

Answer

A. and B. The Government is currently considering the appointment of an Ambassador for Disability-Inclusive Development.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 67

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia's Position on Torture

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Is it correct that torture is prohibited under both Australian law (Criminal Code, Div 274) and international law treaties to which Australia is a party (including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Geneva Conventions of 1949)?

a. Does Australia support the use of torture in "difficult circumstances"?

b. If the Prime Minister or a Minister makes a statement inconsistent with Australia's own laws or treaties to which Australia is a signatory, does the DFAT Director or any other senior officer point out to the Prime Minister or Minister that inconsistency?

c. Did anyone from DFAT inform the Prime Minister that his statement in Sri Lanka that suggested that the use of torture can be justified in "difficult circumstances" is inconsistent with Australia's own laws, and the treaties to which Australia is signatory, prohibiting torture?

d. What concerns have been expressed, and from which country, about Australia's seeming support of torture by the Sri Lankan government?

Has the Sri Lankan government or its officials been advised of any clarification or correction to the above statement with reference to Australia's ratifying the above conventions, laws and treaties? Details please?

Answer

The prohibition of torture is a *jus cogens* norm of customary international law, which means that it is accepted by the international community as a fundamental principle of international law from which no derogation is permitted. Torture is also prohibited by a number of treaties to which Australia is a party, including the 1948 *Universal Declaration of Human*

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Rights, the 1966 *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* and the 1984 *Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment*, as well as the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols of 1977. Torture is also prohibited under Australian domestic law (Criminal Code, Div 274)

A. No. As stated by the Prime Minister in Parliament on 18 November 2013, the Australian government deplores the use of torture – always has and always will.

B. There is a regular flow of advice between the department and senior Ministers, including the Prime Minister.

As stated by the Prime Minister in Parliament on 18 November 2013, the Australian government deplores the use of torture – always has and always will.

C. Australia does not support the use of torture by any government. No country has expressed any concerns in this regard.

D. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 68

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *Did the Australian High Commissioner report to DFAT on the attacks on the Jaffna newspaper offices of the daily newspaper Uthayan that resulted in the destruction of equipment including the printing press, computer monitors and hard drives?***
- 2. *When the Foreign Minister visited Sri Lanka in November did she meet with any representatives of community groups or opposition parliamentarians? If so who were those representatives and MPs?***
- 3. *Is DFAT aware of who will be using the two boats that Prime Minister Abbott has given to Sri Lanka?***
- 4. *Does DFAT know if the two boats that Prime Minister Abbott has given Sri Lanka will be used for whale watching cruises?***
- 5. *Can DFAT be very sure that the boats Prime Minister Abbott has given Sri Lanka will NOT be used for whale watching cruises***

Answer

1. Yes
2. Yes, Ms Bishop met with leader of the opposition United National Party, Mr Ranil Wickremesinghe, leader of the Tamil National Alliance, Mr R. Sampanthan, and Suresh Premachandran MP and M. A. Sumanthiran MP, also of the Tamil National Alliance. Ms Bishop also attended a reception for the Australian business community and development partners and a roundtable with Australia Awards alumni.
- 3-5. The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service has advised the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade that the Australian Government is gifting the patrol boats for the purpose of border protection, maritime safety and counter-people smuggling operations. The operational

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limitations and suitability of the patrol boats will be discussed with appropriate Sri Lankan authorities, including the Sri Lankan Navy, during the gifting program.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 69

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka/People Smuggling

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

At a press conference held in Colombo on 17 November – PM Abbott when asked if the money for the boats was coming out of the foreign aid budget said: I assume that it is coming out of the foreign aid budget, and the fact of the matter is these boats will be provided in tip-top condition to the Sri Lankan Navy to enhance the Sri Lankan Navy's capacity to save life at sea and to cooperate with Australia in closing down this evil trade of people smuggling.

- 1. If indeed the Sri Lankan Navy does save lives at sea – is DFAT aware of what then happens to these people's lives when they are in Sri Lankan Navy custody?*
- 2. Is DFAT aware of any cases of torture by Sri Lankan Navy?*
- 3. Is DFAT aware that numerous HR organisations and journalists have documented very violent cases of torture, abuse and rape by Sri Lankan Government officials?*
- 4. Given this, can DFAT be sure that the navy boats that Australia has given Sri Lanka is not going to deliver people fleeing Sri Lanka into the hands of officials that could torture or rape them?*
- 5. The Sri Lankan High Commissioner to Australia Mr Thisara Samarasinghe used to be a former commander in the Sri Lankan Navy. Did he advise DFAT about the presentation of the patrol boats to Sri Lanka?*
- 6. Was the Australian gift of patrol boats to Sri Lanka through DFAT or another government department?*
- 7. Is the \$2million for the refurbishment of the two patrol boats which have been gifted to the Sri Lankan Government being paid for out of the DFAT administered part of the ODA budget?*

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8. Is it being paid for by another part of DFAT's budget?

9. If not, assuming DFAT has retained the responsibility which AusAID had for reporting Australia's ODA eligible expenditure to the OECD and providing advice to other government departments on the eligibility within the DAC guidelines of ODA expenditure.

10. Has DFAT (or AusAID) received a request from another department such as the Department of Immigration and Border Protection about the whether the \$2million allocated for the refurbishment of the two boats fits within the OECD's DAC guidelines?

11. If they have, what was the advice that DFAT gave?

If not, is it DFAT's opinion that this would fall within the OECD's DAC guidelines.

Answer

1. People who have been rescued at sea in Sri Lankan waters by the Sri Lankan Navy are returned to Sri Lanka.

2. The Department is not aware of any of allegations of torture by the Sri Lankan Navy made by Sri Lankans who have been intercepted at sea by the Sri Lankan Navy during counter-people smuggling operations.

3. The Department is aware of these claims.

4. The Department is not aware of any allegations of torture by the Sri Lankan Navy made by Sri Lankans who have been intercepted at sea by the Sri Lankan Navy during counter-people smuggling operations. Australia's cooperation with Sri Lanka on people smuggling is conducted in compliance with Australia's international obligations.

5. No.

6-9. As outlined in the 2013-14 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook released on 17 December 2013, the donation of two patrol boats is being undertaken by Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS).

10. No

11. See answer to 10.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 70

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka/People Smuggling

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. At Senate Estimates in June 2013, Ambassador for People Smuggling Issues, Mr Chittick stated: “The on-water disruptions in Sri Lanka are undertaken by the Sri Lankan Navy, and there is cooperation between the Australian Defence Force and the Sri Lankan defence forces, and also engagement by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service” (Wednesday 5 June 2013, p 131). However, later in the same hearing he said that Australian officials are not directly involved in intercepting boats. If the Australian navy or Border Protection Command is engaged in interceptions at sea, that is a significantly more direct role in preventing Sri Lankans leaving than has been disclosed before; previously the government simply talked about resourcing, capacity building and information sharing.

2. Can DFAT clarify the nature of ADF and ACBPS engagement with the Sri Lanka Navy in “on-water disruptions.”

a. How are ADF or ACBPS personnel or resources used in or in any way involved in “on-water disruptions” or interception of boats in Sri Lanka?

b. Are they directly involved in interceptions?

3. Is DFAT aware of what laws, policies or guidelines govern the operations of Australian Border Protection Command (BPC) in Sri Lanka?

4. Is DFAT aware of what is the role of BPC in Sri Lanka?

a. What activities does BCP carry out there?

5. Is DFAT aware if BCP has it ever been involved in on-water or disruption activities? If so, what kinds of activities?

6. Is DFAT aware how many Australian officials work in the BPC in Sri Lanka and from which Australian agencies?

7. Is DFAT aware of how does BPC cooperate with Sri Lankan agencies?

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a. Which agencies does it cooperate with?

Answer

1. The response provided by the Ambassador for People Smuggling Issues remains extant. On-water disruptions in Sri Lankan territorial waters are conducted by the Sri Lankan Navy.

2-7. Questions regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Australian Defence Force, Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, and Border Protection Command (BPC) in regard to people smuggling cooperation and operations should be directed to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee. All matters regarding Operation Sovereign Borders are now handled by that committee.

The Department is aware that BPC coordinates national awareness and response efforts to protect Australia's interests in the Australian Maritime Domain (AMD). BPC is not a Search and Rescue (SAR) organisation but its assets do respond to emergencies at sea in accordance with international obligations. The Department is aware that BPC is not involved in on-water disruption activities in Sri Lanka and that BPC does not have a presence in Sri Lanka.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 71

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka/People Smuggling

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

There have been serious allegations made against Sri Lanka Police's CID and Sri Lankan Navy in relation to torture in custody including by Human Rights Watch and the UN Committee against Torture. In the United States, the State Department vets foreign military and police that the US trains. There does not seem to be any vetting by Australia of the foreign military or police that we work closely with, including in Sri Lanka.

What precautions, if any, does DFAT take to ensure that in our cooperation with Sri Lankan officials to combat people smuggling, we are not engaging directly with people against whom there are credible allegations of serious human rights abuse (such as rape or torture) or war crimes and crimes against humanity? Do we have any formal system of vetting our partners?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not have any formal system of vetting for all Sri Lankan officials with whom we have contact. Australia's cooperation with Sri Lanka on people smuggling is conducted in compliance with Australia's international legal obligations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 72

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka/People Smuggling

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Given that Sri Lanka is a source country for refugees, at least some of the people intercepted by Sri Lankan authorities trying to go to Australia are likely to have protection claims. Australia selectively overlooks that these people may have security or political reasons for leaving, or could be vulnerable in the hands of the authorities.

1. Is DFAT concerned that people intercepted might be tortured or harmed by the Sri Lankan authorities in custody?

If so, what precautions are in place to ensure that DFAT do not fund or assist Sri Lankan authorities that engage in torture or cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is not aware of anyone intercepted being tortured or harmed by Sri Lankan authorities in custody.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 73

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka/People Smuggling

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In Senate Estimates, DFAT said that the Australian High Commission (AHC) regularly emphasizes the government's expectation that all people who are detained after a people smuggling venture are treated in accordance with Sri Lankan law.

How does the AHC monitor whether Sri Lankans are treated in accordance with Sri Lankan law upon interception?

Answer

The Australian High Commission in Colombo regularly emphasises the government's expectation that all people who are detained after a people smuggling venture are treated in accordance with Sri Lankan law.

The Australian High Commission in Colombo monitors the human rights situation in Sri Lanka generally. If the High Commission was made aware of allegations of mistreatment by Sri Lankans involved in an intercepted people smuggling venture those allegations would be followed up where appropriate.

Australia's High Commission in Colombo does not have the authority to conduct investigations in Sri Lanka.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 74

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka/People Smuggling

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

When Bob Carr visited Sri Lanka in December 2012, he promised increased information sharing with the Sri Lankan authorities. It is not clear what laws or policies constrain Australian officials from sharing information, and whether they are required not to share information that might. The Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act is a formal information sharing protocol with built in protections against torture, but most information shared between Australian and Sri Lankan officials is done unofficially.

- 1. What laws, policies or guidelines constrain the manner in which the Australian Government can disclose information about immigration detainees in Australian custody or detainees in Sri Lankan custody to Sri Lankan authorities?*
- 2. In deciding whether to disclose information, are there any requirements in laws, policies or guidelines (other than the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act) that require Australian officials to consider:*
 - a) the general prohibitions on torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment*
 - b) The purpose for which the information is being sought by the foreign authority*
 - c) The human rights record of the foreign authority involved*
 - d) The consequences of lawfully disclosing information.*

Answer

Legal constraints on the disclosure of information to the Sri Lankan government by the Australian government are imposed by privacy and migration legislation. *The Privacy Act 1988* regulates the disclosure of personal information by the Australian government. *The Migration Act 1958*

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also constrains the disclosure of identifying information and movement record information.

Neither the *Privacy Act* nor the *Migration Act* requires other considerations, including the purpose for which the information is sought, to be taken into account when assessing whether personal information may be lawfully disclosed. There are no legal consequences of a lawful disclosure, though simply because a disclosure would be lawful does not compel a disclosure to be made.

Decisions on the disclosure of information about “immigration detainees in Australian custody” rest with the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP). The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade works closely with DIBP on the appropriate management of information regarding these individuals, should it be sought by a foreign government or authority, ensuring all relevant legal safeguards are met.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 75

Program: DFAT

Topic: Cambodia Railway Program

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. May I have an update on the government's response to criticism of the resettlement programs undertaken as part of the Cambodian Railway Rehabilitation Project, including details on:

A. How many people were displaced;

B. How much compensation has been paid to displaced people;

C. How many people have received this compensation;

D. Where have the displaced people been resettled;

E. What health, education, water and sanitation services are provided to the displaced people in the area where they now live;

F. What consultation has been undertaken with the displaced people;

G. What employment opportunities are available to the displaced people?

2. How many consultants did AusAID/DFAT employ on the project to determine how to respond to criticisms regarding the treatment of people displaced by the Cambodian Railway Rehabilitation Project?

3. Please provide details of who these consultants were and how much each was paid?

Answer

1A. According to figures compiled by the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) 3,812 households (approximately 19,060 people) are or were living on or very close to the public railway line and are therefore being partially or fully displaced by this project.

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1B. According to the project's External Monitoring Organization's (EMO) 22nd quarterly report (May-August 2013), the RGC has paid US\$1,368,538.65 in cash compensation to affected households. A breakdown of how the cash compensation was allocated (compensation for structures, trees, vendors, etc.) can be found in the EMO's 22nd report at ADB's website: <http://www.adb.org/projects/37269-013/documents>

1C. According to figures compiled by the RGC and the ADB on December 2013, 3,529 households (approximately 17,645 people) have already received compensation. The remaining affected households have not had to move yet, and therefore have not been compensated. These households will receive compensation once they are asked to move.

1D. Households that are partially displaced by the project are able to shift their houses back from the project's Corridor of Impact and remain within the railway's Right-of-Way. This minimizes full displacement of families. Families that are fully displaced are resettled at sites provided at no cost by the RGC. The resettlement sites in Poipet and Battambang are each 5km away from families' previous location. In Pursat, the resettlement site is 400m away. In Sihanoukville the distance is 7-10km, while in Phnom Penh it is 15-20km.

1E. The RGC has provided previously landless families fully affected by the railway project with a land plot at a serviced resettlement site free of cost. Each resettlement site is located within 5km or less of public schools, health centres and markets. Each resettlement plot is equipped with individual toilets, the first time many families have owned their own latrine. Resettlement sites also have drainage facilities. Water supply (either from pipes, water tanks or wells) is also provided at each site. Electricity connections are also provided to all households.

1F. Consultations on resettlement in the project are led by the RGC. Since 2006, the RGC has conducted a number of consultations with affected families to inform them about the project, how they may be affected, their entitlements, avenues for grievance redress, and extensive consultations on the implementation of the Income Restoration Program and the Australia-funded Expanded Income Restoration Program. In addition, since 2012 Australia has financed the building of community centres, small infrastructure repairs and financial literacy training in all relocation sites. These activities are being conducted under close and continuous consultation with resettled families.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

1G. Partially displaced families are expected to keep their pre-displacement jobs as they are not being moved from their location. This is also expected for some fully displaced families, particularly those who have moved within five kilometres of their previous location. The RGC has been implementing an Income Restoration Program (IRP) to train displaced families in activities of their choice (farm/off-farm) to help them improve their livelihood. For example, some people have been trained to repair air conditioners and have been helped to secure jobs. Other people supplement their income with skills learned in farming activities such as pig raising. The IRP has also worked to establish linkages with companies close to each resettlement site. For example in Poipet, the IRP has helped families secure jobs in factories close to the resettlement site. The Australia-funded Expanded Income Restoration Program (EIRP) has also allowed families to borrow money to invest in expanding their businesses or investing in new ventures. In Phnom Penh the EIRP has funded a social enterprise, Cambodia Knits, to deliver training on knitting and crochet to poor women. Nine women and one man (including two people with a disability) are now fully employed by Cambodia Knits, knitting/crocheting small toys from their homes while significantly supplementing their families' income.

2. DFAT has not hired consultants to determine how to respond to criticisms regarding the treatment of people displaced by the Cambodian Railway Rehabilitation Project. DFAT has engaged one part-time consultant and one full-time adviser to conduct monitoring on behalf of DFAT, to work closely with the RGC and the ADB as they supervise resettlement, and to provide advice to DFAT on issues experienced by resettled families. The ADB has also engaged the services of consultants to monitor resettlement implementation.

3. The part-time consultant engaged was Kwitko and Associates. Data on all DFAT consultancies valued at AUD10,000 or above is available from the AusTender website www.tenders.gov.au.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 76

Program: DFAT

Topic: The Don Sahong Dam and its PNPCA Process

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

During the November 21st, 2013 session, Mr. Brazier stated in relation to the proposed Don Sahong Dam in Laos that “As with the dam at Xayaburi, we have been encouraging open and transparent consultation through our support to the Mekong River Commission, and we have encouraged Laos to work through the established processes under the Mekong River Commission agreement.

A. Can DFAT clarify as to what the Australian Government is doing to assist the Mekong River Commission in determining whether the Lao Government has met its obligations under the 1995 Mekong Agreement and its PNPCA Process with the Don Sahong Dam?

B. What is DFAT’s position of the Don Sahong Dam in terms of whether the Don Sahong Dam should undergo the PNPCA’s ‘prior notification’ or ‘prior consultation’ process?

Answer

A. Australia supports the Mekong River Commission’s (MRC) notification and prior consultation process through funding and advice.

Senior DFAT officials have also been meeting with senior Laos government officials, encouraging the Laos Government to voluntarily release impact assessment documentation and to participate in the MRC’s Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA) ‘prior consultation’ process.

B. Australia supports the MRC’s notification and prior consultation processes through funding and advice, and through direct engagement with MRC member countries. DFAT officials have also been encouraging the Laos

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Government to voluntarily participate in the PNPCA 'prior consultation' process.

On 30 September 2013 the Laos Government notified the MRC of its intention to develop the Don Sahong Hydropower Dam, under the PNPCA 'prior notification' process.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 77

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid for Trade

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. At the global level, what proportion of Australia's overall aid budget will be directly linked to "aid for trade"?

B. Criteria for this linkage?

C. At the country level, will trade opportunities, including FTAs, be a factor in deciding in the levels of aid allocated to countries, both within and beyond the region?

D. What will be the factors or criteria for this linkage?

E. At the activity level, will trade criteria be used to assess the relative merit of individual aid activities?

F. If so, what weighting will they be given relative to other assessment criteria (eg. poverty, effectiveness and efficiency)?

G. In terms of aid effectiveness, to what extent will Australia's future aid for trade activities be informed by independent reviews and evaluations that assess the impact and lessons of the (significant) assistance already provided in this sector?

Answer

A.B.C.D.E.F. The Department is currently considering its strategic, budget and funding priorities, and further information on Australia's aid program will be provided by the Government in due course.

G. All aid activities over \$3 million are subject to independent reviews or evaluations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 78

Program: DFAT

Topic: Development for All Strategy, Aid

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. AusAID's *Development for All* strategy has been praised by the OECD as showing Australia's exceptional leadership in this field. May I have details of what is happening with this strategy, and how it is translating into the new arrangements for Australia's Aid delivery?**
- 2. What does the requirement "mutual obligation" for countries receiving Australian aid as set out by the Prime Minister mean for nations, multilateral organisations and NGOs receiving Australian aid?**

Answer

- In 2013, the OECD Development Assistance Committee Peer Review highlighted the Australian aid program's 'exceptional emphasis on disability which makes it a leader in this area internationally'. This included Development for All – Towards a disability-inclusive Australian aid program 2009-2014 strategy. This strategy continues to guide the work of the aid program in improving the lives of people with disability in developing countries.

On 3 December 2013, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator the Hon Brett Mason MP, announced that the Government would develop a new strategy for disability-inclusive development, building on the achievements and lessons learned of the *Development for All* strategy, and consistent with the Government's focus on building skills, creating jobs and fostering economic growth in the Indo-Pacific region.

- The Government has a responsibility to ensure it is spending taxpayer money well and wants to see a strong performance culture with investments adjusted based on effectiveness. This recognises the need to use aid funds as effectively as possible and this will apply to all aid

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partners. The Government will look to introduce mutual obligations between the Australian Government and partner countries. This way all parties will be accountable for outcomes.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 79

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question in writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. What was the ODA eligible expenditure by DIBP on asylum seekers living in the Australian community in 2012–13?*
- 2. Was any of the ODA eligible expenditure allocated to DIBP that was not used subsequently returned to DFAT or to general revenue?*
- 3. Will the funds allocated to the agency for 2013–14 be utilised for the same purpose?*
- 4. Under DAC/OECD guidelines, what would be components of maritime activities associated with asylum seekers arriving by boat would be eligible for ODA funding?*
- 5. Which DIAD/DIBP contracts are being funded by the \$375 million that was diverted from AusAID to DIAC in the 13/14 Financial Year Budget, as announced by then Foreign Minister Carr at the budget lockup on budget night this year?*

Answer

1. \$250.3 million
2. No unexpended ODA eligible funding was returned to DFAT.
3. Yes
4. Consistent with the OECD/DAC guidelines no maritime activities associated with asylum seekers arriving by boat are ODA eligible.
5. For details regarding DIAD/DIBP contracts please refer to those departments.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 80

Program: DFAT

Topic: DFAT and DIBP

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

The former Minister for Immigration, Tony Bourke, made a statement on 3 May 2013 that DIAC's Displaced Persons' program in Sri Lanka aims "to improve the quality of life for people in their home countries...to remove the incentive for people to pay people smugglers and attempt dangerous boat journeys." This is clearly assuming that people are economically driven to leave. This also raises the questions – why is DIAC running livelihood programs using aid money, what is the evidentiary basis of their rationale for reducing push factors?

- A. What DIBP programs in Sri Lanka that are funded through ODA-eligible expenditure. Are they all aiming to "combat people smuggling" or address "push factors" that are economic?*
- B. To what extent and how are DIBP's ODA-eligible programs in Sri Lanka aimed at removing the incentive for Sri Lankans to pay people smugglers to take them to Australia?*
- C. What has DIBP identified as the push factors or incentives that lead people to pay people smugglers to leave the country? How have these push factors been identified?*
- D. How will DIBP measure the success of its programs aimed at reducing push factors that might cause people to leave Sri Lanka?*

Answer

This question relates to funding appropriated to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP). Questions in relation to this expenditure should be directed to DIBP.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 81

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mekong

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In February 2012, AusAID responded to questions Senator Rhiannon put on notice and stated that “Australian Government intends to review the effectiveness of the PNPCA process and has commenced discussions within the MRC Secretariat, representatives from MRC member governments, and civil society representatives regarding the best way to undertake such a review”.

A. In follow up to the February 2012 responses, and the May 31st, 2012 and November 21st, 2013 sessions of estimates, further clarification is requested about AusAID’s review of the Mekong River Commission’s Procedures for Prior Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA).

- i. Has this review now been completed?*
- ii. Why hasn’t the report been made public yet?*
- iii. Is there an expected date for when the report will be made public?*

B. What are AusAID’s dissemination plans for the 2012 PNPCA review?

C. What measures will be taken to help ensure that the review findings will be used by the Mekong River Commission and its member countries to improve the PNPCA process before other hydropower projects undergo its process of ‘prior consultation’?

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Answer

A. i. The review has not been completed as the contractor sought to be released from the contract.

ii. The review has not been completed.

iii. No.

B. The review has not been completed. However, Australia has agreed to provide a summary of the consultations to date to two civil society organisations.

C. The review has not been completed. Australia is not planning to recommit the review.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 82

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA and Sri Lanka

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question 83

The 2012/13 budget includes \$4.1m of Australian ODA-eligible expenditure by government departments other than AusAID. This includes implementing biometrics within the Sri Lankan passport application process to reduce identity fraud; and Australian Federal Police training of the Sri Lanka Police Service. We wonder how much of our 'aid' money is not spent on alleviating poverty, but is spent on immigration control that is patently in Australia's domestic interests.

- 1. Please provide details of the programs in the 2012/13 budget relating to Sri Lanka that are funded through ODA-eligible expenditure by Australian government departments other than AusAID; what are the programs and how much is spent on them?*

- 2. How much ODA-eligible expenditure goes towards programs that aim to combat people smuggling? In particular, how much ODA-eligible expenditure is spent on:*
 - a) Capacity building opportunities inside Sri Lanka or elsewhere provided to the Sri Lanka Navy or the Sri Lanka Police Service?*
 - b) Providing resources to the Sri Lanka Navy, Coast Guard or Sri Lanka Police Service to undertake anti-people smuggling operations? For example, how much is spent on boats, cars, office equipment, surveillance equipment or other resources?*
 - c) Advertising and awareness campaigns run in Sri Lanka that are aimed at stopping people from getting on boats to Australia.*

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3. *What, if any, of AusAID's programs in Sri Lanka are aimed at combating people smuggling, for example by reducing the 'push factors' that might cause people to leave Sri Lanka on boats for Australia?*
- a) *What has AusAID identified as the push factors or incentives that lead people to pay people smugglers to leave the country? How were these push factors identified?*
- b) *How will AusAID measure the success of its programs aimed at reducing push factors that might cause people to leave Sri Lanka?*

Answer

1. In the 2012/13 budget \$4.1 million of ODA to Sri Lanka was managed by Australian Government departments other than AusAID. The breakdown of funding to other departments is shown below:

| Agency | Budget |
|--|-------------------------|
| Australian Federal Police | 265,257 |
| Department of Health and Ageing | 695,285 |
| Department of Immigration and Citizenship | 1,112,027 |
| Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research and Tertiary Education | 2,019,132 |
| Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry | 28,000 |
| | TOTAL: 4,119,703 |

2. (a), (b) & (c) The former AusAID has not implemented or managed programs which aim to combat people-smuggling. Questions which relate to how other Australian Government Departments have spent ODA appropriated to them should be directed to those departments.
3. The main objectives for Australian aid to Sri Lanka are to: rebuild post-conflict communities and assist lagging regions throughout the nation; and support Sri Lankan Government policies and programs to promote inclusive growth and improved service delivery at a national and sub-national level.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

None of the development programs implemented or managed through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) are aimed at combatting people smuggling; however, a number of programs improve the livelihoods and well-being of poor people, thus helping to reduce certain push factors which may lead people to leave the country. For example, the Australian Community Rehabilitation Program (\$45 million, 2009-15) helps disadvantaged people to find work, start businesses, re-engage in sustainable fishing and farming, improve access to local government services and pursue community reconciliation and recovery. Also, Australia's assistance in housing reconstruction (\$17.5 million, 2010-14) is helping almost 5,000 families return to safe housing in the North and East, while also providing formal construction and disaster resistant building training for over 400 young people.

- a) The former AusAID did not undertake any specific research and analysis to try to identify push factors or incentives that lead people to pay people smugglers to leave the country.
- b) Because none of the former AusAID's development programs were directed at addressing people smuggling activities, no performance indicators have been developed to measure success in reducing the push factors for people leaving the country.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 83

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA and Climate Change

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Last estimates I asked for an itemised breakdown of what is ODA-eligible climate financing, and any climate-financing programs which are outside of ODA spending and and was told a full accounting of Australia's fast-start spending will be prepared following the 2012-13 financial year.

a. What part of this question am I able to have answered here?

b. (IF ANY) – can you please tell me whether this is now available?

Answer

Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 112.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 84

Program: DFAT

Topic: The International Forest Carbon Initiative

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- A. As of June 30 2013, of the \$273 million allocated to the International Forest Carbon Initiative (IFCI), how much had been allocated by Aid (previously Ausaid)?**
- i. Of that, how much has been spent by Aid (previously AusAid)?**
- B. What were the specific budget measures on which the IFCI funds were spent?**
- C. How much of the IFCI funding was unallocated?**
- D. How much of the IFCI funding was not spent?**
- E. What amount of funding, if any, for IFCI measures has been committed under the 2013 – 2014 budget?**
- i. Is this commitment likely to change, and when or how?**
- F. What are the specific budget measures/programs for any IFCI commitments under the 2013 – 2014 budget?**
- i. Is this commitment likely to change, and when or how?**
- G. What amount of funding, if any, has been committed to REDD or any other deforestation projects under the 2013-2014 Aid budget?**
- H. Does the Department retain its commitment working with Department of Environment to reducing deforestation in developing countries? If so, what measures does it propose to take to further this goal?**

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I. Does Aid (previously Ausaid) retain its commitment to reducing deforestation in developing countries? If so, what measures does it propose to take to further this goal?

Answer

A. The International Forest Carbon Initiative (IFCI) was jointly managed by the former AusAID and the former Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science Research and Tertiary Education (DIICCSRTE) and its predecessor climate change departments (DCCEE and DCC). AusAID and DIICCSRTE made joint decisions on funding allocations and delivery.

Of the \$273 million allocated to IFCI, DIICCSRTE directly delivered \$40 million. A further \$49 million was delivered in partnership with AusAID and other government departments. AusAID directly delivered \$184 million.

B. The IFCI budget measure includes the following programs:

- Indonesia Australia Forest Carbon Partnership (which includes the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership and the Indonesia National Carbon Accounting System)
- Papua New Guinea – Australia Forest Carbon Partnership
- World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
- World Bank's Forest Investment Program
- Partnership with the Centre for International Forestry Research
- Development and support of monitoring reporting and verification (MRV) systems for forest carbon accounting
- UNFCCC Trust Fund for Participation
- Global Canopy Program
- REDD+ International Meetings
- NGO Concept Development Grants
- Asia Pacific Forestry Skills and Capacity Building Program

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- Energising Development Partnership (clean fuel stoves)
- C. All IFCI budget measure funding has been allocated.
- D. All IFCI budget measure funding has been spent.
- E. All fast start budget measures, including for IFCI, came to an end at the end of the 2012-13 financial year. There are therefore no IFCI commitments for the 2013-14 financial year.
- F. Answered in Question 85 e).
- G. H. and I. The Government is currently considering its strategic, budget and funding priorities, and further information on Australia's aid program will be provided by the Government in due course.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 85

Program: DFAT

Topic: Israel – Palestine

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Are you aware of any aid workers associated with projects that receive Australian aid money through bilateral, multilateral, NGO or through any other channel been prohibited or stopped for some period of time from entering Palestine? If so when did these incidents occur and what was the aid program that the aid workers were intending to work on?

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 86

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mongolia

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. Have any Australian diplomats or embassy staff that have been in Mongolia or based in Mongolia spoken to representatives of the Mongolian government about tax arrangements that cover mining companies operating in Mongolia?

2. If so who were the Australian diplomats who engaged in these discussions?

3. Who did the Australian diplomats meet with from the Mongolian government or relevant government departments?

4. What was the nature of the discussions?

a) Did the diplomats inquire about the current Mongolian laws that cover mining operations in that country?

b) Did they request that mining companies operating in Mongolia be given any tax concessions?

c) If so were any details of such concessions discussed?

d) If concessions were discussed was it a general discussion indicating that all mining companies should benefit from such concessions or was it suggested that certain companies should be given a tax concession?

e) If it is the later what company or companies were nominated to receive such a concession?

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. We have no record of any talks with representatives of the Mongolian Government that specifically address tax arrangements that cover mining companies operating in Mongolia, apart from a comment to Mongolian representatives by the Australian Ambassador in 2009 that amendments to mining laws then going through Mongolia's Parliament, which included revoking a windfall-profits tax, would set the stage for greater investment and multiplier effects for the economy.
2. Former Australian Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Mr. Peter Rowe.
3. During his 16-19 August visit to Ulaanbaatar in 2009, then-Ambassador Rowe met with Mongolian representatives including then-Prime Minister Bayar; then-Foreign Minister Oyun and then-Minister of Finance Bayartsogt.
4. Discussion on Mongolia's economic situation touched on the changes then proposed to mining tax arrangements.
 - a) Yes.
 - b) See answer to 1 above.
 - c) See answer to 1 above.
 - d) See answer to 1 above.
 - e) See answer to 1 above.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 87

Program: DFAT

Topic: DAP

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What money has been paid out of the DAP Grant Program for projects in Mongolia and the Philippines in 2013?

Answer

In 2013, DAP paid out \$24,583 for projects in Mongolia and \$116,216 for projects in the Philippines.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 88

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Regarding the ceasing of the major operations of the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership by Australia and Indonesian governments.

- A. *I understand some outstanding project activities will be continued until July 2014. May I have details about the mooted projects cancelled, and those to continue until July 2014?***
- B. *How much Australian government funding was spent during the KFCP and on what?***
- C. *May I please have a detailed breakdown (from AusAID) of project expenses, including but not limited to details about:***
- i. On the volume of funds transferred to IDSS-Aurecon and their sub-contractor/s.***
 - ii. The amount of individual incentive payments delivered to project participants, and outcomes achieved or not achieved from those payments.***
 - iii. The amount of funding spent on research activities, and details and outcomes of those activities.***
 - iv. The amount of funding spent on major project works, and details and outcomes of those works.***

Answer

- A. Resources for the one year extension for the Indonesia Australia Forest Carbon Partnership (including the KFCP and Indonesian National Carbon Accounting System) will be used to:
- complete work to support livelihoods for communities in the KFCP area;
 - document lessons learnt in areas such as community engagement and peat forest science; and

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- complete a pilot forest carbon accounting system covering Kalimantan which has the capability to be applied to other regions across Indonesia (the Indonesia National Carbon Accounting System).

The blocking of irrigation canals under KFCP will not be carried out.

B. Approximately \$39 million has been spent on the KFCP since 2007. This has contributed to:

- the establishment of village nurseries to propagate, raise and plant more than 2.6 million seedlings;
- the provision of additional income sources for 1,600 households for the raising and planting of seedlings and sustainable agro-forestry (75 per cent of village households in the project site);
- the training of local farmers to conduct farmer field schools to teach rehabilitation techniques for degraded peatlands;
- the establishment of one of the world's largest tropical peat hydrology and subsidence monitoring systems, covering more than 60 kilometres; and
- the establishment of a forest management unit – a key institution for taking over management of REDD+ at the local level.

C. i) The contract value for the Indonesia-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership Facility with IDSS-Aurecon is up to \$46,298,629.92, including GST. IDSS-Aurecon are responsible for engaging sub-contractors as needed.

ii) Incentive payments delivered to KFCP project participants and outcomes achieved are summarised in the *KFCP Participation and Benefits Sharing* report. This can be found online at:
<http://iafcp.or.id/publication/detail/100/Participation-and-Benefits-in-KFCP>

iii) There is no specific program budget for 'research'. As a demonstration project, all KFCP activities may have a research dimension. Research activities are ongoing and will continue to be published on the IAFCP and Indonesian Forestry Research and Development Agency (FORDA) websites as they are finalised. These can be found at:

IAFCP: <http://iafcp.or.id/home>

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FORDA: <http://www.redd-indonesia.org/index.php>

iv) There is no category of activity or budget allocated under the program to '*major project works*' or similar.

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Question No. 89

Program: DFAT– EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Successive Australian Governments have championed the ambitious project aims of the KFCP, and its credentials "to provide useful and practical lessons to support international efforts to establish a REDD+ mechanism" and "inform a future climate change agreement".

However in previous Senate Estimates Dr Justin Lee, Ambassador for Climate Change in the International Climate Change Division, stated that: "I am not aware that specific lessons coming from the IAFCP or the KFCP are part of those broader agenda discussions on REDD+ in the UNFCCC"

- A. What are the processes that account for the differences between the stated ambitions and the actual outcomes of the project?**
- B. What mechanisms are in place to ensure accountability for exaggerated claims of expected outcomes?**
- C. What processes are in place to identify mistakes or failures in the project and where the responsibilities lie?**
- D. May I have a copy of any such reports or evaluations, and if not why not?**

Answer

- A. The objectives of the original KFCP project were ambitious. As a demonstration activity, the KFCP's intention was to test approaches to REDD+ in practice. The KFCP's work has been complex, ranging from peatland science to community engagement, land tenure issues, and small scale infrastructure, which all form a part of implementing

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REDD+. These challenges are not unique to the KFCP, the international donor community, or Indonesia. However, the KFCP has tested a range of approaches to REDD+ and produced useful lessons.

- B. To assess the performance of the program, the Australian Government commissioned an independent progress report of the Indonesia-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership (IAFCP) which was published in March 2011. A copy of the Independent Progress Report for IAFCP can be found here:

http://aid.dfat.gov.au/Publications/Pages/4346_4098_311_778_770.aspx. In addition, a range of publications are available on the IAFCP website, including research and technical papers: <http://iafcop.or.id>

DFAT and KFCP staff used information gathered from this report, and ongoing monitoring, to make adjustments to the program.

A review of IAFCP will be conducted at its conclusion. The form and scope of this review is still being determined.

- C. See B).

- D. See B).

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Question No. 90

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In the Bilateral agreement between the Australian and Indonesian governments, the KFCP was promoted as both a demonstration of an incentive based REDD project, and a demonstration of the value of market mechanisms for REDD finance, including REDD as a carbon offset.

- A. What are the implications of the KFCP for the incentive-based model for REDD, as well as REDD as a form of carbon offsetting?**
- B. Why was the World Bank Indonesia Forest Carbon Trust Fund Program not established?**
- C. What problems and challenges arose in the institution of incentive-based payments for local community members engaged in project activities (seedling cultivation, reforestation, canal blocking and any other activities)?**
- D. Why were partner donors not found for the KFCP, as was intended?**
- E. Why did the Finland government not become a partner after considering the possibility in 2010?**
- F. Was private finance pursued and if so, what were the reasons for the lack of success in sourcing that finance?**

Answer

- A. The KFCP aims to demonstrate a credible, equitable, and effective approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+), including from the degradation of peatlands. Lessons learnt can be used to inform international REDD+

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

negotiations and enable Indonesia's meaningful participation in future international carbon markets.

- B. Discussions with the Government of Indonesia and the World Bank on the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Trust Fund are ongoing.
- C. Information on KFCP community participation and benefits is available on the IAFCP website:
<http://iafcp.or.id/publication/detail/100/Participation-and-Benefits-in-KFCP>.
- D. The IAFCP welcomes opportunities for collaboration with other partners, including donors and the private sector. For example, the Australian and Dutch governments provided funding for a digital elevation model of the peat surface and vegetation canopy of an area that included the KFCP site.
- E. This question should be referred to the Government of Finland.
- F. See D).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 91

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- A. When will an independent evaluation of the KFCP be conducted?***
- B. If so, what will its scope and terms of reference be?***
- C. How will it take into account criticisms from local community members?***
- D. And how will its results be publicly communicated?***

Answer

- A. A review of IAFCP will be conducted at its conclusion. The form and scope of this review, including whether it will be undertaken by independent reviewers, is still being determined.
- B. See A).
- C. See A).
- D. See A).

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Question No. 92

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Is the commitment to communicate to the UNFCCC project outcomes and lessons learnt still in place? If not, why not?

Answer

A. Yes.

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Question No. 93

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Which relevant negotiation streams will the KFCP lessons be communicated to, and what is the timetable for this to occur?

Answer

- A. As KFCP is a REDD+ demonstration activity, lessons learnt are most applicable to the REDD+ negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. There is no single negotiating stream or timetable for countries to share lessons learnt - this is an ongoing process.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 94

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

It would seem that persistent criticisms of the KFCP from local customary leaders and Indigenous representative bodies illustrate that the project was not a genuinely collaborative between project partners and the local community, as was the stated intention of the Project Design Document.

- A. What is the Department's response to this?**
- B. What details or information/feedback have been provided regarding this issue, and what lessons have been learnt?**
- C. Where does the responsibility lie around this issue?**

Answer

- A. Community consultation has been central to the design and implementation of the KFCP. Village Agreements, which set out the formal conditions of participation in the KFCP, were developed in close consultation with each community involved in the program.

Work for major activities under Village Agreements was only able to commence with the agreement of villages, and villages could stop these activities at any time.

- B. KFCP staff are in regular communication with members of local communities, primarily through village facilitators who live in local communities. These field officers interact with communities on a daily basis and provide feedback to the KFCP program on concerns and issues raised by local communities, customary leaders and indigenous

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representative bodies. In addition, KFCP continues to incorporate feedback from communities into program improvement through undertaking a number of internal reviews, improving communications mechanisms and information delivery to local communities and strengthening social safeguard standards within the KFCP.

KFCP also has a formal grievance process. All community members can submit grievances verbally or in written form, including via SMS. Responsiveness to community concerns is an important principle for effective collaboration. For example, where a complaint can be resolved at the village level, a village committee is formed to resolve the issue, following local customs.

The KFCP implementing partners continue to work collaboratively and maintain open dialogue with customary leaders and communities.

- C. The responsibility for collaboration is shared by all parties involved in KFCP.

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Question No. 95

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- A. *Why has Australia adopted the World Bank's definition of Free, Prior and Informed Consultation, rather than the UN's principle of Free Prior and Informed Consent?***
- B. *What are the differences between the two?***
- C. *What level of informed consent does "informed consultation" guarantee? How? Accountability?***

Answer

- A. Australia has not adopted the World Bank's definition of Free, Prior and Informed Consultation as a standard approach under Australia's development cooperation program. Nonetheless, Australia recognises the importance of engaging in good faith consultation with Indigenous peoples in relation to decisions that affect them.
- B. The meaning of 'free, prior and informed consent' is still subject to debate in international fora and has not been settled under international law. Broader questions on free, prior and informed consent should be referred to the Attorney-General's Department.
- C. See B).

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Question No. 96

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

There are reports there was confusion amongst community members about the project.

A. What are the details of that confusion and conflict?

B. What actions were taken by KFCP staff in response to that confusion or conflict?

C. Have those concerns been resolved? How?

Answer

A. DFAT is not aware of any reports of confusion and conflict amongst community members about the project. DFAT and KFCP implementing staff work collaboratively and maintain open dialogue with customary leaders and communities. This includes through facilitators who live in communities and hold regular meetings with activity management teams elected by each village and periodic village forums for all residents. These meetings and forums provide an opportunity for community members to raise concerns about KFCP and ask for clarification from KFCP staff. It is also an opportunity for community members to suggest improvements to KFCP program processes.

KFCP also has a formal process for responding to grievances. The grievance mechanism forms part of KFCP's social safeguards and operates at village level. All community members can submit grievances verbally or in written form, including via SMS. Responsiveness to community concerns is an important principle for effective collaboration.

B See A).

C See A).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 97

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. In particular, how did KFCP staff respond to conflicting statements that were released from customary leaders from Kadamangan Mantangai in 2011? What are the details of that confusion and conflict?

Answer

A. DFAT was advised that the village customary leaders met on their own initiative and issued a clarification on the issues causing confusion. No further action was needed and KFCP staff continue to meet regularly with the customary leaders.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 98

Program: DFAT- EADD

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. It is reported there were conflicts that arose in Mantangai Hulu village surrounding the non-payment of wages, livelihoods program and subsequent conflicts in June 2012. How did project partners respond to these conflicts prior to making the decision to cease project activities in the village in September 2012?

Answer

A. The KFCP team worked collaboratively with Mantangai Hulu and local government representatives to develop and explain the livelihood program and community-led payment mechanism.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 99

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

I refer to the recent decision by the Australian and Indonesian Governments to cease the major operations of the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership (KFCP) on 30 June 2013. I understand some outstanding project activities will be continued until July 2014.

- A. How much Australian government funding was spent during the KFCP and on what?***
- B. on the volume of funds transferred to IDSS-Aurecon and their sub-contractor/s.***
- C. The amount of individual incentive payments delivered to project participants, and outcomes achieved or not achieved from those payments.***
- D. The amount of funding spent on research activities, and details and outcomes of those activities.***
- E. The amount of funding spent on major project works, and details and outcomes of those works.***

Answer

Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 88 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 100

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Successive Australian Governments have championed the ambitious project aims of the KFCP: "the protection of 70,000 hectares of peat forests, the re-flooding of 200,000 hectares of dried peatlands and planting of 100 million trees was projected to lead to 700 million tonnes of greenhouse gas reductions over 30 years".

Further, the KFCP was explicitly intended as a REDD+ demonstration project "to provide useful and practical lessons to support international efforts to establish a REDD+ mechanism" and "inform a future climate change agreement".

In previous Senate Estimates, Dr Justin Lee, Ambassador for Climate Change in the International Climate Change Division, stated that he was "not aware that specific lessons coming from the IAFCP or the KFCP are part of those broader agenda discussions on REDD+ in the UNFCCC."

- A. What are the processes that account for the differences between the stated ambitions and the actual outcomes of the project?**
- B. Could I have details of the evaluation processes in place that will ensure accountability for exaggerated claims of expected outcomes; for the**
- C. Identification of mistakes or outright failures in the project; and where the responsibilities lie?**
- D. May I have a copy of any such reports or evaluations.**
- E. If not , why not?**

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 89 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 101

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In the Bilateral agreement between the Australian and Indonesian governments, the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership was explicitly promoted as both a demonstration of an incentive based REDD project, and a demonstration of the value of market mechanisms for REDD finance, including REDD as a carbon offset.

- A. *What are the implications of the outcomes and lessons from the KFCP, for the incentive-based model for REDD, as well as for REDD as a form of carbon offsetting. In particular:***
- B. *Why was the World Bank Indonesia Forest Carbon Trust Fund Program not established?***
- C. *What problems and challenges arose in the institution of incentive-based payments for local community members engaged in project activities (eg seedling cultivation, reforestation, canal blocking and any other activities)?***
- D. *Why were partner donors not found for the KFCP, as was intended? In particular, why did the Finland government not become a partner after considering the possibility in 2010?***
- E. *Was private finance pursued and if so, what were the reasons for the lack of success in sourcing that finance?***

Answer

Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 90 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 102

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- A. *When will an independent evaluation of the KFCP be conducted?***
- B. *What will its scope and terms of reference be?***
- C. *How will it take into account criticisms from local community members?***
- D. *How will its results be publicly communicated?***

Answer

Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 91 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 103

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

***A. Will the Australian Government maintain its commitment to communicate project outcomes and lessons learnt to the UNFCCC?
If not, why not?***

Answer

A. Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 92 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 104

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Which relevant negotiation streams will the KFCP lessons be communicated to, and what is the timetable for this to occur?

Answer

A. Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 93 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 105

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Persistent criticisms of the KFCP from local customary leaders and Indigenous representative bodies seem to illustrate that the project was not a genuinely collaborative endeavour between project partners and the local community, as was the stated intention of the Project Design Document.

- A. How does the department differ in this assessment?*
- B. What details or information/feedback have been sought or gathered regarding this question, and what lessons have been learnt?*
- C. Where does the responsibility lie around this issue?*

Answer

A. Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 94 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 106

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- A. *Why has the Australian government adopted the World Bank's definition of Free, Prior and Informed Consultation, rather than the UN's principle of Free Prior And Informed Consent?***
- B. *What are the differences between the two?***
- C. *What level of informed consent does "informed consultation" guarantee? How? Accountability?***

Answer

A. Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 95 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 107

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

I understand there was confusion amongst community members about the project.

A. What are the details of that confusion and conflict?

B. Please provide details of the actions taken by KFCP staff in response to that confusion or conflict?

C. Have those concerns been resolved? How?

Answer

A. Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 96 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 108

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. In particular, how did KFCP staff respond to conflicting statements that were released from customary leaders from Kadamangan Mantangai in 2011?

Answer

A. Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 97 for further details.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 109

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kalimantan Forests & Climate Partnership (KFCP)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Apparently there were conflicts that arose in Mentangai Hulu village surrounding the non-payment of wages, livelihoods program and subsequent conflicts in June 2012.

A. Please advise how project partners responded to these conflicts prior to making the decision to cease project activities in the village in September 2012?

Answer

A. Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice number 98 for further details.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 110

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate change - Long-term international climate finance

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In the May 2013 Senate Estimates I asked: how much climate financing would be dispersed bilaterally and multilaterally, how much had been allocated to adaptation and how much had been spent on REDD, to which I was informed that the Australian government had not finalised its approach to Australia's contribution to long-term climate change finance.

Were those original details finalised, and if yes may I have a copy?

If no, where was the process of finalising these details up to, and

What date will that information be available?

How much variation in the original expenditure is expected in any amended budgets?

Answer

The Government is currently in the process of considering its strategic, budget and funding priorities, including for Australia's foreign aid program.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 111

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - International climate finance

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

How much climate finance for climate change adaptation and low carbon development overseas came from our aid budget in the last financial year?

What figure will be reported to the UNFCCC as our contribution to the goal of jointly mobilising \$100bn of 2020?

If that information is not yet available, when will it be?

How much variation in the original expenditure is expected in any amended budgets?

Answer

Australia has met its commitment to provide AUD599 million in 'fast-start' climate change finance to assist developing countries respond to climate change over three years (FY 2010-11 to FY 2012-13). This funding was drawn from the aid budget and supported a range of multi-year programs, including in FY 2012-13.

Details of Australia's 'fast-start' climate finance program are available at the following URL:

<http://www.climatechange.gov.au/international/actions/australias-contribution/international-climate-finance/fast-start-finance>

Aside from fast-start finance, developed country Parties, including Australia, are not required to report a figure to the UNFCCC regarding contributions to climate finance.

Australia's levels of climate finance over the forward estimates have not been finalised. The Government is currently in the process of considering its strategic, budget and funding priorities, including for Australia's foreign aid program.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No.112

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Fast-start

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In the May 2013 Senate Estimates I asked for an itemised breakdown of what is ODA-eligible climate financing, and any climate-financing programs which are outside of ODA spending. I was advised that a full accounting of Australia's fast-start spending will be prepared following the 2012-13 financial year.

A. Is that full accounting completed, and if yes, may I have a copy?

B. If no, what is the date when that information will be available?

Answer

Details of Australia's 'fast-start' climate finance program are available at the following URL:

[http://www.climatechange.gov.au/international/actions/australias-contribution/international-climate-finance/fast-start-finance.](http://www.climatechange.gov.au/international/actions/australias-contribution/international-climate-finance/fast-start-finance)

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 113

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - Warsaw Climate Change Conference

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Regarding the UN Climate Change Conference in Warsaw this November:

A. Are any of the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) representatives attending as part of an Australian Government delegation?

B. Has the Australian Government provided any funding to for the Australian Forest Products Association? If so, who approved the funding and why? How much? Which program or provision has any funding come from?

Answer

A. No representatives of the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) attended the UN Climate Change Conference in Warsaw as part of the Australian delegation.

B. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is not aware of any Australian Government funding being provided to AFPA in connection with attendance at the Warsaw conference.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 114

Program: EFIC

Topic: Reviews

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. Since 7 September, how many reviews have been commenced?

Please list them including:

- a. the date they were ordered***
- b. the date they commenced***
- c. the minister responsible***
- d. the department responsible***
- e. the nature of the review***
- f. their terms of reference***
- g. the scope of the review***
- h. Whom is conducting the review***
- i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review***
- j. the expected report date***
- k. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public***

2. For any review commenced or ordered since 7 September 2013, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?

- a. If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names***
- b. If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent***
- c. If yes, for each what are the costs associated with their involvement, broken down to each cost item***
- d. If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement***
- e. If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.***
- f. If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them***
- g. If yes, for each, who selected them***
- h. If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was*
 - ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list*
 - iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
 - iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department*
 - v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
- 3. Since 7 September 2013, what reviews are on-going? Please list them.**
- 4. Since 7 September 2013, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.**
- 5. Since Budget estimates, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.**
- 6. Since 7 September 2013, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.**
- 7. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?**
- 8. What reviews are planned?**
 - a. When will each planned review be commenced?*
 - b. When will each of these reviews be concluded?*
 - c. When will government respond to each review?*
 - d. Will the government release each review?*
 - i. If so, when?*
 - ii. If not, why not?*

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 115

Program: EFIC

Topic: Commissioned reports

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- A. Since 7 September 2013, how many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.***
- B. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?***
- C. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 116

Program: EFIC

Topic: Briefings for other parties

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Have any briefings and/or provision of information have been provided to the Australian Greens? If yes, please include:**
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?**
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.**
 - c. Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.**
 - d. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.**
 - e. How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.**

- 2. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Independents? If yes, please include:**
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?**
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.**
 - c. Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.**
 - d. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.**
 - e. How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.**
 - f. Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information?**

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

- 3. *Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to parties other than Labor or the Greens? If yes, please include:***
- a. How are briefings requests commissioned?***
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.***
 - c. Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.***
 - d. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.***
 - e. How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.***
 - f. Which parties have requested briefings and/or information?***

Answer

Nil.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 117

Program: EFIC

Topic: Appointments

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Provide an update of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.**
- 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?**
- 3. Please detail any board appointments made from 7 September to date.**

Answer

1. Board Title: Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

All appointments are made in accordance with the *EFIC Act 1991*. Appointments are on a part-time basis for 3 years. There is the possibility of re-appointment for a second term. A third term is possible if the member has been appointed at any time as the Chairperson.

| Members | Position | Current Term | | Previous term (if applicable) | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| | | From | To | From | To |
| Mr Andrew Hunter | Managing Director | 01/09/13 | Board Decision | - | |
| Mr Andrew Mohl | Chair | 09/12/11 | 08/12/14 | 09/12/08 | 08/12/11 |
| Mr Bruce Brook | Member | 01/03/13 | 29/02/16 | 01/03/10 | 28/02/13 |
| Ms Annabelle Chaplain | Member | 01/08/13 | 31/07/16 | - | |
| Mr David Evans | Member | 09/12/11 | 08/12/14 | 09/12/08 | 08/12/11 |
| Mr Nicholas Minogue | Member | 09/12/11 | 08/12/14 | - | |
| Ms Jennifer | Member | 05/04/11 | 04/04/14 | - | |

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| | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------|----------|---|
| Seabrook | | | | |
| Ms Deena Shiff | Member | 09/12/11 | 08/12/14 | - |
| Mr Peter Varghese AO | Ex Officio - Government Member | 11/02/13 | Ongoing | - |
| Ms Jan Adams | Ex Officio - Alternate Government Member | 07/05/13 | Ongoing | - |

2. Gender ratio 37.5 per cent female (not including ex officio members).

3. Nil.

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 118

Program: EFIC

Topic: Stationery requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers / Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 119

Program: EFIC

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?**
 - a. Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel.**
 - b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?**
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?**
 - d. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?**

- 2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?**
 - a. Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.**
 - b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?**
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?**
 - d. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?**

- 3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?**
 - a. Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.**
 - b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?**
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?**
 - d. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?**

- 4. What publications does your department/agency purchase?**
 - a. Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.**
 - b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?**
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?**
 - d. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?**

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Answer

NB: EFIC does not provide any media subscriptions for the Minister's Office.

1. EFIC has a subscription with pay TV provider, Foxtel, for TV units positioned in common staff areas of the building.

EFIC subscribes to Foxtel's Business Package. Subscription to this package is for the purpose of staff use and enables access to current affairs, business, and financial and public affairs information relevant to EFIC work.

The cost of EFIC's pay-TV subscription from 7 September 2013 to date (as at 17 December 2013) was \$600.00.

2. EFIC has subscriptions for the following newspapers:

- Sydney Morning Herald
- Australian Financial Review
- The Australian
- The Daily Telegraph
- The Financial Times

All newspaper subscriptions are for the purposes of staff use and enable access to business, financial and other news relevant to EFIC work.

EFIC records newspaper and magazine subscription expenditures in aggregate. Newspaper and magazine subscription costs for the period 7 September 2013 to date (as at 17 December 2013) was \$7355.00

- 3-4. EFIC's magazine and other publication subscriptions include the following:

- Trade Finance
- The Economist
- Australian Journal of Mining
- BRW
- Global Trade Review
- IPI Euromoney
- Thomson Reuters IFR
- KangaNews
- MiningNews.net
- Petroleum News
- PNG News

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

- Project Finance
- PFI
- Basis Point
- Mining Monthly

All magazine/other publication subscriptions are for the purposes of staff use and enable access to business, financial and other news relevant to EFIC work.

See response to Question 2 for aggregate expenditure.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 120

Program: EFIC

Topic: Media monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office from 7 September 2013 to date?**
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?**
 - b. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?**
 - c. What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date?**

- 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date?**
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?**
 - b. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?**
 - c. What has been spent providing these services from 7 September to date?**

Answer

1. Not applicable.

2.

a-c. EFIC did not have a specific contract in place from September 7 for media monitoring as we were reviewing our media monitoring service provider. EFIC is in the final stages of finalising an agreement with a new service provider for monitoring services at an anticipated cost of \$800 per month.

During the period 7 September to date (17 December 2013), EFIC used PR agency, Senate SHJ, for media monitoring. This was part of a package of services provided to EFIC by Senate SHJ.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 121

Program: EFIC

Topic: Media training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information from 7 September 2013:**
 - a. Total spending on these services**
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification**
 - c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged**
- 2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:**
 - 1. The name and nature of the service purchased**
 - 2. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based**
 - 3. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - 4. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - 5. The total amount spent on the service**
 - 6. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)**
- 3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:**
 - 1. The location used**
 - 2. The number of employees who took part on each occasion**
 - 3. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - 4. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location**

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Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and, as such, APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff.

1. Since 7 September 2013:
 - a. \$5,500 was spend on media training
 - b. Two staff members were offered media training
 - c. Two staff members utilised these services. No study leave was granted for these training purposes.
 - d. Mediaways Pty Ltd provided the training.

2.

| Provider & Service (a) | Structure (b) | No. of employees (c) | Total hours (d) | Total spend (e) | Description of fees (f) |
|--|---------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Mediaways - Media interview and presentation skills training | One-on-one | 2 staff members – 1 SES equivalent, 1 non-SES equivalent. | 6 hours | \$5,500 | Costs charged on an hourly rate basis. |

3. Not applicable. No location other than EFIC's premises was used.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 122

Program: EFIC

Topic: Communications staff

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:

- 1. By Department or agency:***
 - a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.***
 - b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location***
 - c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location***
 - d. How many are graphic designers?***
 - e. How many are media managers?***
 - f. How many organise events?***
- 2. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios? If yes, why? When was it established? What is the set up cost? What is the ongoing cost? How many staff work there and what are their classifications?***

Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and as such, APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff.

- A. EFIC has one ongoing Manager, Communications and Marketing (non-SES equivalent). This staff member is located in EFIC's main office in Sydney.
- B. Nil.
- C. Nil.

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D-F. EFIC employs one graphic designer and one events manager on a contracting basis as part of a broader marketing function. The communications staff member referred to in part a) provides media management services where necessary in collaboration with EFIC's broader marketing function.

2. No. EFIC does not have independent media studios.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 123

Program: EFIC

Topic: Provision of Equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs?**
- 2. For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs from 7 September 2013?**
- 3. Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.**
- 4. Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided.**

Answer

1. Not applicable.
2. Not applicable.
3. Yes. EFIC provides the following electronic equipment to staff for both temporary and/or ongoing use:

| Equipment | Purchase cost |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Home desktop | \$10,000 |
| Home printer | \$2,000 |
| iPad | \$14,216 |
| Smart phone | \$1,360 |
| Wireless cards | \$2,600 |
| Laptops | \$45,500 |

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| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Thumb drives | \$900 |
| Satellite phone | \$1,300 |
| Total | \$120,294 |

The ongoing cost for this equipment is \$1,055 per quarter.

EFIC staff are entitled to ongoing use of IT equipment for work purposes pending approval from the EFIC executive. Staff may borrow IT equipment for short periods of time (usually under two weeks) for work purposes.

EFIC is not an APS body, as such APS employment classifications do not apply to EFIC staff: The breakdown of staff (both executive and non-executive staff) with ongoing use of EFIC IT equipment is as follows:

| Equipment | Staff with ongoing use |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Home desktop | 3 |
| Home printer | 6 |
| iPad | 11 |
| Smart Phone | 62 |
| Wireless card | 4 |
| Laptops | 6 |

4. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 124

Program: EFIC

Topic: Travel costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).***
- 2. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***
- 3. What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year from 7 September 2013? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***
- 4. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***
- 5. What is the policy for business class airfare tickets?***
- 6. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.***
- 7. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.***
- 8. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?***

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Answer

1. Not applicable.
2. EFIC's systems do not record travel data in a way that would readily allow total expenditure to be broken down into the level of detail sought. To attempt to extract this data manually would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, the additional work cannot be justified.

EFIC records total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.

3. EFIC's systems do not record planned travel in a way that would readily allow this information to be provided without a significant diversion of resources.

All travel is arranged in line with EFIC's Corporate Travel Policy and Procedures and coordinated through specified travel arrangers.

This process involves the establishment of a clear business case for travel and a travel request which must be approved by EFIC's Executive (in the case of international travel) or the relevant delegated authority such as department heads (in the case of domestic travel).

4. See answer to part C above.
5. EFIC is not subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, and is not a participating *CAC Act* body to the Whole of Australian Government travel arrangements (WoAG). However, the guidelines on domestic and international travel arrangements including the 'best fare of the day' and 'lowest logical airfare' policy are embedded in EFIC's own Corporate Travel Policy and travel arrangements, commensurate with the value for money objectives within EFIC's Procurement Policy.
6. Yes. EFIC provides Qantas Club memberships to employees who frequently fly overseas or interstate for business purposes, so that they may conduct that business effectively. Memberships are provided on a needs basis and require executive approval. As at 12 December 2013, EFIC incurs costs for five Qantas Club scheme memberships at a total cost of \$290 per member, per annum.
7. EFIC is not an APS body and as such APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff. Support or administrative staff such as Executive Assistants do not accompany members of EFIC's Executive or other SES equivalent level staff when travelling.

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

8. No.

QUESTION IN WRITING

Question No. 125

Program: EFIC

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Could the department/agency provide an update list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants from 7 September 2013? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.***
- 2. Have all grant agreement details been published on its website?***
- 3. Please list all grants that were approved prior to 7 September 2013, but did not have financial contracts in place on 7 September 2013. Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. Please list which grant applicants have been contacted advising of their success. Please provide the current status of these grants. Have any of these grants been cancelled, paused, discontinued or cut?***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 126

Program: EFIC

Topic: Government payment of accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *From 7 September 2013 to date, has the department / agency paid its account to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?***
- 2. *If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached)***
- 3. *For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?***
- 4. *Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?***

Answer

1. Yes. EFIC's policy is to make payments three times per month.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 127

Program: EFIC

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *How many consultancies have been undertaken from 7 September 2013 to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.***
- 2. *How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.***

Answer

1. Under the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, EFIC as a relevant *CAC Act* body, is required to report details of Australian procurement contracts awarded on AusTender, the Government's tender and procurement reporting system, where the total contract value is above \$400,000 or above \$9 million for construction contracts.

To provide details of consultancy contracts below this reporting threshold would entail significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, EFIC does not consider the additional work can be justified.

2. In terms of reporting requirements for *CAC Act* bodies under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, EFIC has no further consultancies planned for this calendar year.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 128

Program: EFIC

Topic: Meeting costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend from 7 September 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 2. *For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 3. *What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 4. *For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.***

Answer

1 & 3.

EFIC's total entertainment, hospitality and meeting spend from 7 September 2013 to date as at 4 December 2013 is approximately \$79 000.

This total expenditure captures the hospitality, entertainment and meeting spend (including expenditure for external meetings) for EFIC's Australian clients, potential clients, other corporations, companies, institutions, development banks and agencies external to the Corporation, in addition to event hosting expenses associated with client and staff functions.

EFIC's reporting systems do not capture expenditure in such a way that would readily enable the requested breakdown of meeting expenditure only. To manually collect this information would entail a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

EFIC is a self-funded corporation with well-established policies on the proper management of hospitality and entertainment expenses. All staff

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must justify the purpose of, and maintain written records for, each item of hospitality or entertainment expenditure. All expenditure and supporting documentation is reviewed and must be approved by EFIC's cost centre managers (department level heads) to ensure the criteria for expenditure has been met. Department heads' expenditure must in turn receive Executive approval.

EFIC's hospitality and entertainment spending for FY2013-14 is expected to be in line with the entertainment and hospitality budget for FY2013-14.

2 & 4.

Not applicable to EFIC.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 129

Program: EFIC

Topic: Hospitality and entertainment

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- 1. What is the Department/agency's hospitality spend for all events including catering and drinks costs?***
- 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs.***
- 3. What is the Department/agency's entertainment spend from 7 September 2013 to date? Detail date, location purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drink costs.***
- 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 7. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 9. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are they?***

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Answer

1 & 3. EFIC's total entertainment and hospitality spend since 7 September 2013 as at 4 December 2013 is approximately \$79,000.

This total expenditure captures hospitality and entertainment (including expenditure for external meetings) for EFIC's Australian clients, potential clients, other corporations, companies, institutions and agencies external to the Corporation, in addition to event hosting expenses associated with client and staff functions.

EFIC's reporting systems do not capture expenditure in such a way that would readily enable the requested breakdown of this total expenditure. To manually collect this information would entail a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

2, 4, 6 & 8.

Not applicable.

5, 7, 9. EFIC's hospitality and entertainment spending for FY2013-14 is expected to be in line with the entertainment and hospitality budget for FY2013-14.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 130

Program: EFIC

Topic: Public Service Efficiencies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?***
- 2. *Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?***
- 3. *Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?***
- 4. *Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much?***
- 5. *Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?***

Answer

Not applicable - EFIC is not a public service body.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 131

Program: EFIC

Topic: Ministerial Offices Security Classifications

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *What is the policy for ministerial staff security clearances?***
- 2. *How many staffers employed by the government under the MOPS Act have security clearances?***
 - a. *At what level?***
 - b. *If not, why not?***
- 3. *How many seconded departmental officers acting in ministerial offices, including DLOs have security clearances?***
 - a. *At what level?***
 - b. *If not, why not?***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 132

Program: EFIC

Topic: Executive coaching and leadership training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information from 7 September 2013 to date:

- 1. Total spending on these services*
- 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification*
- 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
- 4. The names of all service providers engaged. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide*
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased*
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based*
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification*
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 - e. The total amount spent on the service*
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)*
- 5. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:*
 - a. The location used*
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location*

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Answer

1. From 7 September 2013 to date (12/12/2013) EFIC has not provided any executive coaching or leadership training.
2. N/A.
3. N/A.
4. N/A.
5. N/A.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 133

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from 7 September 2013 to date? What was the reason for these reductions?***
- 2. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.***
- 3. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.***
- 4. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.***
- 5. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.***

Answer

1. There were two staff reductions. EFIC's Marketing function was restructured to report to EFIC's Small-Medium Enterprise business unit resulting in the loss of two positions.
2. Yes. There was one involuntary redundancy. A position was made redundant in the marketing team restructure.
3. No.
4. No.
5. No.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 134

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date? What classification were these staff?*
- 2. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date? What classification were these staff?*

Answer

Note: APS classifications do not apply to EFIC staff.

1. Two staff left the agency between 7th September and 6th December 2013. Both were non-SES equivalent staff.
2. One non ongoing staff left the agency between 7th September and 6th December 2013. This staff member was non-SES equivalent.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 135

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing recruitment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. How many ongoing staff were recruited from 7 September 2013 to date? What classification are these staff?***
- 2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this since 7 September 2013 to date? What classification are these staff?***
- 3. From 7 September 2013 to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?***

Answer

APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff.

1. EFIC has recruited five ongoing employees since 7 September 2013 – all have been non SES-equivalent employees.
2. Since 7 September 2013 EFIC has recruited three non-ongoing, non-SES equivalent staff.
3. Three contract employees have been employed; two on six month contracts and one on a three month contract.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 136

Program: EFIC

Topic: Coffee machines

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage since 7 September 2013?*
 - a. *If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.*
 - b. *Why were coffee machines purchased?*
 - c. *Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?*
 - d. *Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?*
 - e. *Who has access?*
 - f. *Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance since 7 September 2013 to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?*
 - g. *What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?*

2. *Does the department/agency rent coffee machines for staff usage?*
 - a. *If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.*
 - b. *Why are coffee machines rented?*
 - c. *Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were rented? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?*
 - d. *Where does the funding for the coffee machines come from?*
 - e. *Who has access?*
 - f. *Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance from 7*

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September 2013 to date? Include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?

g. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?

Answer

1. EFIC has not purchased any coffee machines for staff usage since 7 September 2013.

2. Yes

a.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Number of machines: | 3 |
| Type: | Saeco Royal Cappuccino |
| Cost | Average total cost of \$750 per month. |
| Machine hire per month | \$130 (+ GST) each |
| Coffee Beans per 1kg bag | \$30 per bag |
| Hot Chocolate per 500g bag | \$14 per bag |
| Ongoing costs: | Refer above |
| Date of rental: | April 2005 (for 3 machines) |

b. For use by EFIC staff and visitors.

c. Yes.

d. EFIC is a self-funded agency.

e. All EFIC staff.

f. Included in the \$130 (plus GST) per month cost to hire each machine is a fortnightly maintenance service. This covers the visits by the sales representative to restock coffee beans/hot chocolate. There is no extra charge for service calls to fix or replace a machine.

g. The ongoing average monthly cost of maintaining the three machines (including restocking and hire fee) is approximately \$750 (see above).

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 137

Program: EFIC

Topic: Printing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed from 7 September 2013 to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?

Answer

Details for EFIC reports and papers printed since 7 September 2013 as at 6 December are detailed in the table below:

| Document | Quantity | Online |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| EFIC 2013 Annual Report | 500 | Yes |
| Business Cards (16 kinds) | 5,000 | No |
| Fact Sheets | 1,000 | Yes |

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 138

Program: EFIC

Topic: Corporate Cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *How cars are owned by each department/agency?*
2. *Where is the car/s located?*
3. *What is the car/s used for?*
4. *What is the cost of each car from 7 September to date?*
5. *How far did each car travel from 7 September to date?*

Answer

1. EFIC owned 11 cars from 7 September to date as at 10 December 2013.
2. The cars are located in Sydney.
3. The cars are for personal use.
4. The cars are fully costed to personal employment packages.
5. These figures are provided by the drivers annually on 30 March – hence figures from 7 September to date are not available.

As at 30 March 2013 the distances travelled for each car were:

| Car | Kms |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 8,961.00 |
| 2 | 400.00 |
| 3 | 220 |
| 4 | 68,896 |
| 5 | 27,311 |
| 6 | 6,886 |
| 7 | 23,876 |
| 8 | 27,863 |
| 9 | n/a – purchased 19-07-13 |
| 10 | n/a – purchased 30-09-13 |
| 11 | n/a – purchased 26-04-13 |
| Total | 164,413 |
| Average kms | 20,551.63 |

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 139

Program: EFIC

Topic: Taxi costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this from 7 September 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.***
- 2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?***

Answer

EFIC's systems do not readily enable the separation of this information from total travel expenses. To manually breakdown records to supply the information required would constitute a significant diversion of resources and EFIC does not believe that the additional work can be justified.

EFIC records total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 140

Program: EFIC

Topic: Hire cars

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- 1. How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.***
- 2. What are the reasons for hire car costs?***

Answer

EFIC's systems do not readily enable the separation of this information from total travel expenses. To manually breakdown records to supply the information required would constitute a significant diversion of resources and I do not believe that the additional work can be justified.

Total EFIC travel expenditure is recorded in the EFIC Annual Report.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 141

Program: EFIC

Topic: Credit cards

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.**
- 2. Please update details of the following:**
 - a. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?**
 - b. How is corporate credit card use monitored?**
 - c. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?**
 - d. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.**
 - e. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?**

Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and therefore APS employment classifications do not apply to EFIC staff.

1. A total of 64 EFIC staff have a corporate credit card.

This includes:
 - a. Eight SES-equivalent staff, and
 - b. 56 non-SES equivalent staff.
2. EFIC has an established corporate credit card policy with guidelines for use and a system for monitoring credit card expenditure to prevent misuse. This policy has not changed since the last Estimates session. There have been no instances of credit card misuse in this time.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 142

Program: EFIC

Topic: Electricity Purchasing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement?***
- 2. *What are the department/agency electricity costs from 7 September 2013 to date?***

Answer

1. EFIC's current electricity purchasing agreement commenced on 1 October 2013 and expires in November 2015.
2. Electricity costs from 7 September 2013 to 31 October 2013 were \$9,597.05 plus GST.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 143

Program: EFIC

Topic: Ministerial Briefings

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Does the department provide a regular briefing to the Minister on the activities of the department and/or any upcoming issues and/or any upcoming matters to come before the Minister?*
- 2. In what form does that occur?*
- 3. On what basis is that provided?*
- 4. What title is this briefing given?*

Answer

EFIC provides input for Ministerial briefings on EFIC's operations and trade related issues as requested by the Department or the Minister's Office.

Refer to Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade response for other Ministerial briefings.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 144

Program: EFIC

Topic: Departmental Senate Estimates Briefing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. How many officers were responsible for preparing the Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?**
- 2. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?**
 - a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification**
- 3. Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates?**
 - a. If so, when did this occur?**
 - b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office?**
- 4. Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information?**
 - a. If so, when did this occur?**
 - b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.**
 - c. When were the changes made?**

Answer

EFIC provides input on EFIC's operations for Ministerial briefing as requested by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and/or Minister's Office. This includes input into Senate Estimates briefing papers prepared by the Department.

Please refer to Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade response.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 145

Program: EFIC

Topic: Freedom of Information

Question in Writing

Senator: Ludwig

Question

- 1. Can the department please outline the process it under goes to access Freedom of Information requests?**
- 2. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when it receives Freedom of Information requests?**
 - a. If so, when?**
 - b. If so, how does this occur?**
- 3. Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests?**
 - a. If so, which departments or agencies?**
 - b. If so, when?**
 - c. If so, how does this occur?**
- 4. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when or before it makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request?**
 - a. If so, when?**
 - b. If so, how does this occur?**
- 5. Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when or before it makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request?**
 - a. If so, which departments or agencies?**
 - b. If so, when?**
 - c. If so, how does this occur?**
- 6. What resources does the department commit to its Freedom of Information team?**
- 7. List the staffing resources by APS level assigned solely to Freedom of Information requests**
- 8. List the staffing resources by APS level assigned indirectly to Freedom of Information requests**
- 9. Does the department ever second addition resources to processing Freedom of Information requests?**
 - a. If so, please detail those resources by APS level**
- 10. How many officers are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the department?**

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

- a. *How does this differ to the number of officers designated as at 6 September 2013?*
11. *How many officers are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Minister's office?*
- a. *How does this differ to the number of officers designated as at 6 September 2013?*
12. *Of the officers that are designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Ministers office, how many are seconded officers from the department?*
13. *What training does the department provide to designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act who work within the department?*
- a. *Of the officers designated as decision makers within the department, how many have received formal training?*
- b. *Of the officers designated as decision makers within the department, how many have received informal training?*
- c. *How long after each officers appointment as a designated decision maker did they receive formal training?*
- d. *What did the training involve?*
- e. *How long was the training?*
- f. *By whom was the training conducted?*
14. *What training does the department provide to designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act who work within the Minister's office, excluding those officers on secondment from the department?*
- a. *Of the officers designated as decision makers, how many have received formal training?*
- b. *Of the officers designated as decision makers, how many have received informal training?*
- c. *How long after each officers appointment as a designated decision maker did they receive formal training?*
- d. *What did the training involve?*
- e. *How long was the training?*
- f. *By whom was the training conducted?*

Answer

1. A request is referred to EFIC's legal department and EFIC's authorised person (for the purposes of the *Freedom of Information Act*, the 'Reviewer') assesses the request with regard to the guidelines published by the Information Commissioner.

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

2. No.
3. No.
4. No.
5. No.
6. N/A. FOI requests are handled by EFIC's broader in-house legal team.
7. N/A.
8. For each FOI request received, one authorised officer for the purposes of the *FOI Act* is assigned by EFIC's General Counsel, or member of EFIC's executive team, as a "designated decision maker" for the purpose of accessing that request.
9. No.
10. Offices rather than individuals are appointed as authorised officers for the purposes of the *FOI Act*. For each FOI request received, one authorised officer is assigned by EFIC's General Counsel or member of EFIC's executive team as "designated decision maker" for the purpose of accessing that request. The number of offices for the purposes of the *FOI Act* has not changed since 6 September 2013.
11. N/A.
12. N/A.
13. a-e. Nil.
14. a-f. N/A.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 146

Program: EFIC

Topic: Functions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Provide a list of all formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the Minister. Include:**
 - a. The guest list of each function**
 - b. The party or individual who initiated the request for the function**
 - c. The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function**
 - d. A list of drinks consumed at the function**
- 2. Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order in the Minister's Office.**

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 147

Program: EFIC

Topic: Red Tape Reduction

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?
 - a. What is the progress of that red tape reduction target**
- 2. How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?*
- 3. How have they been recruited?*
- 4. What process was used for their appointment?*
- 5. What is the total cost of this unit?*
- 6. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?*
- 7. Please list the security classification and date the classification was issued for each officer, broken down by APS or SES level, in the red tape reduction unit or similar body.*

Answer

Not applicable. Refer to DFAT response.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 148

Program: DFAT

Topic: Reviews

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since 7 September 2013, how many new Reviews have been commenced?

1) Please list them including:

- a. the date they were ordered*
- b. the date they commenced*
- c. the minister responsible*
- d. the department responsible*
- e. the nature of the review*
- f. their terms of reference*
- g. the scope of the review*
- h. Whom is conducting the review*
- i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review*
- j. the expected report date*
- k. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public*

2) For any review commenced or ordered since 7 September 2013, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?

- a. If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names*
- b. If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent*
- c. If yes, for each what are the costs associated with their involvement, broken down to each cost item*
- d. If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement*
- e. If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.*
- f. If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them*
- g. If yes, for each, who selected them*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- h. If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,*
- i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was*
 - ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list*
 - iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
 - iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department*
 - v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
- 3) *Since 7 September 2013, what reviews are on-going? Please list them.*
- 4) *Since 7 September 2013, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.*
- 5) *Since Budget estimates, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.*
- 6) *Since 7 September 2013, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.*
- 7) *When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?*
- 8) *What reviews are planned?*
- a. When will each planned review be commenced?*
 - b. When will each of these reviews be concluded?*
 - c. When will government respond to each review?*
 - d. Will the government release each review?*
 - i. If so, when?*
 - ii. If not, why not?*

Answer

- 1) Three new reviews have commenced since 7 September 2013. The *Diplomatic Footprint Review*, *Development of a Consular Strategy* and *Development of Aid Performance Benchmarks*.

Review title: Diplomatic Footprint Review.

- a. Review ordered on 19 September 2013.
- b. Review commenced on 23 September 2013 and announced by the Minister on 4 October 2013.
- c. The Minister for Foreign Affairs is responsible for the review.
- d. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is responsible for the review.
- e. The review examines Australia's diplomatic footprint.
- f. The review's terms of reference are:
The Review will examine Australia's existing diplomatic footprint and will provide advice and recommendations on options for strengthening the alignment of the overseas network with

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Australia's current and emerging foreign policy, economic, trade, security and aid interests.

- g. The scope of the review conducted was to examine the existing location and size of overseas posts and identify options to strengthen the alignment of the overseas network in relation to Australia's current and emerging foreign policy, economic, trade, security, aid interests, consular demands and post operating costs.
- h. The review was conducted by the Diplomatic Footprint Taskforce within the Corporate Management Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- i. The number of officers and their classification level involved in conducting the review are: 1 x SES Band 2, 1 x EL1 officer and 1 additional APS4 officer for the final two weeks (3 staff in total).
- j. The report was submitted on 29 November 2013.
- k. The report is classified. It is currently with the Minister for Foreign Affairs for consideration.

Review title: Development of a Consular Strategy.

- a. The Minister agreed to the development of a Consular Strategy in November 2013.
- b. The Minister issued a public invitation to comment on 3 December 2013.
- c. The Minister for Foreign Affairs is responsible for this review.
- d. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is responsible for this review.
- e. The review consists of the development of a strategy for the delivery of consular services over a three year period (2014-2016).
- f. The framework for the review is set out in a public issues paper published on 3 December 2013.
- g. The scope of this review is the development of options for how consular services can be delivered to an appropriate standard and in a cost-effective way. The Minister has stated publically that she would like to see the issue of cost recovery for consular services addressed in the context of the Strategy and we expect this issue to be covered by some submissions to the Strategy.
- h. The review is being conducted by the Consular and Crisis Division (CCD) of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- i. The number of officers and their classification level involved in conducting the review are: 1 x SES Band 2; 1 x EL2 officer; 1 x

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EL1; 1 x APS 5 officer (4 staff; each of whom is working on the Strategy as part of a broader range of duties).

- j. A public strategy document is expected to be finalised early in the second quarter of 2014.
- k. The objective is to produce a public strategy document.

Review title: Development of aid performance benchmarks.

- a. The Minister agreed to development of aid performance benchmarks in December 2013.
- b. Consultations on the development of aid performance benchmarks will commence in January 2014.
- c. The Minister for Foreign Affairs is responsible for this review.
- d. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is responsible for this review.
- e. The review involves development of new performance benchmarks for the aid program.
- f. A framework for the review will be set out in a public issues paper to be published in January 2014.
- g. The scope of the review will be set out in a public issues paper to be published in January 2014.
- h. The review is being conducted by the Contracts and Aid Management Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- i. The number of officers and their classification level involved in conducting the review are: 1 x SES Band 2; 1 x SES Band 1; 1 x EL2 officer; 2 x EL1 officer; 1 x APS6 officer; 1 x APS3 officer (7 staff; each of whom is working on the review as part of a broader range of duties).
- j. The framework for aid performance benchmarks is expected to be released in the fourth quarter of 2013-14.
- k. The framework for aid performance benchmarks is expected to be publicly released.

2) No reviews have commenced or were ordered since 7 September 2013 for which external people, companies or contractors have been engaged to assist or conduct.

3) None.

4) No.

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- 5) The review of Government approach to food assistance was completed and provided to government in December 2013.
- 6) None.
- 7) The response to Government approach to food assistance is scheduled to be tabled at the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties on 5 February 2014.
- 8) An Independent evaluation of urban search and rescue initiative is planned.
- a. The review is planned to commence in January 2014.
 - b. The review is planned to conclude before June 2014.
 - c. The government will respond to the review in the second half of 2014.
 - d. The government will release this review.
 - i. The government will release this review in the second half of 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 149

Program: DFAT

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

a) Since 7 September 2013, how many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.

b) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?

c) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer

a) None.

b) N/A.

c) N/A.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 150

Program: DFAT

Topic: Briefings for other parties

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. Have any briefings and/or provision of information have been provided to the Australian Greens? If yes, please include:

a) How are briefings requests commissioned?

b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.

c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.

d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.

e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

2. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Independents? If yes, please include:

a) How are briefings requests commissioned?

b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.

c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.

e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

f) Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information?

3. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to parties other than Labor or the Greens? If yes, please include:

a) How are briefings requests commissioned?

b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.

c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.

d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.

e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

f) Which parties have requested briefings and/or information?

Answer

1. No.
2. No.
3. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 151

Program: DFAT

Topic: Board Appointments

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. Provide an update of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.

B. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?

C. Please detail any board appointments made from 7 September to date.

Answer

- A. All boards, including board titles, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members are listed below.
- B. The gender ratio for each board follows. At 21 November 2013, the gender ratio for boards across the department was 43.13 per cent female (not including ex officio members)
- C. Appointments to each board made from 7 September to 21 November are listed below.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia Awards

A. Title: Australia Awards.

Terms of appointment: Members are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for two (2) years (Chair) and two (2) years (members), with the possibility of re-appointment. The tenure of the Australia Awards Board expired in May 2013. The future role of the board will now be determined in the context of the government's policy directions related to the New Colombo Plan and other Australian Government Scholarships.

B. Gender ratio: to be determined when new members are appointed.

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia-China Council

A. Title: Australia-China Council

Terms of appointment: The Chairperson is appointed by the Executive Council on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who also appoints the Board members.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair) and 3 years (members), with the possibility of re-appointment for one more term.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| The Hon Warwick Smith AM | Chair | 09/09/2011 | 08/09/2016 |
| Professor Fiona Wood | Member | 01/02/2011 | 31/01/2014 |
| Professor Stephanie Fahey | Deputy Chair | 01/01/2013 | 31/12/2016 |
| Mr David Olsson | Member | 01/01/2013 | 31/12/2016 |
| Professor Sandra Harding | Member | 01/11/2013 | 31/10/2016 |
| Ms Suhanya Raffel | Member | 01/11/2013 | 31/10/2016 |
| Mr Frank Tudor | Member | 01/11/2013 | 31/10/2016 |
| Ms Gillian Bird, Deputy Secretary, DFAT | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 57 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. Two new appointments in the period from 7 September to 21 November 2013 (Professor Sandra Harding and Mr Frank Tudor); one appointment as Deputy Chair of the current member (Professor Stephanie Fahey); and one re-appointment (Ms Suhanya Raffel).

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia India Council

A. Title: Australia-India Council.

Terms of appointment: Members are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Chair is appointed by the Governor General on the nomination of the Minister.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for five years (Chair) and five years (members), with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr John McCarthy AO | Chair | 7/9/2009 | 13/02/2014 |
| Ms Payal Mahindroo | Member | 1/8/2012 | 31/7/2015 |
| Professor Gillian Whitlock | Member | 7/9/2009 | 06/9/2015 |
| Mr Paul Robilliard (DFAT) | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 66.67 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia-Indonesia Institute

A. Title: Australia-Indonesia Institute.

Terms of appointment: The Chair shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the nomination of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. A member of the Institute, other than the Chairperson and the ex officio DFAT member, shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair) and 3 years (members), with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Professor Tim Lindsey | Chair | 15/05/2013 | 14/05/2016 |
| Mr Andrew Donovan | Member | 26/06/2012 | 25/06/2015 |
| Professor Bruce Robinson | Member | 26/06/2012 | 25/06/2015 |
| Mr Greg Sheridan | Member | 26/06/2012 | 25/06/2015 |
| Professor Julia Day Howell | Member | 10/02/2011 | 9/02/2014 |
| Professor David Hill | Member | 10/02/2011 | 9/02/2014 |
| Dr James Bradfield Moody | Member | 10/02/2011 | 9/02/2014 |
| Ms Rufiath Yousuff | Member | 10/02/2011 | 9/02/2014 |
| Professor Clare Martin | Member | 5/10/2011 | 4/10/2014 |
| Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT) | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 33.33 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board appointments from 7 September to 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia International Cultural Council

A. Title: Australia International Cultural Council (AICC)

Terms of appointment:

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for the Arts are considering implementing actions to revamp the AICC, including changes to the composition of the Council. The terms of previous board members had expired by March 2011 and the members were not replaced.

B. Gender ratio: to be determined when new members are appointed.

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2014.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia-Japan Foundation

A. Title: Australia-Japan Foundation

Terms of appointment: The Chair shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Members of the Board, other than the Chair and the ex officio DFAT member shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair) and for 3 years (members) with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Murray McLean AO | Chair | 01/01/2012 | 31/12/2016 |
| Mr Peter Yates AM | Member | 01/02/2010 | 01/08/2014 |
| Mr Tim Lester | Member | 01/02/2010 | 01/02/2015 |
| Professor Kate Darian-Smith | Member | 01/03/2010 | 22/03/2015 |
| Mr Doug Hall AM | Member | 22/03/2013 | 22/02/2016 |
| Ms Melanie Brock | Member | 01/03/2010 | 22/03/2015 |
| Dr Chiaki Ajioka | Member | 01/10/2012 | 01/10/2015 |
| Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT) | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 42.86 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia-Korea Foundation

A. Title: Australia-Korea Foundation (AKF)

Terms of appointment: The Chair shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Members of the Board, other than the Chairperson and the ex officio DFAT member, shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair) and for 3 years (members) with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dr Bronwen Dalton | Member | 15/09/2009 | 14/09/2014 |
| Mr James Casey | Member | 11/07/2011 | 10/07/2014 |
| Professor Michael Manton FTSE | Member | 2/02/2012 | 1/02/2015 |
| Ms Jacquie Riddell | Member | 11/10/2012 | 14/09/2015 |
| Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT) | <i>Ex officio</i> | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 50.00 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board appointments from 7 September to 21 November.

The term of the Chairperson, Mr David Palmer, expired on 16 July 2013. Nominations for this vacancy are currently being reviewed for consideration by the Minister.

One board member, Mr Carrillo Gantner, resigned on 28 October 2013. Nominations for this vacancy are currently being reviewed for consideration by the Minister

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia-Malaysia Institute

A. Title: Australia-Malaysia Institute.

Terms of appointment: Members (other than the ex-officio member) are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 3 years (Chair) and 3 years (members), with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Professor Lance Twomey AO | Chair | 9/04/2012 | 8/04/2015 |
| Mr Christian Bennett | Member | 9/04/2012 | 8/04/2015 |
| Ms Geraldine Doogue AO | Member | 9/04/2012 | 8/04/2015 |
| Ms Rechelle Hawkes OAM | Member | 9/04/2012 | 8/04/2015 |
| Dr Gaik Cheng Khoo | Member | 4/05/2012 | 3/05/2015 |
| Ms Kathe Kirby | Member | 9/04/2012 | 8/04/2015 |
| Mr Kee Wong | Member | 4/05/2012 | 3/05/2015 |
| Mr Talal Yassine OAM | Member | 04/03/2013 | 03/03/2016 |
| Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT) | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 50.00 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia-Thailand Institute

A. Title: Australia-Thailand Institute.

Terms of appointment: Members (other than the ex-officio member) are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 3 years (Chair) and 3 years (members), with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Mike Courtnall | Chair | 22/05/2013 | 1/05/2015 |
| Dr Kaye Eldridge | Member | 25/05/2012 | 3/05/2015 |
| Mr John Hancock | Member | 9/04/2012 | 8/04/2015 |
| Mr Michael Laverty | Member | 9/04/2012 | 8/04/2015 |
| Mr Jim Middleton | Member | 9/04/2012 | 8/04/2015 |
| Ms Dusadee Coulson | Member | 4/05/2012 | 3/05/2015 |
| Ms Annette Ellis | Member | 4/05/2012 | 3/05/2015 |
| Ms Margaret West AM | Member | 15/01/2013 | 14/01/2016 |
| Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT) | Ex officio | Ongoing | |

B. Gender ratio: 50.00 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research – Commission for International Agricultural Research

A. Title: ACIAR Commission for International Agricultural Research

Terms of appointment: The Commissioners are appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 3 years.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Ms Joanna Hewitt AO | Chair | 07/04/2011 | 06/04/2014 |
| Professor Kym Anderson | Commissioner | 07/04/2011 | 06/04/2014 |
| Dr Nick Austin | Commissioner | 31/07/2012 | 30/07/2014 |
| Mr Peter Baxter | Commissioner | 30/05/2013 | 29/05/2016 |
| Mr David Crombie | Commissioner | 07/04/2011 | 06/04/2014 |
| Dr Joanne Daly | Commissioner | 29/10/2012 | 28/10/2015 |
| Dr Conall O'Connell | Commissioner | 07/04/2011 | 06/04/2014 |

B. Gender ratio: 28.57 per cent female.

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research – Policy Advisory Council

A. Title: ACIAR Policy Advisory Council

Terms of Appointment: Membership of the Council is limited to 13, comprising a President, the Director General of AusAID's nominee and not fewer than nine and no more than eleven other members appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Minister is required, under legislation, to ensure that a substantial number of the members of the Council are residents of countries other than Australia, and to have regard for the knowledge of appointees concerning the agricultural problems of developing countries or their experience in organising or conducting agricultural research.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 3 years.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dr Beth Woods OAM | President | 21/03/2011 | 20/03/2014 |
| Dr Subanna Ayyappan | Member | 05/08/2013 | 04/08/2016 |
| Mr Brown Bai | Member | 22/08/2011 | 21/08/2014 |
| Dr Monthathip Chanphengxay | Member | 22/08/2011 | 21/08/2014 |
| Dr Patricio Faylon | Member | 22/08/2011 | 21/08/2014 |
| Dr Haryono | Member | 04/09/2012 | 03/09/2015 |
| Dr Jia Jingdun | Member | 17/04/2013 | 16/04/2016 |
| Dr Ouk Makara | Member | 17/04/2013 | 16/04/2016 |
| The Hon. Professor Ruth Oniang'o SS DSM | Member | 05/08/2013 | 04/08/2016 |
| Dr Jimmie Rodgers | Member | 04/09/2012 | 03/09/2015 |
| Dr Muhammad Tusneem | Member | 22/08/2011 | 21/08/2014 |
| Dr Nguyen Van Bo | Member | 05/08/2013 | 04/08/2016 |
| Mr Jim Woodhill | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 23.07 per cent female.

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australian National Commission for UNESCO

A. Title: Australian National Commission for UNESCO

Terms of appointment: The Chair and community (specialist and youth) members are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. These members must be Australian citizens. The Parliamentary Observers are nominated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs until ceasing to be members of the Senate or House of Representatives or dissolution of the House of Representatives, whichever is sooner. The Minister for Foreign Affairs consults the Leader of the Opposition in appointing the Parliamentary Observer representing the Opposition.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for up to 4 years; with possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Ms Annmaree O'Keefe | Chair | 16/06/2013 | 15/06/2017 |
| Mr Martin Hadlow | Deputy Chair and Specialist Member | 09/04/2012 | 08/04/2016 |
| Ms Margaret Sheil | Specialist Member | 16/06/2013 | 15/06/2017 |
| Mr Craig Roy | Specialist Member | 16/06/2013 | 15/06/2017 |
| Ms Chrissy Grant | Specialist Member | 09/04/2013 | 08/04/2017 |
| Professor Abdullah Saeed AM | Specialist Member | 16/06/2013 | 15/06/2017 |
| Mr Benson Saulo | Youth Member | 09/04/2012 | 08/04/2016 |
| Senator Marise Payne | Parliamentary Observer | Ongoing | N/A |
| Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP | Parliamentary Observer | Ongoing | N/A |
| DFAT Departmental Representative | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| DBCDE Departmental Representative | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| DEEWR Departmental Representative | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|---------|-----|
| DFAT Departmental Representative | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| DIAC Departmental Representative | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| DIISRTE Departmental Representative | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| DRALGAS Departmental Representative | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| DSEWPaC Departmental Representative | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 42.86 per cent female (not including ex officio or Parliamentary Observers).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Council for Australian-Arab Relations

A. Title: Council for Australian-Arab Relations.

Terms of appointment: Members are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs in consultation with the Minister for Trade and Investment.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for three years (Chair) and three years (members), with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Talal Yassine OAM | Chair | 1/07/2013 | 30/06/2016 |
| Dr Anne Aly | Member | 16/12/2012 | 15/12/2015 |
| Dr Glen Simpson | Member | 1/01/2014 | 31/12/2017 |
| Mr Roland Jabbour Esq. J.P | Member | 16/12/2012 | 15/12/2015 |
| Ms Aziza Abdel-Halim AM | Member | 16/12/2012 | 15/12/2015 |
| Hon Mark Vaile AO | Member | 25/11/2013 | 24/11/2016 |
| Ms Debra Counsell | Member | 25/11/2013 | 24/11/2016 |
| Mr Paul Robilliard | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Mr Grame Barty | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 42.86 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

To note: Two new members were appointed after 21 November as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------|------------|------------|
| Hon Mark Vaile AO | Member | 25/11/2013 | 24/11/2016 |
| Ms Debra Counsell | Member | 25/11/2013 | 24/11/2016 |

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR)

A. Title: Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR)

Terms of appointment: Members are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs in consultation with the Minister for Trade and Investment.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for three years (Chair and Members) with the possibility of re-appointment for a second part-time term of three years.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Mr Chris Gale | Chair | 17/08/2012 | 30/06/2015 |
| Mr Craig Foster | Member | 01/07/2010, reappointed 08/08/2013 | 30/06/2016 |
| Mr Tim McLennan | Member | 17/08/2012 | 30/06/2015 |
| Ms Robyn Archer AO | Member | 08/08/2013 | 30/06/2016 |
| Mr Christian Bennett | Member | 08/08/2013 | 30/06/2016 |
| Dr Anna Ciccarelli | Member | 08/08/2013 | 30/06/2016 |
| Ms Jane McKeon | Member | 08/08/2013 | 30/06/2016 |
| Mr Victor Perton | Member | 08/08/2013 | 30/06/2016 |
| Mr Grame Barty | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Ms Helen Cox | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Mr Paul Grigson | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Ms Di Weddell | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 37.50 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Editorial Advisory Board

A. Title: Editorial Advisory Board

Terms of appointment: Members are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 4 years (Chair) and 4 years (members), with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Kim Jones AM | Chair | 02/05/2012 | 30/06/2015 |
| Professor Ann Capling | Member | 02/05/2012 | 30/06/2015 |
| Professor Peter Edwards AM | Member | 02/05/2012 | 30/06/2015 |
| Mr Ian Hancock | Member | 02/05/2012 | 30/06/2015 |
| Professor Marilyn Lake | Member | 02/05/2012 | 30/06/2015 |
| Professor David Lowe | Member | 02/05/2012 | 30/06/2015 |
| Dr Leanne Piggott | Member | 02/05/2012 | 30/06/2015 |

B. Gender ratio: 42.86 per cent female.

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation

A. Title: Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

Terms of appointment: All appointments are made in accordance with the *Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act 1991*. All members of the Board, other than the Managing Director, are appointed by the Trade Minister.

Tenure of appointment: Apart from the government member, all appointments must be for a period of 3 years, with possible re-appointment for a second term, or third term if the member has been appointed at any time as Chair.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Andrew Hunter | Managing Director & CEO | 01/09/2013 | By Board decision |
| Mr Andrew Mohl | Chair | 09/12/2011 | 08/12/2014 |
| Ms Deena Shiff | Deputy Chair | 09/12/2011 | 08/12/2014 |
| Mr Bruce Brook | Member | 01/03/2013 | 29/02/2016 |
| Ms Annabelle Chaplain | Member | 01/08/2013 | 31/07/2016 |
| Mr David Evans | Member | 09/12/2011 | 08/12/2014 |
| Mr Nicholas Minogue | Member | 09/12/2011 | 08/12/2014 |
| Ms Jennifer Seabrook | Member | 05/04/2011 | 04/04/2014 |
| Mr Peter Varghese AO (DFAT Secretary) | Ex officio | 11/02/2013 | Ongoing |
| Ms Jan Adams (DFAT Deputy Secretary) | Ex officio | 07/05/2013 | Ongoing |

B. Gender ratio: 37.5 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tourism Australia Board

A. Tourism Australia Board.

Terms of appointment: Members are approved by Cabinet. Tourism Australia is governed by a Board of Directors who report to the Minister responsible for tourism.

Tenure of appointment: Members are appointed for three years with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Geoff Dixon | Chair | 1/7/2012 | 30/6/2015 |
| Ms Kate Lamont | Member | 1/7/2012 | 30/6/2015 |
| Ms Janet Whiting | Member | 1/7/2011 | 30/6/2014 |
| Ms Terri Janke | Member | 1/7/2011 | 30/6/2014 |
| Ms Sandra McPhee | Member | 1/7/2012 | 30/6/2015 |
| Mr Mark Stone | Member | 1/7/2013 | 30/6/2016 |
| Mr Didier Elzinga | Member | 1/7/2013 | 30/6/2016 |
| Mr Brett Godfrey | Member | 1/7/2013 | 30/6/2016 |

B. Gender ratio: 50 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tourism Quality Council of Australia

A. Tourism Quality Council of Australia

Terms of appointment: Members are appointed by the Minister responsible for tourism.

Tenure of appointment: Members are appointed for various terms with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Simon Currant | Chair | 1/5/2010 | 31/10/2013* |
| Mr Rolf Duelks | Member | 1/5/2010 | 31/10/2013* |
| Ms Lynne Hocking | Member | 2/11/2012 | 30/6/2014 |
| Mr Nicholas Hunt | Member | 2/11/2012 | 30/6/2014 |
| Mr John Hart | Member | 2/5/2013 | 30/6/2014 |
| Ms Robyn Hendry | Member | 2/5/2013 | 30/6/2014 |
| Mr Andrew Gavrielatos | Member | 1/2/2012 | 1/2/2014 |
| Mr Tony Mayel | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Mr Chris Stamford | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Mr Leigh Sorenson | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 28 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

*These appointments are under consideration by the Minister.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Tourism Research and Advisory Board

A. Tourism Research and Advisory Board

Terms of appointment: Members are appointed by the Minister responsible for tourism.

Tenure of appointment: Members are appointed for two years with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

| <i>(title, name, surname)</i> | <i>(position on board)</i> | <i>(date of appointment)</i> | <i>(end date of appointment)</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Peter Yuile | Ex Officio (Chair) | Ongoing | |
| Mr Ian Hill | Member | 2/2/2013 | 1/2/2015 |
| Mr Leigh Harry | Member | 2/2/2013 | 1/2/2015 |
| Ms Adele Labine-Romain | Member | 2/11/2011 | 1/11/2013 |
| Mr Daniel Gschwind | Member | 2/8/2013 | 1/8/2015 |
| Ms Dianne Smith | Member | 2/8/2013 | 1/8/2015 |
| Ms Karen Wales | Member | 2/7/2013 | 1/7/2015 |
| Dr Leo Jago | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Ms Nell Anderson | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Mr Ian Ewing | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |
| Dr Brent Ritchie | Ex officio | Ongoing | N/A |

B. Gender ratio: 50 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members between 7 September and 21 November 2013.

Note: Peter Yuile (Executive Director – Austrade) assumed the ex officio position of Chair following the election as a result of Machinery of Government changes.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 152

Program: DFAT

Topic: Stationery requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer

A. For the period 7 September to 30 December 2013, the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on stationery requirements (including paper) supplied by its contracted stationery supplier for portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries was \$7,311.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No.153

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?

a) Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel.

b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?

d) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?

a) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.

b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?

d) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?

a) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.

b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?

d) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. What publications does your department/agency purchase?

a) Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.

b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?

d) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer

1. TV subscriptions are decentralised and are managed and budgeted across 95 posts overseas and by seven state and territory offices, according to their varying requirements. Aggregating TV subscriptions and their costs across all DFAT offices, both overseas and in Australia, and including for the former AusAID 7 September to 31 October 2013, would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

In regard to TV subscriptions specifically for the R G Casey Building, the Department subscribes to Foxtel and Parliamentary television channels. The Foxtel subscription provides access to the following channels to enable monitoring of world events and news updates:

- BBC World News
- CNBC
- CNN
- Sky Business Channel
- Sky News
- Sky Weather Channel

Parliamentary channel subscriptions are used to monitor parliamentary proceedings.

This Foxtel subscription costs \$2,516.00 ex GST per month. The Parliamentary TV subscription costs \$6,810.69 ex GST Exclusive per annum. Therefore, for the period 07 September to 31 December 2013, the

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

respective costs for Foxtel and for Parliamentary TV for the R G Casey Building were \$9595.27 ex GST and ex GST \$2,164.49 ex GST.

Questions relating to pay TV subscriptions for portfolio Ministers and their offices should be directed to the Department of Finance.

2-4

Newspaper and magazine subscriptions and purchases of publications are decentralised and managed and budgeted by individual work units in Canberra, across 95 posts overseas and by seven state and territory offices, according to their varying requirements. Aggregating subscriptions and their costs across all DFAT offices, both overseas and in Australia, and including for the former AusAID 7 September to 31 October 2013, would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

Questions relating to newspapers, magazines and publications for portfolio Ministers and their offices should be directed to the Department of Finance.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 154

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Monitoring

Question in writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office from 7 September 2013 to date?

a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?

b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?

c) What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date?

2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date?

a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?

b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?

c) What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer

1. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade paid \$11,966.13 ex GST from 7 September to 31 December 2013 for media monitoring services used by the Foreign and Trade Ministers.

1A. iSentia

1B. The 2012-2013 budget to provide media monitoring services for the Foreign and Trade Ministers was \$123,000.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

1C. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade paid \$11,966.13 ex GST from 7 September to 31 December 2013 for media monitoring services used by the Foreign and Trade Ministers.

2. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade paid \$58,048.50 ex GST from 7 September to 31 December 2013 for media monitoring services used by the Department (Media Liaison Section, Parliamentary and Media Branch).

AusAID paid \$28,723.35 ex GST from 7 September to 31 October 2013 for media monitoring services used by AusAID.

2A iSentia

2B. The budget to provide media monitoring services for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for FY2012-2013 was \$240,000.

The budget to provide media monitoring services for AusAID for FY2012-2013 was \$203,250 (\$199,000 for the Media Unit, \$4,250 for the Australia Awards Office).

2C. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade paid \$58,048.50 ex GST from 7 September to 31 December 2013 for media monitoring services used by the Department (Media Liaison Section, Parliamentary and Media Branch).

AusAID paid \$28,723.35 ex GST from 7 September to 31 October 2013 for media monitoring services used by AusAID.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 155

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Training

Question in writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information from 7 September 2013 to date:

- a) Total spending on these services***
- b) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification***
- c) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
- d) The names of all service providers engaged***

2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:

- a) The name and nature of the service purchased***
- b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based***
- c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
- d) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
- e) The total amount spent on the service***
- f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:

a) The location used

b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion

c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)

d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

Answer

1A. From 7 September to 31 December 2013, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade spent \$6,000 ex GST on media training services.

From 7 September to 31 October 2013, AusAID had no expenditure on media training services.

1B/1C. One SES Band 2, One SES Band 1, Six Executive Level 2 and One Executive Level 1 officer. No study leave was required for this training.

1D. Laurie Wilson and Associates was engaged to deliver media training.

2A. The media training, titled 'SES Media Skills', is a day-long workshop.

2B. The training is delivered in both one-on-one and group based format, covering media theory and practical interview skills.

2C. One SES Band 2, One SES Band 1, Six Executive Level 2, One Executive Level 1 officer.

2D. Training provided totalled approximately 67.5 hours. 7.5 hours SES Band 1, 7.5 hours SES Band 2, 45 hours Executive Level 2 and 7.5 hours Executive Level 1.

2E. The total amount spent on the service is \$6,000 ex GST.

2F. The fees were charged as a complete package.

3. No external facilities were used.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 156

Program: DFAT

Topic: Communications and Media Staff

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:

By Department or agency:

A. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.

B. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location

C. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location

i. How many are graphic designers?

ii How many are media managers?

iii. How many organise events?

D. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios? If yes, why? When was it established? What is the set up cost? What is the ongoing cost? How many staff work there and what are their classifications?

Answer

A. There were 49 ongoing APS employees working in Australia performing communications, public relations, and media functions at 21 November 2013. A further eight ongoing APS employees working at overseas posts are principally concerned with communications and media activities.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

B. There were two non-ongoing APS employees engaged to perform communications, public relations, and media functions at 21 November 2013. Of these two employees, one was based in Canberra and one was based overseas.

C. There were four contractors at the APS4-6 level performing communications functions in the Information Management Division at 21 November 2013. These contractors do not perform media management, graphic design, or event management functions.

D. DFAT does not have an independent media studio.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 157

Program: DFAT

Topic: Provision of equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- A. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs.***
- B. For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date?***
- C. Is electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.***
- D. Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to whom it is provided.***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

A. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) provides mobile phones to Minister Bishop, Minister Robb, Parliamentary Secretary Mason and their staff. The phones are a mix of Blackberrys and iPhones.

As at 31st December 2013, the cost of purchasing each device is:

- Blackberry: \$431.82 ex GST
- iPhone: \$817.27 ex GST
- Nokia: \$63.63 ex GST

Ongoing costs vary depending on individual use patterns.

Disaggregating costs down to the individual office or individual would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

B. As at 31 December 2013, the total ongoing costs in 2013-14 for usage and rental of fixed voice lines, mobile phones, Blackberry, data communications and internet was \$150,494.

C. Yes, DFAT provides ICT equipment to departmental staff. The baseline ICT service package provided to DFAT staff consists of a desktop computer, monitor and desk phone. This is a standard offering to all staff and is not determined by classification.

Printers and multi-function devices (print, copy, scan and fax) are generally shared resources.

The provision of additional equipment such as mobile phones, Blackberrys, USB storage and laptops is determined by business need, typically related to specific job functions such as BlackBerry for travelling executives.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

| Device | Cost per device |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Standard desktop (pc plus monitor) | \$1,235.96 (Exclusive GST) |
| Desktop phone | \$331 (Exclusive GST) |
| Standard laptop | \$1595.30 (Exclusive GST) |
| Lightweight laptop | \$2151.80 (Exclusive GST) |
| iPad | \$795 (Exclusive GST) |
| iPhone | \$817.27 (Exclusive GST) |
| Lexmark printer | \$1195.95 (Exclusive GST) |
| Printer multi-function device | \$8270.85 (Exclusive GST) |
| BlackBerry | \$431.82 (Exclusive GST) |
| Nokia | \$63.63 (Exclusive GST) |
| USB 4G Modem | \$138.18 (Exclusive GST) |

Disaggregating ICT costs down to the individual staff and classification level would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

D. Yes, DFAT provides ICT equipment to Minister Bishop and her office, Minister Robb and his office as well as Parliamentary Secretary Mason and his office. The ICT equipment and cost of the devices has been listed in answer (C).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 158

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- A. *For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).***
- B. *For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***
- C. *What travel is planned for the rest of from 7 September 2013? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***
- D. *What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***
- E. *What is the policy for business class airfare tickets?***
- F. *Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.***
- G. *When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.***
- H. *Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?***

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Answer

A. Departmental officers are entitled to a travel allowance which covers food, beverages and incidentals. It is not possible to itemise separately the amounts spent on food, beverages, alcohol and incidentals for each staff member for each visit.

In some cases a staff member may have a 'nil' response for travel costs (eg if the staff member accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary on a Special Purpose Aircraft flight), for accommodation costs (eg if the staff member stayed at the Official Residence or privately) or for travel allowance (eg if the staff member attended functions where a meal was provided, then that staff member would not be paid travel allowance for that meal).

The class of travel to which departmental officers are entitled is based on whether the staff member is SES or non-SES. All staff travel business class for international flights over two hours in duration. In the case of a single-sector trip (not including check-in time) of less than two hours in duration the class of travel is economy class for non-SES staff. (Staff are not to accept offers from airlines to upgrade to first class, such as where over-booking has occurred, including if that means having to accept an economy class seat. On some sectors in the US and within Africa, some airlines maintain aircraft with only two classes of travel, nominally described as "first class" and "economy class". In these circumstances, where the class of travel is the equivalent of business class, such travel is allowable on the basis this is name-only and not reflective of service levels or ticketing cost.) Australian domestic travel that is part of an international journey will be of the same standard as the international component, wherever possible.

Details for the period 1 July 2013 to 1 January 2014 are as follows. The costs provided in this response are as at 8 January 2014. Some costs may still not have been finalised.

1. Ms Bishop travelled to the United States of America from 22 to 29 September 2013.

Ms Bishop was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to the United States of America. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------|
| (i) 18,827.80 | (ii) 3,730.28 | (iii) 1,264.75 | (iv) nil |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------|

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2. Ms Bishop travelled to Indonesia from 30 September to 1 October 2013.

Ms Bishop was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Indonesia. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| (i) 1,733.49 | (ii) nil | (iii) 45.00 | (iv) nil |
|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|

3. Ms Bishop travelled to New Zealand, Singapore and Indonesia from 2 to 5 October 2013.

Ms Bishop was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to New Zealand and Singapore and one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to New Zealand only. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff members is as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| (i) 7,661.59 | (ii) 187.18 | (iii) 50.00 | (iv) nil |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------|

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|----------|
| (i) 962.85 | (ii) 172.48 | (iii) nil | (iv) nil |
|------------|-------------|-----------|----------|

4. Ms Bishop travelled to Japan, Republic of Korea and China from 14 to 20 October 2013.

Ms Bishop was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Japan, Republic of Korea and China. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------|
| (i) 11,601.06 | (ii) 2,530.25 | (iii) 564.53 | (iv) nil |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------|

5. Ms Bishop travelled to Indonesia from 6 to 8 November 2013.

Ms Bishop was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Indonesia. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| (i) 6,128.76 | (ii) 402.94 | (iii) 229.47 | (iv) 45.00 visa |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|

6. Ms Bishop travelled to Sri Lanka, India and the United States of America from 12 to 24 November 2013.

Ms Bishop was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Sri Lanka, India and the United States of America and one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to India only. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff members is as follows:

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| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| (i) 21,801.53 | (ii) 5,052.31 | (iii) nil | (iv) 456.52 visa hospitality |
| (i) 12,873.00 | (ii) 1,936.08 | (iii) 433.91 | (iv) 60.00 visa |

7. Ms Bishop travelled to Indonesia, China and the Philippines from 4 to 9 December 2013.

Ms Bishop was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Indonesia, one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to China and one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to the Philippines. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff members is as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------|
| (i) 5,574.85 | (ii) nil | (iii) nil | (iv) nil |
| (i) 8,389.54 | (ii) 750.00 | (iii) 213.00 | (iv) nil |
| (i) 4,069.00 | (ii) 684.18 | (iii) 632.95 | (iv) nil |

8. Ms Bishop and Senator Mason travelled to Solomon Islands, Nauru and Vanuatu from 16 to 19 December 2013.

Ms Bishop and Senator Mason were accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Solomon Islands, Nauru and Vanuatu. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|--------------|----------|
| (i) nil | (ii) 814.00 | (iii) 345.00 | (iv) nil |
|---------|-------------|--------------|----------|

9. Mr Robb travelled to Indonesia from 30 September to 7 October 2013.

Mr Robb was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Indonesia. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| (i) 3,807.00 | (ii) 3,037.14 | (iii) 615.06 | (iv) 392.50 visas |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|

10. Mr Robb travelled to China from 22 to 26 October 2013.

Mr Robb was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to China. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------|
| (i) 8,171.51 | (ii) 1,650.16 | (iii) 750.22 | (iv) nil |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------|

11. Mr Robb travelled to the United States of America from 28 October to 2 November 2013.

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Mr Robb was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to the USA. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 11,860.63 (ii) 2,018.68 (iii) 852.66 (iv) 49.50 Visa

12. Mr Robb travelled to Korea, Japan and China from 14 to 22 November 2013.

Mr Robb was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Korea, Japan and China and one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Korea and Japan only. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff members are as follows:

(i) 11,916.46 (ii) 1,502.14 (iii) 488.94 (iv) 49.50 Visa

(i) 10,728.25 (ii) 1,542.31 (iii) 1,117.50 (iv) nil

12. Mr Robb travelled to the United States of America from 28 October to 2 November 2013.

Mr Robb was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to the USA. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 11,860.63 (ii) 2,018.68 (iii) 852.66 (iv) 49.50 Visa

13. Mr Robb travelled to Indonesia and Singapore from 1 to 11 December 2013.

Mr Robb was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Indonesia and Singapore. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 5,988.23 (ii) nil (iii) 548.32 (iv) nil

14. Senator Mason travelled to Vietnam from 17 to 20 October 2013.

Senator Mason was not accompanied by any Canberra-based DFAT staff to Vietnam.

15. Senator Mason travelled to Japan from 24 to 28 October 2013.

Senator Mason was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Japan. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

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(i) 11,144.01 (ii) 841.19 (iii) 1,528.47 (iv) nil

16. Senator Mason travelled to Pakistan and China from 4 to 9 November 2013.

Senator Mason was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Pakistan and one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to China. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 9,820.40 (ii) 933.75 (iii) 309.54 (iv) 45.00 Visa

(i) 4,906.86 (ii) 390.66 (iii) 289.48 (iv) 243.27 Visa

17. Senator Carr travelled to Singapore and Myanmar from 8 to 12 July 2013.

Senator Carr was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Singapore and Myanmar. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 5,008.35 (ii) 1,221.55 (iii) 316.76 (iv) 33.00 visa

18. Senator Carr travelled to Solomon Islands from 23 to 24 July 2013.

Senator Carr was not accompanied by any Canberra-based DFAT staff to Solomon Islands.

19. Senator Carr travelled to China from 25 July to 3 August 2013.

Senator Carr was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to China. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 8,476.77 (ii) 2,395.70 (iii) 1,217.61 (iv) nil

20. Senator Carr travelled to Indonesia from 19 to 21 August 2013.

Senator Carr was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Indonesia. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 5,389.11 (ii) 736.95 (iii) 97.82 (iv) nil

21. Senator Carr travelled to Russia from 31 August to 7 September 2013.

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Senator Carr was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Russia. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 10,615.18 (ii) nil (iii) 653.58 (iv) 49.50 visa

22. Mr Marles travelled to Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands from 14 to 18 July 2013.

Mr Marles was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Solomon Islands. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 220.02 (ii) 581.26 (iii) 276.10 (iv) nil

23. Mr Marles travelled to Papua New Guinea and China from 22 to 25 July 2013.

Mr Marles was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to China. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 10,527.15 (ii) 623.93 (iii) 81.48 (iv) nil

24. Senator Thistlethwaite travelled to Papua New Guinea from 7 to 9 July 2013.

Senator Thistlethwaite was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Papua New Guinea. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

(i) 5,414.41 (ii) 628.39 (iii) 513.20 (iv) nil

B. For this financial year (to 30 November 2013) the department has spent \$16.6 million from its Operating Budget, on travel. This figure includes airfares, accommodation, meals and incidentals and other expenses:

| F/Y | 2013-2014 FYTD |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Airfares | \$ 12.12m |
| Accommodation | \$ 2.26m |
| Travel Allow. | \$ 1.93m |
| Other | \$ 0.29m |
| Total Expenditure | \$ 16.6m |

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The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow all travel to be separately captured to provide a breakdown by airfare type and the reason for travel. To provide such details in this format would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

C – D. The department’s global responsibilities create a high demand for travel throughout the year, often at short notice. The department does not forecast travel plans or expenditure separately to general budget planning. To provide details of individual travel plans and reasons for travel would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

E. The department’s policy on business class travel is determined by whether the staff member is SES or Non-SES and whether travel is domestic or international.

| | SES class of travel | Non-SES class of travel |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Domestic Travel | <p>ECONOMY Canberra/Sydney or Canberra/Melbourne:</p> <p>BUSINESS Other destinations within Australia</p> | <p>ECONOMY All sectors under three hours</p> <p>BUSINESS All sectors over three hours</p> |
| International Travel | <p>BUSINESS</p> | <p>ECONOMY All sectors under two hours</p> <p>BUSINESS All sectors over two hours</p> |

Further information on departmental class of travel refer to answer A.

F. SES staff, as part of their conditions of service have a provision for one airline/club membership to be purchased at official expense. Wherever possible, SES staff are encouraged to pay for this membership with official frequent flyer points. Non SES staff are not eligible for membership at official expense of any airline’s Club Lounge.

The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow airline/club memberships to be separately captured to provide a breakdown. To provide details in this format would entail significant

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diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

G. No.

H. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 159

Program: DFAT

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. Could the department/agency provide an update list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants from 7 September 2013 to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants

B. Have all grant agreement details been published on its website

C. Please list all grants that were approved prior to 7 September 2013, but did not have financial contracts in place on 7 September 2013. Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. Please lists which grant applicants had been contacted advising of their success. Please provide the current status of these grants. Have any of these grants been cancelled, paused, discontinued or cut?

Answer

A. A list of the department's grants is publicly available on the department's website, including details of the grant recipient, amount, purpose and funding location.

B. The department has published on its website all grant agreement details that are required to be reported under the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines.

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C. We do not currently hold data relating to grants approved prior to 7 September 2013 that did not have a grant agreement in place on 7 September 2013. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No.160

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. From 7 September 2013 to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)?

B. If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached).

C. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?

D. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer

A. The 2013-14 statistics relating to payments to small business will be collated following the end of the financial year and provided to the Department of Industry in response to their yearly survey. To collate this data at this stage of the year will entail significant diversion of resources and in these circumstances I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

B. N/A

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C. Departmental practices accord with the requirements outlined in Finance Circular 2012/02 Procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business. The department is aware of late payment interest penalty being paid for the 2012-13 financial year of \$3,894.15 to small business across all supplier categories. The department is not aware of any late payment interest penalty paid in the current financial year.

D. The interest charge is calculated in accordance with the Finance Circular 2012/02 Procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business. The penalty interest rate is determined at the General Interest Charge (GIC) daily rate for the applicable quarter as detailed on the Australian Taxation Office website.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 161

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. How many consultancies have been undertaken from 7 September 2013 to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.

B. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer

A. Details of consultancy contracts valued at or over \$10,000 let in this period are available on AusTender – the Commonwealth’s procurement reporting system. When contracts are awarded, the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement are published on AusTender. To provide details of consultancy contracts awarded valued at less than \$10,000 would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

B. Details of planned open approaches to market (including consultancies), including subject matter, estimated date of approach to market, and proposed method of procurement are published in DFAT’s Annual Procurement Plan on the AusTender website. The potential cost of future procurements, and the name of any successful bidder would not be known until the approach to market had been completed. These details are published on AusTender after any contract is awarded.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 162

Program: DFAT

Topic: Meeting Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend from 7 September 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.

B. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

C. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

D. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

Answer

As financial information is not collected for meeting costs, and details of specific meetings are maintained on individual files across the department's domestic and overseas network, to provide the details as requested would entail a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 163

Program: DFAT

Topic: Hospitality

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for all events including any catering and drinks costs.

B. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

C. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend from 7 September 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

D. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

E. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

F. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

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G. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

H. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

I. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are they?

Answer

A. For the period 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013, the total amount spent by the department on hospitality and entertainment was \$1.189 million. The bulk of this (\$1.007m, 85%) was expenditure by Heads of Mission and other DFAT officers at overseas posts. All entertainment expenditure at overseas posts is fully acquitted. Details of specific hospitality and entertainment events are maintained on individual files across the department's domestic and overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

B. The department's expenditure on hospitality and entertainment for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office for the period 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013 is \$31,408.14.

Australia assumed the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Chair from India for the period 2013-15 on 1 November. IORA is the only ministerial-level pan-Indian Ocean organisation. As incoming Chair, Minister Bishop hosted the IORA Council of Ministers meeting in Perth. The IORA ministerial meeting engages ministers from Australia and 19 other member countries or their most senior representative. The Perth meeting saw the participation of 11 foreign ministers, 4 deputy ministers and 5 senior representatives.

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Details of hospitality events related to the Minister's chairing of the Indian Ocean Rim Association Ministerial Meeting (IORA) are as follows:

31 October – 2 November 2013, Perth

| Thursday 31 October | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Event</i> | Catering and Drink Costs Component | Total Cost |
| Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Ministerial Dinner | \$4,407.50* | \$13,099.14 |
| Friday 1 November | | |
| <i>Event</i> | Catering and Drink Costs | Total Cost |
| IORA Troika Breakfast | \$240.00 | \$240.00 |
| IORA Ministerial Lunch | \$2,375.00 | \$2,375.00 |
| IORA Ministerial Dinner | \$3,575.00 | \$4,455.00 * |
| Saturday 2 November | | |
| <i>Event</i> | Catering and Drink Costs | Total Cost |
| IORA Ministerial Meeting – Swan River Cruise and Lunch | \$3,669.00* | \$11,239.00 |
| Total Costs | | \$31,408.14 |

* Includes, where relevant, venue and equipment hire, and transport and entertainment costs.

C. Refer to A.

D. Refer to B.

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E. The department's planned hospitality and entertainment expenditure for 2013-14 is \$5.120 million. Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files primarily across the department's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

F. The department's projected expenditure on hospitality and entertainment for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office is nil.

G. Refer to E.

H. Refer to F.

I. The amount each work unit spends on hospitality and entertainment is determined by the work unit based on their particular business needs.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 164

Program: DFAT

Topic: Public Service Efficiencies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

B. Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

C. Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

D. Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much?

E. Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer

A. Yes. There has been a reduction of 11% in air travel spend financial year to date (to 30 November 2013) compared with the same period of the 2012/13 financial year. We expect this reduced level of expenditure to continue across the forward estimates.

B. Yes. Details of planned open procurements (including consultancies) are published in DFAT's Annual Procurement Plan on

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the AusTender website. A net reduction is expected but it is not possible to quantify at this stage.

C. The department moved recruitment advertising online from 1 July 2012 in accordance with the Department of Finance and Deregulation's 'Non-campaign Recruitment Advertising Policy' of June 2012. Recruitment advertisements are online only, except in rare instances where a particular print media is identified as the most appropriate means of attracting applicants with highly specialised skills. It is difficult to estimate savings over the forward estimates due to natural fluctuations in the volume and type of recruitment advertising conducted year to year.

D. Yes

E. DFAT has implemented the online release of departmental reports and publications. As printing falls under the responsibility of each individual area across DFAT's network both in Australia and overseas, quantifying exact savings would entail significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 165

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Office Security Classifications

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *What is the policy for ministerial staff security clearances?***
- 2. *How many staffers employed by the Government under the MOPS Act have security clearances?***
 - a. *At what level?***
 - b. *If not, why not?***
- 3. *How many seconded departmental officers acting in ministerial offices, including DLOs have security clearances?***
 - a. *At what level?***
 - b. *If not, why not?***

Answer

1. The Department of Finance manages the employment of Parliamentary staff under the Member of Parliament Staff (MOPS) Act, including their security clearances.
2. Refer to response above.
3. Currently there are 14 DFAT officers, including DLOs, seconded to Ministerial Offices, all of whom either hold, or are in the process of obtaining, a Negative Vetting Level 2 security clearance.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 166

Program: DFAT

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information from 7 September 2013 to date:

- 1. Total spending on these services*
- 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification*
- 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*

- 4. The names of all service providers engaged*

For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:

- a) The name and nature of the service purchased*
- b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based*
- c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification*
- d) The total number of hours involved for all employees*

(provide a breakdown for each employment classification)

- e) The total amount spent on the service*
- f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)*

- 5. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:*

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- a) The location used*
- b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
- c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
- d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.*

Answer

1. For the period 7 September 2013 to 31 December 2013, \$372,416 was spent on leadership training services and \$15,664 on executive coaching. Course fees in Australia and overseas ranged from \$770 to \$25,000.

These figures include costs of courses run by the former AusAID (integrated into DFAT from 1 November 2013).

2-3. A total of 92 leadership programs were undertaken and executive coaching arrangements entered into by 85 executive employees (EL1, EL2, SES) or equivalent overseas. No study leave was granted to employees who used these services (some staff have both completed leadership programs and accessed an executive coach).

4 a). Providers engaged for leadership and management training were Melbourne Business School; the Australian Public Service Commission; Centre for Public Management; the Australian Government School of Management; the National Security College; Said Business School Oxford University; the Australia and New Zealand School of Government; Jeff Whalen Learning Groups; and Centre for Executive Education University of California Berkley.

4 b). The providers engaged for executive coaching services were Focusworks; Amanda Horne Pty Ltd; Yellow Edge Pty Ltd; Dragonfly Consulting and Coaching; Sue Adams Coaching and Facilitation Services; Foresight Management Group; Right Management; Executive Central and Adept Career Moves. Executive coaching services were provided on a one-on-one basis whilst all leadership training programs were group based.

4 c) and d). Executive coaching and leadership training has totalled an estimated 1369 hours for all executive employees.

4 e) and f). The cost of executive coaching was spent on package fees as well as per hour fees.

5 a). External training locations that were used were: Melbourne Business School; Focusworks; the Australian Public Service Commission; Centre for Public Management; the Australian Government School of Management; the National Security College; the Australia and New Zealand School of

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Government; Said Business School Oxford University; the Jeff Whalen Learning Groups; and Centre for Executive Education University of California Berkley.

5 b) and c). A total of 72 executive employees were trained at external locations with an estimated 1401 hours of tuition.

5 d). The cost to utilise external premises in Canberra for the delivery of leadership training for DFAT executives was nil or included in the cost of the programs.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 167

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing reductions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from 7 September 2013 to date? What was the reason for these reductions?

B. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.

C. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.

D. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

E. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.

Answer

A. **Table One** details the number of staff separations from the integrated Department from 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013. There were 60 completions of non-ongoing employment contracts, 35 employee initiated separations, and zero voluntary redundancies in that period.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Table One: Staff reductions from 7 Sep to 30 Nov 2013

| Reason for Separation | Pre-Integrated Organisation | |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------|
| | AusAID | DFAT |
| Completion of non-ongoing employment contracts | 26 | 34 |
| Ongoing APS Staff retirements, resignations, and transfers to other APS Agency. | 21 | 14 |

B. There were no involuntary redundancies issued from 7 September 2013 to date.

C. It is anticipated that the integration of AusAID and DFAT will result in opportunities to remove duplication in areas and increase productivity through closer alignment of foreign affairs, trade, and aid policy.

In addition to the opportunities presented by the integration of the two organisations the reduction in growth of the Australian aid budget from \$8 billion per annum to \$5 billion per annum will result in a corresponding reduction of growth in the aid management workforce.

Staffing reduction targets have not been set at this stage of the integration but is envisaged that staffing levels will be reduced over time.

D. The integration of AusAID and DFAT provides opportunities to streamline corporate support functions and increase productivity through closer alignment of policy areas. It is anticipated that these opportunities will result in fewer staff being required at a Department level; however no targets have been established at this stage of the integration process.

E. Currently there are no plans to reduce staffing levels through involuntary redundancies.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 168

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing cessations

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date? What classification were these staff?

B. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date? What classification were these staff?

Answer

A. **Table One** details the number of ongoing staff separations by classification level between 7 September 2013 and 30 November 2013. A total of 35 ongoing APS staff left the now integrated Department in this period. Table One in QON 167 details the reason for staff separations from 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013.

Table One: Ongoing Staff Separations 7 Sep 2013 – 30 Nov 2013

| | Pre-Integration Organisation | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| | AusAID | DFAT |
| Graduate APS | 1 | 0 |
| APS1 | 0 | 0 |
| APS2 | 0 | 0 |
| APS3 | 0 | 1 |
| APS4 | 0 | 0 |
| APS5 | 4 | 1 |
| APS6 | 8 | 4 |
| EL1 | 4 | 4 |
| EL2 | 4 | 2 |
| SESB1 | 0 | 1 |
| SESB2 | 0 | 1 |
| SESB3 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 21 | 14 |

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B. **Table Two** details the number of non-ongoing staff separations by classification level between 7 September 2013 and 30 November 2013. A total of 60 non-ongoing APS staff left the now integrated Department in this period.

Table One: Non-Ongoing Staff Separations 7 Sep 2013 – 30 Nov 2013

| | Pre-Integration Organisation | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| | AusAID | DFAT |
| APS1 | 0 | 0 |
| APS2 | 0 | 0 |
| APS3 | 0 | 1 |
| APS4 | 4 | 6 |
| APS5 | 10 | 10 |
| APS6 | 6 | 5 |
| EL1 | 2 | 8 |
| EL2 | 4 | 2 |
| SESB1 | 0 | 1 |
| SESB2 | 0 | 1 |
| SESB3 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 26 | 34 |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 169

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing recruitment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- A. How many ongoing staff recruited from 7 September 2013 to date? What classification are these staff?**
- B. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created from 7 September 2013 to date? What classification are these staff?**
- C. From 7 September 2013 to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?**

Answer

A. **Table One** details the number of ongoing APS staff recruited from 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013 by classification level. A combined total of 23 ongoing APS staff have been recruited across the now integrated Department.

Table One: Ongoing APS Recruitment from 7 Sep 213

| | Pre-Integration Organisation | |
|-------|------------------------------|------|
| | AusAID | DFAT |
| APS1 | 0 | 0 |
| APS2 | 0 | 0 |
| APS3 | 0 | 0 |
| APS4 | 0 | 2 |
| APS5 | 3 | 3 |
| APS6 | 6 | 1 |
| EL1 | 0 | 6 |
| EL2 | 1 | 1 |
| SESB1 | 0 | 0 |
| SESB2 | 0 | 0 |
| SESB3 | 0 | 0 |

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B-C. **Table Two** details the number of new non-ongoing employment contracts commenced in the pre-integration AusAID organisation from 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013 and **Table Three** details the number of new non-ongoing employment contracts commenced in the pre-integration DFAT organisation from 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013. A combined total of 20 new non-ongoing APS staff commenced across the now integrated Department.

Table Two: Pre-Integration AusAID New Non Ongoing APS from 7 Sep 2013

| | New Non-Ongoing APS staff |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| APS1 | 0 |
| APS2 | 0 |
| APS3 | 2 |
| APS4 | 4 |
| APS5 | 5 |
| APS6 | 1 |
| EL1 | 1 |
| EL2 | 0 |
| SESB1 | 0 |
| SESB2 | 0 |
| SESB3 | 0 |

Table Three: Pre-Integration DFAT New Non Ongoing APS from 7 Sep 2013

| | New Non-Ongoing APS staff |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| APS1 | 0 |
| APS2 | 0 |
| APS3 | 0 |
| APS4 | 4 |
| APS5 | 0 |
| APS6 | 0 |
| EL1 | 2 |
| EL2 | 1 |
| SESB1 | 0 |
| SESB2 | 0 |
| SESB3 | 0 |

C. There were 374 contractors engaged by the pre-integration DFAT organisation on 7 September 2013. This number fell to 239 by 21 November 2013. Data on the average length of contract is not compiled by the Department.

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The pre-Integration AusAID organisation did not maintain a centralised reporting framework for the number of contractors it engaged. Work is underway to collect contractor data in the integrated organisation and further detail will be available at a later time.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 170

Program: DFAT

Topic: Coffee Machines

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage since 7 September 2013?

A (i) If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased?

B. Why were coffee machines purchased?

C. Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?

D. Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?

E. Who has access?

F. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance from 7 September 2013 to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?

G. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?

H. Does the department/agency rent coffee machines for staff usage?

H (i) If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.

I. Why are coffee machines rented?

J. Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were rented? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?

K. Where does the funding for the coffee machines come from?

L. Who has access?

M. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in from 7 September 2013 to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?

N. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?

Answer

It is not departmental practice to purchase or rent coffee machines for staff.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 171

Program: DFAT

Topic: Printing Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed from 7 September 2013 to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?

Answer

As printing falls under the responsibility of each individual area in the Department, to provide details of all documents and quantities printed would entail significant diversion of resources, and in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

The Department's website contains further information on DFAT publications.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 172

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate Cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- A. How many cars are owned by each department/agency?***
- B. Where is the car/s located?***
- C. What is the car/s used for?***
- D. What is the cost of each car from 7 September 2013 to date?***
- E. How far did each car travel from 7 September 2013 to date?***

Answer

- A. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade owns 595 cars, which includes fleet vehicles overseas.
- B. The vehicles owned by DFAT are dispersed across our posts overseas.
- C. DFAT maintains vehicle fleets at its overseas posts to facilitate post operations and to meet the everyday official transport needs of the post. Vehicles are provided to facilitate effective discharge of the mission's operational requirements.
- D. Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across DFAT's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.
- E. Details of car mileage are maintained on individual files across DFAT's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 173

Program: DFAT

Topic: Taxi Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from 7 September 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.

B. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer

A. Information on DFAT expenditure on taxis is not separately recorded. It would entail significant diversion of resources to collate this expenditure and to break it down into business groups. In the circumstances, I do not consider that additional work can be justified.

B. Taxis are utilised by officers within Australia and overseas in undertaking official business and executing operational requirements.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 174

Program: DFAT

Topic: Hire Cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. How much did the department/agency spend on hire cars from 7 September 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.

B. What are the reasons for hire car costs?

Answer

A. For the period 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013 the department spent \$74,824, on car hire. The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow for the breakdown of hire car costs for each business group. To provide details in this format would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

B. Car hire is undertaken by officers within Australia and overseas in undertaking official business and executing operational requirements.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 175

Program: DFAT

Topic: Credit Cards

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.

B. Please update details of the following:

(i) What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?

(ii) How is corporate credit card use monitored?

(iii) What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?

(iv) Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.

(v) What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?

Answer

A. As of 30 November 2013 1517 officers had an Australian corporate credit card. Information on the number of officers issued with credit cards overseas is not maintained centrally. To provide information on the employment classification of corporate credit card holders would entail a significant diversion of resources. In these circumstances I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

B(i). If a criminal offence is identified, the department will seek prosecution through the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. The department will also take action under the APS Code of Conduct.

B(ii). Monthly card statements are reconciled and independently checked and reviewed. A representative sample of card statements for Australian issued cards is also checked by the central card management area to ensure compliance with departmental policy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

B(iii) The matter is referred to the department's Conduct and Ethics Unit for investigation. If a criminal offence is identified, the department will seek prosecution through the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. The department will also take action under the APS Code of Conduct.

B(iv). In 2012-13, there were five instances of corporate credit card misuse. In each case the officer inadvertently used their DFAT credit card for a private purchase. Upon discovery of the unintentional use the card manager was advised and the officers repaid the amount immediately. The officers were counselled.

B(v). Cardholders are required to sign an agreement that sets out the conditions of use of the credit card, including the need to safeguard the card and card number and to provide supporting documentation to substantiate transactions. Monthly card statements are reconciled and independently checked and reviewed. A representative sample of card statements is also checked by the central card management area to ensure compliance with departmental policy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 176

Program: DFAT

Topic: Electricity Purchasing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

A. What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement?

B. What are the department/agency electricity costs from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer

- A. The department is a party to the Whole of Government electricity contract for government agencies based in the ACT. The contract is with ERM Power Retail Pty Ltd and was signed in May 2011 for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2015. State, Territory and Passport Offices, located outside of the ACT and occupying leased premises, are not covered by the Whole of Government contract but pay electricity charges through the building owners or direct to local suppliers.
- B. Domestic electricity costs for the period from 7 September to 31 December 2013 were \$908,078 (incurred and accrued; pro-rated for month of September) for all DFAT locations in Australia (including former AusAID locations).

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 177

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Briefing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Does the department provide a regular briefing to the Minister on the activities of the department and/or any upcoming issues and/or any upcoming matters to come before the Minister? In what form does that occur? On what basis is that provided? What title is this briefing given?

Answer

The following regular briefings are provided by DFAT to its Ministers:

| Title of briefing | Subject(s) of briefing | Form of briefing | Basis/Timing |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Meeting between Minister for Foreign Affairs and DFAT Senior Executive | Range of departmental policy and corporate issues | Verbal | Weekly, depending on Minister's availability |
| Meeting between Minister for Trade and Investment and DFAT Senior Officials | Range of departmental trade and economic policy issues | Verbal | Depending on Minister's availability |
| UN Security Council Expected Program of Work | UNSC program of work for the following week | Document emailed and cabled | Weekly |
| Ministerial | Departmental activities | Document | Monthly |

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| | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Commitments Report | to implement foreign and trade policy commitments made by Ministers and the Parliamentary Secretary | emailed | |
| Forecast of Significant Events | Portfolio-related events likely to attract significant public interest or media attention in the upcoming eight-week period | Document emailed | Weekly |
| AusAID-DFAT Integration updates/progress reports | Machinery of government changes announced on 18 September 2013 to integrate AusAID and DFAT | Ministerial Submission | Five progress reports since October. |

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 178

Program: DFAT

Topic: Departmental senate estimates briefing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1) How many officers were responsible for preparing the Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?*
- 2) How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?*
 - a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification*
- 3) Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates?*
 - a. If so, when did this occur?*
 - b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office?*
- 4) Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information?*
 - a. If so, when did this occur?*
 - b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.*
 - c. When were the changes made?*

Answer

- 1) No briefing pack was prepared for the Minister. Briefing material was prepared for the Acting Secretary for the Senate Estimates hearings. A copy of the Acting Secretary's briefing was provided to the Minister who represented the Minister for Foreign Affairs at the hearing, Senator the Hon George Brandis QC and the Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Investment, Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann.
- 2) N/A.

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- 3) In the days preceding the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing, briefing prepared for the Acting Secretary, DFAT, was provided to the Minister who represented the Minister for Foreign Affairs at the hearing, Senator the Hon George Brandis QC and to the Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Investment, Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann.

- 4) No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 179

Program: DFAT

Topic: Freedom of Information

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question:

- 1. Can the department please outline the process it undergoes to assess Freedom of Information requests?**
- 2. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when it receives Freedom of Information requests?**
 - a. If so, when?**
 - b. If so, how does this occur?**
- 3. Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests?**
 - a. If so, which departments or agencies?**
 - b. If so, when?**
 - c. If so, how does this occur?**
- 4. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when or before it makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request?**
 - a. If so, when?**
 - b. If so, how does this occur?**
- 5. Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when or before it makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request?**
 - a. If so, which departments or agencies?**
 - b. If so, when?**
 - c. If so, how does this occur?**
- 6. What resources does the department commit to its Freedom of Information team?**
- 7. List the staffing resources by APS level assigned solely to Freedom of Information requests**
- 8. List the staffing resources by APS level assigned indirectly to Freedom of Information requests**
- 9. Does the department ever second additional resources to processing Freedom of Information requests?**
 - a. If so, please detail those resources by APS level**
- 10. How many officers are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the department?**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

How does this differ to the number of officers designated as at 6 September 2013?

11. How many officers are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Minister's office?

a. How does this differ to the number of officers designated as at 6 September 2013?

12. Of the officers that are designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Ministers office, how many are seconded officers from the department?

13. What training does the department provide to designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act who work within the department?

- a. Of the officers designated as decision makers within the department, how many have received formal training?**
- b. Of the officers designated as decision makers within the department, how many have received informal training?**
- c. How long after each officers appointment as a designated decision maker did they receive formal training?**
- d. What did the training involve?**
- e. How long was the training?**
- f. By whom was the training conducted?**

14. What training does the department provide to designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act who work within the Minister's office, excluding those officers on secondment from the department?

- a. Of the officers designated as decision makers, how many have received formal training?**
- b. Of the officers designated as decision makers, how many have received informal training?**
- c. How long after each officers appointment as a designated decision maker did they receive formal training?**
- d. What did the training involve?**
- e. How long was the training?**
- f. By whom was the training conducted?**

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Answer

1. FOI requests are processed by the FOI & Privacy Law Section (FPL) in the Department. Where requests are unclear, officers from FPL liaise with applicants to clarify the scope of their requests.

- . Decisions on FOI requests are made by senior executive service decision-makers from the substantive line areas with the exception of requests by consular and passport clients for their own information, which are decided by Directors in the Consular Branch and the Australian Passports Office.
 - . The department seeks to release all material which can legally be released under the FOI Act within the statutory time frames.
 - . When making decisions on FOI requests, a key statutory obligation for this portfolio is to ensure there is no release of material that would or could reasonably be expected to cause damage to Australia's international relations.
 - . The Department charges for processing FOI requests in line with the FOI Charges Regulations.
 - . We publish on the Department's disclosure log as required by the FOI Act.
2. The Minister is informed by Ministerial submission of those FOI cases considered sensitive and likely to attract media interest. The Minister plays no role in the decision-making process.

3. In line with FOI legislation the department consults as necessary with other departments or agencies where (a) the subject matter of the request is closely connected to the functions of another department or agency or (b) where relevant material identified within the department has been generated by another department or agency.

4. In those instances where the Minister is informed of the Department's decision, the advice is given after the access decision has been made but prior to the release of documentation to the applicant.

5. Yes – see response to 3 above. Where departments and agencies are involved in the assessment and clearance of material relevant to a particular request, the release of material is only made once the consultative process has been finalised. We may at times inform departments we have consulted on an imminent release date.

6. The department combines its FOI and privacy legislation responsibilities in the one section. The combined section is supervised by a Director and has the equivalent of 8 full time staff. Decision-making responsibilities are shared by SES officers in line areas responsible for the subject matter captured by a particular request.

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7. 1xEL2; 5xAPS6/EL1; 2xAPS4/5.

8. Processing an FOI request involves staff at various levels across the department both in Canberra and overseas in the identification, provision and assessment of relevant material, handling of charges payments, and decision making responsibilities.

9. The department employs former departmental SES officers on contract as decision-makers on an as needs basis for complex and voluminous requests.

10. All Departmental officers designated SES Band 1 in Canberra, two Directors in the department's Consular Branch, two Directors in the Australian Passport Office and Director of the FOI & Privacy Law Section are currently designated as decision makers. All officers designated SES Band 2 and above (approx.25) are designated internal review decision-makers.

11. At present, the Ministers are the only decision-makers in their respective offices. Previous to 6 September the former Foreign Minister had designated one SES level decision-maker in his office in addition to the Minister himself.

12. N/A.

13. Decision –makers responsible for deciding on the release of documents to an applicant are provided, prior to undertaking their DM responsibilities in respect of a particular case, with a personal preliminary briefing by officers of the FPL section. In addition and under cover of an instruction Minute, they are also provided a copy of the FOI Act, the Department's guidelines for decision-makers (<http://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/foi-guidelines.html>) and a summary of the exemptions in the FOI Act and factors to be considered in determining whether release of the material is in the public interest prepared by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC), established under the Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010, and issued to all agencies governed by the Freedom of Information Act 1982 with respect to responding to FOI requests. [This advice is available at [http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/guidelines.html#foi_guidelines.](http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/guidelines.html#foi_guidelines)] From time to time, this advice is updated. The online version represents the most up-to-date version of the advice.

The Department issued an administrative circular to all staff on 11 November 2013 entitled '*Freedom of Information – Responsibilities for management and processing of FOI requests*' which provides a general overview of FOI and associated processes.

In addition detailed information on the FOI process including statutory timeframes, the document search and retrieval process, decision-making

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and appeals processes, can be found in the Legal Handbook:

http://dfatintranet.titan.satin.lo/Pages/Legal-Handbook-chapter7.aspx#_toc318474451

Officers of the FPL section have received formal training at various training modules and practitioner forums organised by the Australian Government Solicitor. These officers are responsible for providing advice, guidance and opinion to decision-makers prior to and in the course of their deliberations of material to ensure the quality of the decision-making process. The Director FPL also gives a regular FOI presentation to officers of the department involved in processing FOI requests.

- a. We do not maintain records of this.
- b. All
- c. N/A
- d-f. See above comments

14. There are no designated decision-makers within the Ministers' offices, other than the Ministers themselves.

Staff of the Ministers' offices have recently been provided with an oral briefing and relevant documentary guidance on the FOI obligations of their offices.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 180

Program: DFAT

Topic: Functions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1) Provide a list of all formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the Minister. Include:

- a) The guest list of each function**
- b) The party or individual who initiated the request for the function**
- c) The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function**
- d) A list of drinks consumed at the function**

2) Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order in the Minister's office

Answer

1) See answer to Question 163. Generally, details of specific hospitality and entertainment events are maintained on individual files across the department's domestic and overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources.

2) The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not maintain a stock of alcoholic beverages in the Minister's office. No alcohol is on order.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 181

Program: DFAT

Topic: Red tape reduction

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- A. *Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?.***
- B. *What is the progress of that red tape reduction target?***
- C. *How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?***
- D. *How have they been recruited?***
- E. *What process was used for their appointment?***
- F. *What is the total cost of this unit?***
- G. *Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?***
- H. *Please list the security classification and date the classification was issued for each officer, broken down by APS or SES level, in the red tape reduction unit or similar body.***

Answer

- A.** The portfolio has established its Deregulation Unit.
- B.** The Government is currently considering arrangements for the implementation of the deregulation agenda.
- C.** The portfolio has established its Deregulation Unit. Resourcing for the unit, including staffing levels and classifications, will vary from time to time depending on the volume and nature of the material the unit is required to action.
- D.** The Deregulation Unit is staffed by existing permanent APS officers. No new recruitment activity will be undertaken.

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E. Staff have taken on responsibilities relating to deregulation as part of their normal duties.

F. All costs associated with the deregulation work will be absorbed within normal departmental resourcing.

G. Yes.

H. Resourcing for the unit, including staffing levels and classifications, will vary from time to time. All permanent DFAT officers have at least a Secret security clearance.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 182

Program: DFAT

Topic: United Nations

Question in Writing

Senator Xenophon

Question

Regarding the eight new resolutions concerning the Palestinians at the UN Special Political and Decolonisation Committee (Fourth Committee):

- A. What were the Resolutions?*
- B. How did Australia vote on each? (For, Against, Abstain)?*
- C. How did the majority of states at the UN vote?*
- D. What were Australia's reasons for voting as we did?*
- E. How did Australia's votes differ to previous votes on the same issues under previous governments?*
- F. If any of the votes were different, what factors changed our voting decision?*

Answer

A/B. During the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly Fourth Committee meeting, nine Middle East resolutions were voted on, none of which were new:

| Resolution | How Australia voted |
|--|----------------------------|
| The occupied Syrian Golan | In favour |
| Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem | Against |
| Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the | Abstained |

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| | |
|---|-----------|
| occupied Syrian Golan | |
| Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other Occupied Arab Territories | Abstained |
| Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories | Against |
| Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues | In favour |
| Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East | In favour |
| Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities | In favour |
| Assistance to Palestine Refugees | In favour |

C. The majority of states voted in favour of each of the nine Middle East resolutions that were adopted by a recorded vote.

D. Australia's voting in the UN on Israel/Palestinian matters reflects our strong support for resumed final status negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, aimed at reaching a just and lasting two-state solution, with Israel and a Palestinian state living side by side in peace and security within internationally-recognised borders. Australia considers each Middle East-related resolution on a case-by-case basis, and on its merits.

E. Australia's voting in the 68th session of the UN General Assembly's Fourth Committee differed to its voting under the previous Government on two Middle East resolutions: 'Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory' and 'Applicability of the Geneva Convention to the Occupied Palestinian Territory', by moving from 'support' to 'abstain'.

F. Australia's shift from 'support' to 'abstain' on two Middle East resolutions in the UN General Assembly's Fourth Committee reflected the Government's concern that Middle East resolutions should be balanced, and its concern not to pre-judge the outcome of final status negotiations between the two sides.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 183

Program: DFAT – APO

Topic: Passports

Question in Writing

Senator Wright

Question

In August this year, it was reported that a Vietnam veteran had been denied a passport, because his naturalisation certificate had been visibly altered in order to enable his enlistment in the Defence Force when underage.

If the Department is aware of any similar cases, please provide details.

Answer

DFAT is not aware of any similar cases.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 184

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement

Question in Writing

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

1. Has DFAT conducted any consultations with the Australian agriculture industry group regarding the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures section of the Trans Pacific Partnership?

2. Has DFAT conducted any consultations with the Australian nursery industry group regarding the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures section of the Trans Pacific Partnership?

3. Has DFAT conducted any consultation with the following units of the Department of Agriculture regarding the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures section of the Trans Pacific Partnership?:

- a. Australian Chief Plant Protection Office***
- b. Australian Chief Veterinary Office***
- c. Biosecurity Animal***
- d. Biosecurity Plant***
- e. Biosecurity Policy***

4. Has DFAT conducted consultation with any state government biosecurity agencies regarding the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures section of the Trans Pacific Partnership?

5. Will changes to Australia's biosecurity and quarantine legislative and policy framework be required following Australia signing the Trans Pacific Partnership?

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

- 6. Will signing the Trans Pacific Partnership affect Australian producers and exporters ability to maintain Country of Origin labelling?**
- 7. Is DFAT consulted with agriculture industry groups in regard to ensuring that agricultural producers/exporters can maintain brand/country of origin/region of origin distinctions?**
- 8. Will signing the TPP affect agricultural producers/exporters ability to maintain brand/country of origin/region of origin distinctions to maintain our unique status as a supplier of high quality?**
- 9. Has the Australian government consulted with any state governments in regards to Investor-State Dispute Settlement within the TPP and how it might impact on their legislative sovereignty?**
- 10. Has the Australian government consulted with Australian Local Government Association in regards to Investor-State Dispute Settlement mechanisms within the TPP and how it might impact on their ability to make and enforce by-laws?**
- 11. Has the DFAT consulted with companies in Australia in regards to how changes to Geographical Indications rules may affect their business?**
- 12. Is DFAT negotiating on ISDS clauses in relation to disputes over domestic environmental policies?**
- 13. Is DFAT negotiating on ISDS clauses in relation to disputes over domestic agricultural policies?**
- 14. Is DFAT negotiating on ISDS clauses in relation to disputes over quarantine or biosecurity policies?**
- 15. Has DFAT carried out or commissioned any cost-benefit analysis in regards to the TPP?**
- 16. Has DFAT consulted with Productivity Commission regarding the costs and benefits of the TPP?**
- 17. Has DFAT consulted with Treasury regarding the costs and benefits of the TPP?**
- 18. Has DFAT consulted with the Pharmacy Sector in relation to the competition chapter of the TPP?**
- 19. Is DFAT aware that the US negotiators have supplied chapter summaries or working texts of the draft TPPA to over 600 US-based interest groups or corporations?**
- 20. Has the Australian government supplied chapter summaries or working texts of the draft TPPA to Australian interest groups or corporations?**

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

21. Have other countries requested that Australia's FIRB thresholds be considered as part of the TPP negotiations?

Answer

1. Yes

2. DFAT has consulted a range of Australian agricultural industry groups regarding the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) chapter, including Horticulture Australia which includes the nursery industry.

3. DFAT and the Department of Agriculture have worked closely together on the negotiation of the TPP SPS chapter; including attendance by Department of Agriculture staff at most negotiations. The Department of Agriculture area responsible for the negotiation consults internally, including with the units mentioned, to develop a Departmental position to bring to the negotiations.

4. As SPS policy is a federal responsibility, DFAT has not directly consulted with state biosecurity agencies.

5. No.

6. No.

7. DFAT has consulted with agricultural industry groups regarding the protection of brand and other distinctions in TPP markets.

8. No.

9. Yes.

10. No.

11. Yes.

12. At the TPP Ministerial Meeting in Singapore in December 2013 the Minister for Trade and Investment, the Hon Andrew Robb AO MP, indicated that Australia would be prepared to consider Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions in the TPP subject to certain outcomes in the negotiations. DFAT has not engaged in substantive negotiations on ISDS since that announcement.

13. See response to Question 185(12).

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

14. See response to Question 185(12).

15. Australia's decision to join the TPP negotiations was based on a range of studies, including an analysis by DFAT on the potential benefits of participating in the TPP.

16. No.

17. Consultations with The Treasury are ongoing.

18. Yes.

19. No.

20. No.

21. Yes.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 185

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arctic Sunrise Case

Question in Writing

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

Can DFAT please elaborate on what diplomatic support has been provided by other nations in support of their own citizens caught up in the Arctic 30 case?

Answer

Affected governments made their own judgements about what level of diplomatic engagement was in the best interests of their citizens. Representations to Russia by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Chancellor of Germany have been the subject of media coverage. Affected Embassies in Moscow met regularly to coordinate consular approaches and the Australian Embassy was among a small group of Embassies to make representations to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on matters of common interest to all governments. In the course of these meetings, there was some discussion, in-confidence, of representations other affected governments had made at the Ministerial and senior officials levels, of the kind undertaken by the Australian Government. Despite the strong cooperation among Embassies in Moscow, Australian officials were not, and would not have been expected to be, privy to all the bilateral diplomatic representations made by other governments to the Russian Government.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 186

Program: DFAT / ASNO

**Topic: Australia-India Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement
Negotiations**

Question in Writing

Senator Marshall

Question

1a. Please provide an update on the status of negotiations with India regarding nuclear trade.

1b. What has been achieved in the negotiations so far?

1c. When do you expect the negotiations will be concluded?

2. Will all nuclear facilities in India be subject to “comprehensive safeguards”? If not, why not?

3. Is the government confident that the proposed sale of uranium to India will comply with Australia’s obligations under the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty?

4a. What legal advice has the government obtained in relation to the proposed nuclear agreement with India?

4b. On which dates and by whom has legal advice been sought and received?

4c. In the event that multiple pieces of legal advice have been provided or sought, what were the reasons for this?

4d. In the event that multiple pieces of legal advice have been provided or sought, did these pieces of legal advice conflict with each other? If so, in what ways did the advice differ?

4e. Can you provide copies of all advice sought and received on the issue of uranium exports to India including but not limited to, advice provided by the Attorney-General’s Department and Office of International Law, DFAT, the Solicitor-General, and the Australian Government Solicitor?

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

4f. Does the government consider India to be a “nuclear-weapon state” or “non-nuclear-weapon state” for the purposes of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty?

4g. Does “nuclear-weapon state” have the same meaning as it does under the Non-Proliferation Treaty?

5a. Does the government believe that a minimum standard of safeguards should apply to uranium exports to India?

5b. Does the government believe “comprehensive safeguards” apply as a minimum?

5c. Does the government believe that a lesser standard of safeguards should apply? If so, what standard of safeguards does the government believe should apply as a minimum?

6. Is the government of the belief that India’s ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty should be a pre-condition for nuclear trade? If not, why not?

7. Is the government concerned by reports that India is increasing the number of nuclear weapons in its arsenal?

8. Is the government concerned by reports that India is developing new delivery vehicles (submarines and missiles) for its nuclear weapons?

9a. Given India’s history of diverting nuclear material designated for civil purposes to weapons programs, how will Australia ensure that Australian uranium is not used in military programs?

9b. Will any Australian personnel physically inspect Indian facilities to guarantee non-diversion?

10. Is the government concerned that the export of Australian uranium to India will free up India’s domestic reserves of uranium for weapons production?

Answer

1. Australia and India have undertaken three rounds of negotiations, the most recent of which was held on 26-27 November 2013 in New Delhi. There will be a fourth round of negotiations in Canberra in February 2014. Negotiations between Australian and Indian officials have been professional and constructive; however, there is no set deadline for conclusion. Similar

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negotiations have taken two or more years. The precise details of an agreement are a matter for negotiation.

2. No. India is not a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and a different International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards model applies.

3. Any exports of Australian uranium to India would comply with Australia's international legal obligations.

4. The Government has received legal advice from the Australian Government Solicitor, the Attorney-General's Department, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Solicitor-General. The advices addressed different legal questions. The advices were obtained to inform the Government's approach to the negotiations. The content of the legal advices is confidential. It would be prejudicial to the ongoing negotiations for the advices to be disclosed.

5. Australia requires that appropriate safeguards be in place for any exports of Australian uranium, to any country, in order to provide confidence that such uranium is used solely for peaceful purposes.

The Government considers that India's civilian nuclear facilities should be placed under IAEA safeguards in perpetuity, as India has committed to do. Australian uranium would only be exported for use in safeguarded facilities.

6. The international framework under which Australia and others are developing nuclear cooperation with India is based on a decision in 2008 of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) to grant India an exemption from certain NSG guidelines that had restricted nuclear trade with it. The NSG exemption was based on several non-proliferation commitments India made, including continuing its nuclear test moratorium.

CTBT ratification is an important objective of Australia's nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament policy, but has never been a condition for the supply of Australian uranium, which is subject to other strict safeguards measures and requirements. That said, Australia has and will continue to urge India and other countries yet to do so, to sign and ratify the CTBT.

7 -8. Australia has long given high priority to taking forward nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament efforts with the aim of achieving a world without nuclear weapons. Australia and other countries see nuclear

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

cooperation with India and support for India's membership of the NSG as bringing India further into the international nuclear non-proliferation mainstream. Australia and India have agreed to commence a regular dialogue on disarmament and non-proliferation issues.

9. The Government is confident that it will be able to conclude an agreement that meets Australian requirements. Exports could only commence after the Government is satisfied Australia's safeguards and other requirements, including IAEA safeguards, are met.

The details of IAEA safeguards that would apply to Australian uranium are set out in the 2009 agreement between India and the IAEA and in the Additional Protocol to that agreement. Australian uranium will also be subject to the safeguards and accountability measures agreed as part of an Australia-India civil nuclear cooperation agreement.

10. India already imports uranium from other countries and has sufficient indigenous resources of uranium for its military needs.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 187

Program: DFAT

Topic: United Nations

Question in Writing

Senator Madigan

Question

In relation to Australia's involvement at the UN's Special Political and Decolonisation Committee, I have just a couple of questions regarding our conduct there.

- A. What were the Resolutions that we vote on?*
- B. How did we vote on each?*
- C. How did the majority of the other states at the UN vote?*
- D. What were the considerations given in determining the way we voted?*
- E. Have we been voting differently under our current government in comparison to the two previous ALP Governments?*
- F. If so, why?*

Answer

A/B. During the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Fourth Committee meeting, 14 draft resolutions were adopted by recorded voted:

| Resolution | How Australia voted |
|--|----------------------------|
| The occupied Syrian Golan | In favour |
| Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem | Against |
| Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the | Abstained |

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| | |
|---|-----------|
| occupied Syrian Golan | |
| Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other Occupied Arab Territories | Abstained |
| Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories | Against |
| Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues | In favour |
| Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East | In favour |
| Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities | In favour |
| Assistance to Palestine Refugees | In favour |
| Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples | In favour |
| Dissemination on information on decolonization | In favour |
| Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations | In favour |
| Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories | In favour |
| Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations | In favour |

C. The majority of states voted in favour of all 14 draft resolutions that were adopted by recorded vote in the UNGA Fourth Committee.

D. Australia's voting in the UN on Israel/Palestinian matters reflects our strong support for resumed final status negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, aimed at reaching a just and lasting two-state solution, with Israel and a Palestinian state living side by side in peace and security within

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

internationally-recognised borders. Australia considers each Middle East-related resolution on a case-by-case basis, and on its merits.

E. Australia's voting in the 68th session of the UN General Assembly's Fourth Committee differed to its voting under the previous Government on two resolutions only: 'Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory' and 'Applicability of the Geneva Convention to the Occupied Palestinian Territory', by moving from 'support' to 'abstain'.

Australia's voting on the five contested decolonisation resolutions was consistent with past practice under both ALP and LNP governments.

F. Australia's shift from 'support' to 'abstain' on two Middle East resolutions in the UN General Assembly reflected the Government's concern that Middle East resolutions should be balanced, and its concern not to pre-judge the outcome of final status negotiations between the two sides.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 188

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia

Question in Writing

Senator Madigan

Question

As a follow up to questions asked of AusAID at the previous Senate Estimates – how does DFAT define “East Indonesia”? Approximately from what area does it begin?

Answer

While there is no official definition of “East Indonesia” or “Eastern Indonesia”, DFAT considers this area to include those provinces to the east of Kalimantan and Bali, including the provinces on islands from Sulawesi, Lombok, Sumbawa, Sumba, Flores, West Timor, to Maluku and Papua.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 189

Program: DFAT

Topic: Papua New Guinea Purari Hydroelectricity

Question in Writing

Senator Macdonald

Question

Question on Notice 57 from Budget Estimates in May 2013 asked the Department to clarify its knowledge of arrangements in PNG for the Purari Hydroelectricity project.

In answer to Question on Notice 57 from Budget Estimates in May 2013 the Department indicated that:

- *A memorandum of agreement was signed between the PNG and Queensland Governments in 2010 to support the Purari project at Wabo;*
- *A memorandum of agreement was signed between the PNG and Queensland Governments in 2013 to foster business, industry, law and order, health, infrastructure and public service “capacity-building”; and,*
- *The Department is monitoring the Purari project due to its economic and strategic implications for Australia.*
- *Has the Department continued to monitor the Purari project’s development?*
- *What has the department done to assist the development of this project?*

Answer

1. Yes
2. The Memorandum of Cooperation was signed in 2010 by the governments of Queensland and PNG and PNG Energy Developments Ltd to support the development of the Purari Hydro Project. The Australian Government was not a party to this agreement, but is monitoring its progress.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 190

Program: DFAT

Topic: Papua New Guinea: Police Cooperation

Question in Writing

Senator Macdonald

Question:

Question on Notice 240 from Budget Estimates in May 2013 asked the Department if there is a formal agreement between Australia and PNG on police co-operation.

In answer to Question on Notice 240 from Budget Estimates in May 2013 the Department indicated that:

- **The Phase III partnership package was announced in May 2013;**
- **Phase III forms part of the Joint Declaration on Australian/PNG partnership – no formal agreement was signed; and,**
- **Phase III includes assistance for the Royal PNG Constabulary to recruit Australians for “in-line” positions, as well as providing additional AFP support and mentoring.**

Are expatriate business communities in PNG being offered any consultation on the progress of law-and-order initiatives?

Does the Phase III arrangement provide any resources for monitoring movements in the Torres Strait?

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. The Papua New Guinea-Australia Policing Partnership (PNG-APP) engages with the PNG business community, although not specifically targeting the expatriate business community, for consultation in respect of the progress of law-and-order initiatives.

Senior Australian Government officials attend the Bilateral Business and Officials Working Group meeting at which police cooperation issues are a key agenda item. The Commander and senior members of the PNG-APP have regular interactions with the Australia-PNG Business Council and the Port Moresby Chamber of Commerce.

2. PNG-APP does not have resources allocated for monitoring movements in the Torres Strait as it is not under the auspices of the program.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 191

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - International climate finance

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

How important do other nations see the issue of international climate finance in getting a global agreement signed? Does the agreement originally in Copenhagen to scale up to \$100 billion of private and public international climate finance by 2020 still carry weight internationally?

Answer

In discussions on the new agreement at the recent Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP) in Warsaw, climate finance was one of a range of issues considered.

The Warsaw COP decision on the work programme on long term finance, consistent with all COP decisions since Copenhagen in 2009, included a reference to the USD100 billion global goal.

Under the Copenhagen Accord, the USD100 billion global goal is:

“In the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation, developed countries commit to a goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion dollars a year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. This funding will come from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources of finance.”

- Paragraph 8, *Copenhagen Accord*, Decision 2/CP.15, FCCC/CP/2009/11/Add.1

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 192

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - International climate finance

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

Australia has stated it would contribute its 'fair share' of this goal to scale up international climate finance, does this remain the case? What would be the consequences for shaping a global solution for Australia not to live up to this commitment?

Answer

See answer to 50(h).

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 193

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - International climate finance

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

How important was the delivery of Australia's \$699m fast start finance in our region and for Australia's international reputation?

Answer

See answer for 50(i).

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 194

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change – Kyoto Protocol

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

- A. Has work been done on preparing a national impact assessment for the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol second commitment period?***
- B. When is that likely to be finished?***
- C. How do other nations, particularly developing nations, see the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol to international progress?***
- D. Would Australia be able to purchase and use Clean Development Mechanism units if it does not ratify the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol?***

Answer

- A. See answer for 52.
- B. See answer for 52.
- C. See answer for 52.
- D. See answer for 52(d)

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 195

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate change - China

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

China has announced a limit on total annual primary energy consumption of 4 billion tonnes of coal equivalent by 2015, how significant is that?

Answer

China's 12th Five Year Plan on Energy Development, endorsed by China's State Council (Cabinet equivalent), includes a non-binding target to cap annual energy consumption at 4 billion tonnes of coal equivalent in 2015. In 2011, China's energy demand was 3.9 billion tonnes, and on average increased by over 7 per cent annually from 2005-2011.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 196

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

Why is it important Australia help shape a global solution to climate change?

Answer

See response to 54(a).

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 197

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - International Commitments

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

Do other nations pay attention to what domestic policies are in place to meet our international commitments?

Answer

See answer to 55.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 198

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - International Commitments

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

What has been their response to the news Australia might be repealing the Clean Energy Act? Has anyone expressed concerns or asked about meeting our targets?

Answer

See answer to 55(b) and 55(c).

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 199

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate change - China

Question in Writing

Senator Urquhart

Question

Is the Department still providing assistance to Chinese counterparts in establishing emissions trading schemes in China?

Answer

The Department is administering a contract signed in June 2013 to undertake carbon pricing research in China.

Under the new Government the Department has not allocated any new funding to establish emissions trading schemes in China.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 200

Program: DFAT

Topic: Integration

Question on Notice

Page: 5

Senator Faulkner

Question

Senator FAULKNER: Just so we are clear on that latter point, in relation to the tourism changes can you just indicate what numbers of staff are involved in both the Austrade element and the broader portfolio element.

Answer

On 19 December 2013, 89 staff working on tourism policy, programs and research transferred from the Department of Industry to Austrade. Three staff will transfer from Austrade to DFAT on or around 30 January 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 201

Program: DFAT

Topic: Integration

Question on Notice

Page: 6

Senator Faulkner

Question

Senator FAULKNER: I know you cannot speak for former AusAID, but are you able to say when the department became aware of the government's intention to make this change [on integration], or when the minister requested this action take place? I appreciate it was finalised on 1 November, you have made that point, and I appreciate the fact that it was around about the middle of September that the announcement was made that this was going to occur—you can correct me if I am wrong, I am just going on memory there.

Mr Grigson: No, that's right.

Senator FAULKNER: So I am assuming it was sometime earlier in September that—

Mr Grigson: That is right, Senator. I would have to check on an exact date for you. It was certainly after the election—yes, you are right, earlier in September

Senator FAULKNER: But how is this done? It is obviously an official directive—the minister has made a directive, that is fair enough—that is how it works, isn't it? Mr Grigson: Yes, it is.

Senator FAULKNER: Can you say—and if you can't, you might take it on notice—when that directive was issued?

Mr Grigson: I will find out for you.

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Answer

The Prime Minister announced the decision to integrate AusAID with DFAT on 18 September 2013.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 202

Program: DFAT

Topic: Integration

Question on Notice

Page: 6-7

Senator Faulkner

Question

Senator FAULKNER: You probably will not be able to answer part of this because it goes to AusAID—but AusAID can't be asked, which is why I think I am obligated to ask you: whether advice [on integration] was sought by the minister from either the department or AusAID about the implications and usefulness of such a move...

But the advice that we are talking about, Mr Grigson, in this case is separate advice received from both AusAID and the portfolio—or effectively is the advice that is provided to the minister integrated with not just the department and AusAID, it is integrated portfolio advice. I am just interested to understand, given AusAID's operation as an executive agency—you understand I cannot ask the executive agency anymore—effectively whether there were two separate pieces of advice, only departmental advice or integrated advice. If you could assist us with that?

Mr Grigson: I can give you my best recollection now and I will check my answer and get back to you if there is an error in it. My recollection of the advice that we provided has been that it has been integrated advice, that it has generally taken into account both what would have been an AusAID perspective and a DFAT perspective, and provided in an integrated fashion to the minister.

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Answer

Advice provided to the Minister on implementation of integration reflected integrated advice.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 203

Program: DFAT

Topic: Integration

Question on Notice

Page: 6-8

Senator Faulkner

Question

Senator FAULKNER: Are you able to say whether advice [on integration] was provided to the minister—I am not going to content of the advice—from any agency outside the portfolio of foreign affairs and trade. Specifically I suppose I am thinking of whether advice was provided from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Mr Grigson: I do not know the answer to that.

Senator FAULKNER: Senator Brandis, would you be able to take that on notice to the minister?

Senator Brandis: Yes

Answer

The Minister did not receive advice from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 204

Program: DFAT - FTD

Topic: China FTA

Question on Notice

Page: 79

Senator Wong

Question

Can you tell me what some of the issues are for us in relation to market access? I am particularly interested in full services. I am interested also in what I think are described as 'behind the border issues' and what are our priorities in that context?

Answer

The department's response to Question in Writing no. 22 detailed the broad market access issues for Australia in Australia-China Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, including in relation to services and 'behind the border issues'. With respect to the prioritisation of 'behind the border issues', it is not the department's practice to publicly comment on the priority being placed on any specific issue, as doing so can potentially adversely affect the outcome of negotiations. In determining priorities, the government looks closely at industry interests and consults closely with stakeholders. Industry and individual companies will often provide us with the priority they afford to removing certain obstacles, and these views inform our negotiation priorities.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 205

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Priorities

Question on Notice

Page: 102

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: Mr Grigson, are you aware of anything that the foreign minister has actually said in public that supports Minister Brandis?

Mr Grigson: Yes I am. The foreign minister has said that the program will have a particular focus on the Pacific and South-East Asia, our region, and at times she has spoken about the Indian Ocean as well.

Senator MOORE: The foreign minister is at a meeting at the moment, is she not?

Senator Brandis: I doubt it because I think that where the foreign minister is, in Washington, it is about three o'clock in the morning.

Senator MOORE: Wherever. Unless the foreign minister has made a statement in recent times that we have not got across, can you just confirm on notice what the foreign minister has already said in terms of public statements about those areas.

Mr Grigson: Sure

Answer

For details of the Government's geographic focus for the program, please refer to the Coalition's Policy for Foreign Affairs released in September 2013.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 206

Program: DFAT

Topic: Integration

Question on Notice

Page: 12

Senator Faulkner

Question

Senator FAULKNER: What, if any, are the implications [of integration] for the contracted staff?

Mr Grigson: As contracts come up, we will have to look at whether we will continue to require those staff. Beyond that, I would like to get some advice for you. I do not want to unnecessarily alarm any staff. At this point, I will get you a number of how many there are and I will get you some advice on how we are planning to deal with that

Answer

There were 374 contractors engaged by the pre-integration DFAT on 7 Sep 2013. This number fell to 239 by 21 Nov 2013.

The pre-integration AusAID organisation did not maintain a centralised reporting framework for the number of contractors it engaged. Work is underway to collect contractor data in the integrated organisation and further detail will be available at a later time.

The Department is reviewing the engagement of contractors and identifying any roles which could instead be filled by ongoing APS employees. These roles would then be advertised in the internal placements process to give all DFAT staff the opportunity to apply for them.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 207

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing by Division

Question on Notice

Page: 12

Senator Fawcett

Question

A. Provide staffing levels broken down by Division.

Answer

A. **Table One** details the full time equivalent (FTE) levels of staff by Division as at 30 Nov 2013.

Table One: FTE by DFAT Division

| Division | 30 Nov 2013 |
|--|--------------------|
| Corporate Management Division | 188.3 |
| Australian Passport Office | 385.8 |
| International Organisations & Legal Division | 76.6 |
| Overseas Property Office & Service Division | 38.6 |
| Information Management & Technology Division | 186.3 |
| Government Finance & Information Services Division | 186.6 |
| Corporate Enabling Division | 161.0 |
| Office of Trade Negotiations | 66.0 |
| Trade & Economic Policy Division | 47.8 |
| Free Trade Agreement | 34.7 |
| Americas & Africa Division | 25.1 |
| South & West Asia & Middle East Division | 26.0 |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

| Division | 30 Nov 2013 |
|---|--------------------|
| Europe Division | 22.6 |
| International Security Division | 36.7 |
| Pacific Division | 29.4 |
| North Asia Division | 26.0 |
| South East Asia Division | 34.7 |
| Australian Safeguards & Non-Proliferation Division | 16.7 |
| Consular Public Diplomacy & Parliamentary Affairs Division | 101.0 |
| Executive Planning and Evaluation Division | 52.8 |
| Graduates and Trainees (pre-integrated DFAT) | 96.8 |
| Overseas Posts | 616.0 |
| State Offices | 39.7 |
| Staff Offline (Staff on leave without pay, long term leave, language training, and maternity leave. | 404.9 |
| Integration Taskforce | 6.0 |
| Audit Office | 10.7 |
| Program Effectiveness & Performance Division | 122.5 |
| Pacific Development Division | 253.1 |
| East Asia Development Division | 203.6 |
| Africa Development & Community Programs Division | 128.5 |
| South & West Asia Development Division | 120.4 |
| Humanitarian & Stabilisation Division | 94.3 |
| Policy & Sector Division | 143.5 |
| International Policy & Partnerships Division | 100.2 |
| Economics Advisory Group | 20.2 |
| DDGs and Support Staff | 8.9 |
| Total | 4112.0 |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 208

Program: DFAT

Topic: Integration

Question on Notice

Page: 106

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: And what is the total number of people on the task force, and how many are AusAID?

Mr Grigson: I will get you the details. The task force is run by two division heads, one from the old DFAT and one from the old AusAID.

Answer

As at 21 November, the Task Force comprised nine staff, five of whom were former AusAID staff.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 209

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing Ministerial Offices

Question on Notice

Page: 17

Senator Faulkner

Question

are there any departmental officers—there usually are—seconded to ministers' offices or parliamentary secretaries' offices—

Mr Grigson: There are.

Senator FAULKNER: since the election?

Mr Grigson: Yes.

Senator FAULKNER: I would appreciate any detail about it. I do not want the names, obviously, of the individuals. If you could just provide—

Mr Grigson: We can do that.

Senator FAULKNER: information about numbers and status, that would be helpful.

Answer

Following are numbers of departmental staff seconded to ministers' or parliamentary secretaries' offices on Members of Parliament (Staff) contracts.

| Office | Number | Status |
|---|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs | 4 | 1 x SES 2 x EL2 1 x APS6 |
| Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment | 1 | 1 x EL1 |
| Office of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs | Nil | Nil |
| Office of the Attorney-General | 1 | 1 x EL1 |
| Office of the Minister for Small Business | 1 | 1 x APS5 |
| Office of the Prime Minister | 1 | 1 x APS6 |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 210

Program: DFAT

Topic: Voluntary Redundancies

Question on Notice

Page: 17

Senator Faulkner

Question

A. Compare the number of voluntary redundancies in 2012-13 with previous years.

Answer

A. **Table One** details the number of voluntary redundancies in 2012-13 compared with the previous five financial years.

Table One: Voluntary redundancies from financial year 2007-08 to 2012-13

| Pre-Integration Organisation | FY 07/08 | FY 08/09 | FY 09/10 | FY 10/11 | FY 11/12 | FY 12/13 |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| AusAID | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| DFAT | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 31 | 19 |
| Combined Total | 6 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 33 | 20 |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 211

Program: DFAT

Topic: Assistance to former Prime Ministers

Question on Notice

Page: 17-18

Senator Edwards

Question

How many requests for assistance have been made by Kevin Rudd and Julia Gillard to the department since the election?

Mr Grigson: I have to take that on notice.

Senator EDWARDS: Also, please take on notice when the requests were made—

Mr Grigson: Yes.

Senator EDWARDS: and the nature of the requests... That would be great. I want to know just generally what assistance the department provided.

Mr Grigson: The guidelines, yes.

Senator EDWARDS: I would also be interested to know if the department refused any requests for assistance and, if you did, what was requested that you refused and when those requests were made. And, just for my own benefit, what are the protocols regarding assistance to former prime ministers?

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

A) See table below for details of request for assistance made by the Hon Kevin Rudd and the Hon Julia Gillard since the 14 September 2013. It is noted that former PMs do not necessarily advise DFAT of overseas travel. Sometimes assistance provided by our Posts are not necessarily reported back to Canberra.

| Date | Name of Parliamentarian | City, Countries Visited | Requested Date | Assistance Requested | Assistance Provided |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|--|--|
| 2013 | | | | | |
| 18 – 23 September | The Hon Kevin Rudd, former PM | Beijing China | September | airport facilitation; transport to/from his accommodation meetings Chinese officials; transport to and from some of these meetings | airport facilitation; transport to/from his accommodation meetings Chinese officials; transport to and from some of these meetings |
| 28 September – 12 October | The Hon Kevin Rudd, former PM | London, UK New York, USA Paris, France | 20 September 2013 | 12 calls, transport (London, UK) | <i>information not available at this time</i> |
| 3-5 October | The Hon Julia Gillard, former PM | Bali, Indonesia, | 23 September 2013 | Airport facilitation | Transport, Liaison officer, Airport facilitation |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

| Date | Name of Parliamentarian | City, Countries Visited | Requested Date | Assistance Requested | Assistance Provided |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| 13 – 19 October | The Hon Kevin Rudd, former PM | Beijing China | October | airport facilitation; transport to/from his accommodation meetings Chinese officials; transport to and from some of these meetings | airport facilitation; transport to/from his accommodation meetings Chinese officials; transport to and from some of these meetings |
| 27-30 October | The Hon Kevin Rudd, former PM | Manama, Bahrain, | 21 October 2013 | Calls, transport (Bahrain) Airport | DFAT was not able to provide transport in Manama, Bahrain as we do not have a post there (covered from Riyadh). Beijing: information not available at this time |
| 31 Oct– 8 Nov | The Hon Kevin Rudd, former PM | Beijing China | 21 October 2013 | airport facilitation; transport to/from his accommodation meetings Chinese officials; transport to and from some of these meetings | airport facilitation; transport to/from his accommodation meetings Chinese officials; transport to and from some of these meetings |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

| Date | Name of Parliamentarian | City, Countries Visited | Requested Date | Assistance Requested | Assistance Provided |
|--|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|--|
| 21 – 28 November 28 Nov 5 – 6 Dec 6 – 7 Dec 8 11 Dec | The Hon Kevin Rudd, former PM | New York, Canada, Boston London New York London New York, Washington | 12 November 2013 | Calls, Airport transfer and driver/car for the duration of the visit | London Post advised they would be unable to provide a driver/car for the duration of Mr Rudd's visit. US – Post airport facilitation, post vehicle and driver made available during Mr Rudd's trip, post facilitation with the Department of State. |
| 29 Nov – 5 December | The Hon Kevin Rudd, former PM | Beijing, China | 24 November 2013 | airport facilitation; transport to/from his accommodation | airport facilitation; transport to/from his accommodation |
| 18-25 November | The Hon Julia Gillard, former PM | Los Angeles/Washington, USA Toronto, Canada Paris, France Zurich, Switzerland Hong Kong | 11 November 2013 | VIP facilitation at airports only | Airport facilitation provided in Los Angeles, Washington Toronto (by Ottawa), Zurich (by Geneva CG), Hong Kong, |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- B) Below is an extract of the relevant section on ‘Overseas Visits Guidelines’ as they appear on the DFAT intranet.

Overseas Travel by former Prime Ministers and former Portfolio Ministers

In recognition that the public profile of **former Prime Ministers** makes it almost impossible for them to be free of the commitments and demands naturally arising from having held such an office at the national level, successive Australian governments have established arrangements to appropriately recognise the continuing standing and involvement in the community of former Prime Ministers. In relation to overseas travel, the entitlement for former Prime Ministers is:

“Former Prime Ministers have access to car transport for specific journeys only when travelling overseas on official business as a former Prime Minister in locations where an overseas post maintains a vehicle fleet.” The entitlement should not be used for commercial purposes.

More generally, it is understood that, as a courtesy, posts may from time to time facilitate visits by former Prime Ministers. Posts should do their best to assist within the scope of available resources. It would be normal procedure for former Prime Ministers to be met on arrival and assistance provided with airport transfers and ground transport. Posts would usually give the visitor a post contact list – particularly who to contact outside office hours in case of any problems. Subject to available resources, posts might also assist with arranging appointments or making accommodation bookings.

Posts should exercise judgement about what type of assistance to provide **former portfolio Ministers**, taking into account all the circumstances (eg, is the former portfolio Minister being sponsored by an organisation which might make some arrangements for him), and consistent with provision of a basic level of courtesy and support.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Posts should be notified of proposed visits by a cable. If the post has been contacted directly in relation to proposed travel post should contact Ministerial, Cabinet and Parliamentary Services Section (**MCP**) in Parliamentary and Media Branch PMB.

MEL/EXB is available to provide further guidance on these issues as required.

- C) Since the election on one occasion a request for transport assistance was declined due to limited resourcing and competing priorities on the day of the visit.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 212

Program: DFAT

Topic: OS visit program of former FM Carr

Question on Notice

Page 19

Senator Edwards

Question

A. Generally speaking, your experience would be that meetings were, on average, held about when—in the mornings, early in the mornings, late at night? What would your experience be?

Mr Roach: I would need to take that on notice and have a look at some of the visit programs. I am afraid I could not give that. Because we are not involved in making those booking times, that is the sort of detail that, to be honest, is not under my sphere of protection.

Senator EDWARDS: I assume that you are always honest here. While making those inquiries, could you look also at, on average, how late the meetings were that you were instructed to go to. The guidelines record Mr Carr's interest in visiting important cultural or historical sites during his overseas visits. Are you able to provide the committee with a list of historical or cultural sites that Mr Carr visited on his overseas trips?

(and related excerpt page 55)

Mr Grigson: ... We are looking through programs. It might help if I just explain one element of the way we function. Not all material is returned from posts to Canberra. So some of the answers to questions that you ask will only be at posts, so we will need to go to posts and ask for some of that material. Mr Roach has an aggregate figure on travel costs for you. As you know, the Department of Finance pays ministerial travel bills and those bills are not passed to us.

Senator EDWARDS: Are you able to request it or should I do that?

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Mr Grigson: We will take it on notice and pass the request to them. I am happy to do that.

Answer

A. On the basis of information contained in overseas visit programs, meetings have taken place any time from 7.30 am to 10.00 pm.

B. Mr Carr visited the following historical or cultural sites on his overseas visits:

- **Cambodia:** Angkor Archaeological Park; Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (Khmer Rouge Tribunal); Cheoung Ek Genocide Museum; Tuol Sleng Genocide.
- **Vietnam:** Temple of Literature.
- **Singapore:** Changi Museum and Chapel; Asian Civilisations Museum.
- **USA:** United States Military Academy, West Point.
- **UK:** The National Theatre; The National Portrait Gallery.
- **Belgium:** Waterloo Battlefield; The Museum of Fine Arts.
- **Malta:** St. John's Co-Cathedral.
- **China:** National Museum of China; Imperial Palace; Shanghai Urban Planning Museum.
- **Indonesia:** Gedong Tengen Clinic (Puskesmas); Umbulharjo Village; Borobudur Temple; National Museum.
- **Burma:** Yangon heritage walk; Yangon Heritage Trust; Rangoon War Cemetery.
- **Oman:** Souq Matra; The Grand Mosque; Armed Forces Museum.
- **Turkey:** Chora Church; Spice Bazaar; New Mosque; Blue Mosque; Aya Sophya (Church of the Divine Wisdom); Topkapi Palace.
- **Israel:** The Israel Museum.
- **Jordan:** Petra; Jerash.
- **Solomon Islands:** World War 2 sites.
- **Egypt:** The Egyptian Museum; Hanging Church, Coptic Cairo; Islamic Cairo.
- **Mongolia:** The State University of Arts and Culture; Choijin Lama Temple; The Victims of Political Persecution Memorial Museum; Gandantegchenling ('Gandan') Monastery; National History Museum.
- **Malaysia:** Marine Ecology Research Centre; Sepilok Orang-utan Rehabilitation Sanctuary and Sandakan Memorial Park.
- **Papua New Guinea:** Bomana War Cemetery.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- **Timor-Leste:** Resistance Archive and Museum.
- **Sri Lanka:** Historical sites in Galle Fort.
- **Germany:** The historical archives of the Federal Foreign Office.
- **Kiribati:** World War 2 sites; Betio villages.
- **Vanuatu:** Wan Smolbag theatre and youth centre; Vanuatu's first Parliament House.
- **Laos:** National Museum; World Heritage Sites in Luang Prabang.
- **Luxemburg:** Trier; Bas-Oha Cemetery.
- **Qatar:** Doha Museum of Islamic Art.
- **Lebanon:** Roman ruins in Baalbek; Al Amin Mosque, Beirut; the tomb of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri; Beirut National Museum.
- **South Korea:** Korean War Memorial; Exhibit of the sinking of Cheonan.
- **Russia:** House on the Embankment Museum; Pskaryovsky Cemetery; Smolny Institute.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 213

Program: DFAT

Topic: OS visit program of former FM Carr

Question on Notice

Page 19

Senator Edwards

Question

A. Can you please provide the committee with a list of women related projects and cultural and heritage sites visited by Mrs Carr concurrently when they travelled together? I suspect you are going to say that you will take that on notice.

Mr Roach: I am going to take it on notice, but I can give you a sense from notes of the kinds of activities that Mrs Carr would have undertaken. For example, she did a visit with the former minister to Indonesia, Brunei and South Korea, where, for instance, she went to visit a shelter for women. She went to the war memorial of the ROK. It was common for her to visit schools, hospitals and things of that nature. But, in terms of a full list, we can provide that.

B. Senator EDWARDS: Okay. Also, when you are compiling that list, will you give me an idea of how many people from the department accompanied Mrs Carr when she was on those delegations?

Answer

A. **Women Related Projects**

- **Ankara:** DAP Project - Women Entrepreneurs Support Centre.
- **Brunei:** Tenun Brunei Hikma - a weaving workshop.
- **Beijing:** Meeting with 'All China Women's Federation' Vice President, Meng Ziaosi.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- **Beirut:** DAP Project - Good Shepherd Sisters shelter for vulnerable girls.
- **Cairo:** 'Ana El Masry', an NGO assisting women and street children.
- **Colombo:** Round table with key NGOs working on women's issues in Sri Lanka.
- **Dili:** Marie Stopes International (MSI), a sexual and reproductive health clinic.
- **Geneva:** "The Sacred Feminine: a woman's right to herself" exhibition by Eva Pineda, Palais des Nations.
- **Hanoi:** Women's Museum in Hanoi; Hanoi's historic Old Quarter.
- **Kuala Lumpur:** Meeting with the daughter of a former Prime Minister, who is involved in women's projects, particularly concerning gender and Islam.
- **New Delhi:** Delhi Commonwealth Women's Association
- **New York:** Meeting with Australian women on gender equality in international development; Meeting with prominent local women to discuss gender issues.
- **Phnom Penh:** CARE's Sewing for a Brighter Future Project
- **Oman:** Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry Women's Business Group; The Ladies of Sidab - a community group providing training and networking opportunities for Omani women.
- **Saudi Arabia:** Faisaliyah Women's Heritage Group; The Jeddah Chamber of Commerce Women's Section; Effat Women's University.
- **South Korea:** Seoul Shelter for Women.
- **Tarawa:** Meeting with First Lady Madame Meme Tong to discuss women's issues in Kiribati; Meeting with the executive of AMAK (an umbrella organisation of women's NGO's in Kiribati).
- **Tel Aviv:** Palestinian Women's Business Association (Asala).
- **Tokyo:** Roundtable with Cabinet Office Gender Equality Bureau Representatives.
- **Vientiane:** Lao Disabled Women's Development Centre (LDWDC)
- **Washington:** Meeting with Vital Voices NGO.

Cultural and Heritage Sites

- **Algeria:** Bastion 23 Museum.
- **Amman:** National Committee for De-mining and Rehabilitation; Jesus' Baptism site.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- **Ankara:** Istanbul Modern Gallery; Grand Bazaar.
- **Apia:** Robert Louis Stevenson Museum.
- **Beijing:** Red Gate Gallery; Meiya Village in Hainan; China Rehabilitation Research Centre for Deaf Children; ‘Wide and Narrow Alleys’, Chengdu; People’s Liberation Monument, Chongqing.
- **Beirut:** Paradis d’Enfants School.
- **Brussels:** Art Gallery Koningen; Horta Museum; Cathedral of Our Lady at Antwerp; The Krelinger Company’s historic headquarters.
- **Cairo:** Australian-funded IT learning laboratory at St. Andrew’s Refugee Services; Islamic Arts Museum.
- **Dili:** ASSERT- A local disability rehabilitation foundation; The English Language Training Centre at the National University of Timor-Leste.
- **Geneva:** The United Nations Palais des Nations; The International Committee of the Red Cross Archives; Voltaire’s chateau.
- **Guangzhou:** “Three Lanes and Seven Alleys”, Fuzhou.
- **Hong Kong:** Crossroads Foundation.
- **Jakarta:** Textile Museum; Tulisan Gallery; Padi Gallery; Jakarta Arts Centre; Rumah Cikini; Hadiprana Gallery; Kunstkring Paleis Gallery; Australian Consortium for In-Country Indonesian Studies.
- **Bali:** Neka Art Museum; Ubud Writers and Readers Festival.
- **Kuala Lumpur:** Mari Mari Cultural Village, Sabah.
- **London:** Royal College of Music; Natural History Museum; The British Museum; Royal Academy of the Arts.
- **Malta:** National Museum of Archaeology, Valletta; Manoel Theatre, Valletta.
- **Morocco:** The Kasbah and Souk; National Museum of Jewellery; Gardens of the Udayas; Chellah – necropolis and complex of ancient Roman Mauretania Tingitana and medieval ruins.
- **Moscow:** Izmaylovo market.
- **New Delhi:** Humayun’s Tomb; Now and When Oz Fest Cultural Event.
- **Paris:** The new Islamic Wing of the Louvre.
- **Phnom Penh:** Kantha Bopha Children’s Hospital.
- **Port Vila:** ACTIV (Alternative Communities Trade in Vanuatu) Association Market.
- **Oman:** Royal Oman Opera House
- **Shanghai:** Shanghai Museum; Propaganda Art Poster Museum
- **Tarawa:** School and Centre for Children with Special Needs

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- **Tokyo:** Ukiyo-e Memorial Museum of Art, Tokyo; Nexu Museum, Tokyo; the Tokyo National Museum; Suntory Museum of Art; Hakone Open Air Museum
- **UAE:** Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development, Abu Dhabi; Abu Dhabi Art Hub; FANR Islamic Cultural Centre, Doha; Qatar Foundation
- **Washington:** National Assembly of State Art Agencies; the Freer and Sackler Galleries; The Smithsonian's Museums of Asian Art; Horton's Kids Community Resource Center

B. How many people from the department accompanied Mrs Carr when she was on those delegations?

- Abu Dhabi: None
- Doha: One
- Amman: None
- Ankara: None
- Apia: None
- Brunei: None
- Beijing: None
- Beirut: None
- Brussels: One
- Cairo: One
- Colombo: One
- Dili: One
- Geneva: One
- Guangzhou: None
- Hanoi: None
- Hong Kong: None
- Indonesia: One
- Kuala Lumpur: One
- London: One
- Malta: One
- Moscow: One
- New Delhi: One
- Algeria, Morocco and Paris: One
- Port Vila: Two
- Phnom Penh: One
- Oman/Saudi Arabia: None

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- New York: None
- South Korea: Two
- Shanghai: None
- Singapore: One
- Tarawa: None
- Tel-Aviv: Two
- Tokyo: One
- Washington: None
- Vientiane: Two

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 214

Program: DFAT

Topic: OS visit program of former FM Carr

Question on Notice

Page 20

Senator Edwards

Question

Is the department familiar with the section of the ministers of state entitlement guidelines on overseas travel?

Mr Roach: We are aware of the standing guidelines that are issued by the Department of Finance.

Senator EDWARDS: I just remind you:

As a general rule, a Minister should not be accompanied by his or her spouse on official overseas travel.

Is that a true representation of what is in there?

Mr Roach: I know that these guidelines have been reissued in recent weeks. That is my understanding, so I just want to be careful before confirming what you have read to me.

Senator EDWARDS: That is fine. I suspect I am right.

Mr Roach: I will take that on notice.

(and related excerpt page 55-56)

Is there a section of your department, and bear in mind that I am fresh here, that goes through this and looks at these, or is this at the complete discretion of the minister and you do not get to ask a question or just have a discreet word to the minister at any stage and say, 'Look, I think we'd better just have a look at this. This might not pass the test of scrutiny in comparison with former ministers or anything like that person might.' Hypothetical.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Mr Grigson: Are you talking about programs or costs?

Senator EDWARDS: Costs. You look at costs of expeditions—I do not know what you call them.

Senator Brandis: It is hypothetical.

Senator EDWARDS: I will put it to you this way then—

CHAIR: Senator Edwards—

Senator EDWARDS: Is there anybody in the department—

CHAIR: Senator Edwards, you are actually out of time. We are on a five-minute basis, so that question can go on notice.

Mr Grigson: We will take it on notice.

Answer

Yes the Ministerial and Executive Liaison Section within DFAT reviews proposed Ministerial travel to assess compliance against entitlement guidelines.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 215

Program: DFAT

Topic: RAMSI

Question on Notice

Page: 114

Senator Dastyari

Question

Effectively, what I am asking for—if it is not too much of an ask—is whether we can create a summary report of all the programs and the funding that came from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade over the 10-year life of RAMSI, and also have a look and do that with the different aid initiatives that were specific to PNG that were funded during that same period.

Mr Batley: You just said PNG—do you mean the Solomon Islands?

Senator DASTYARI: Sorry, Solomon Islands.

A. DFAT funding to RAMSI over 10 years (2003-13)

B. DFAT funding to Solomon Islands (non-RAMSI) from 2003-13, across programs

Answer

A. Australia's total expenditure for RAMSI from 2003-04 to 2012-13 was approximately \$2.3 billion. Please see the attached table for a breakdown of programs and agencies.

B. Australia's total expenditure for the bilateral aid program from 2003-04 to 2012-13 was approximately \$555.6 million. Please see the attached table for a breakdown of programs.

Bilateral Aid flows from Australia to Solomon Islands 2003-04 to 2012-13

| | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Education | 1.29 | 2.57 | 1.83 | 1.83 | 3.37 | 3.22 | 12.64 | 11.76 | 17.12 | 25.34 | |
| Environment and Natural Resource Management | | | 0.72 | 1.95 | 1.65 | 1.93 | 1.72 | 0.96 | 4.04 | 3.27 | |
| Governance | 9.16 | 8.95 | 15.05 | 10.58 | 4.89 | 8.59 | 14.35 | 9.11 | 8.00 | 15.06 | |
| Health | 14.06 | 14.58 | 12.55 | 14.34 | 14.16 | 16.93 | 20.42 | 21.71 | 20.70 | 20.50 | |
| Humanitarian and Emergency Response | - | - | 0.43 | 1.91 | 1.81 | 0.83 | 0.94 | 0.10 | 0.06 | 1.41 | |
| Infrastructure | - | - | 0.15 | 0.03 | 4.28 | 9.02 | 12.21 | 19.74 | 20.79 | 10.35 | |
| Rural Development and Food Security | 1.78 | 2.66 | 0.11 | 0.07 | 5.26 | 6.52 | 12.84 | 6.02 | 4.11 | 1.78 | |
| Cross cutting multi-sector | 9.75 | 4.60 | 6.22 | 3.96 | 9.82 | 5.51 | 3.99 | 1.83 | 5.06 | 8.74 | |
| | 36.03 | 33.37 | 37.05 | 34.68 | 45.24 | 52.55 | 79.11 | 71.24 | 79.87 | 86.45 | 555.59 |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 216

Program: DFAT

Topic: OS visit program of former FM Carr

Question on Notice

Page 22

Senator Edwards

Question

Can you provide the committee with a list of first-class flights taken by Mr Carr and provide the date and cost of each flight?

Mr Roach: I can do that.

Senator McEWEN: Could you also do the same for former Foreign Minister Downer?

Mr Roach: That might be pushing records, but I will try.

Answer

This question should be directed to the Department of Finance and Deregulation who keep all records on acquitted travel for Parliamentarians.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 217

Program: DFAT

Topic: OS visit program of former FM Carr

Question on Notice

Page 23

Senator Edwards

Question

A. Can you confirm reports that the department paid for temporary gym membership for Mr Carr on occasions when the hotel fitness centre was not available or did not meet his requirements? ...

B. Did a security detail accompany him as well?

C. Did he ever cancel scheduled meetings to attend the gym?

D. Could you just give us a total cost of the gym membership during Mr Carr's time as foreign minister?.

E. Did Foreign Minister Carr at the time ever attend Pilates classes while on his overseas trips?

Answer

- A. Any temporary gym memberships were paid for by Mr Carr.
- B. Security details only accompanied Mr Carr to gyms in countries where the host government provided security for the duration of his visits.
- C. No.
- D. No. These were personal expenses.
- E. According to our records, Mr Carr did not attend any pilates classes while on his overseas trips.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 218

Program: DFAT

Topic: OS visit program of former FM Carr

Question on Notice

Page 23

Senator Edwards

Question

And the cost to the department for those. For each of Senator Carr's overseas visits, can you provide the committee with the program as originally approved and the final program as it was completed?

Mr Roach: Let me take that on notice. There were 28 visits. Certainly we have a program as completed—

Senator EDWARDS: And the program as scheduled.

Mr Roach: so I am sure that that is something we can assist with.

Answer

Costs for Senator Carr's overseas travel are available from the Department of Finance (DoF).

Ministerial travel programs change significantly from the time of initial preparation to the time of travel.

For details of travel by Senator Carr please see information contained in the attached table.

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Attachment: Details of Senator Carr's overseas visits from 13 March 2012 to 18 September 2013

Senator Carr has travelled to the following locations.

| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Russia | 31 August to 7 September 2013 | 8 | Moscow: 1-4 September St Petersburg: 4-7 September |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moscow: Met with the Foreign Minister, the Director of the Carnegie Centre Moscow and the Chairman of the Committee for International Relations, Federation Council, President's Special Envoy for Africa. - St Petersburg: Attended the G20 Summit. Met with Foreign Ministers from China, Canada, France, Korea and Turkey and the ITUC General Secretary, the WTO Director General, the CEO of World Vision Australia and the Director General of the ILO. | | | |
| Indonesia | 19 to 21 August 2013 | 3 | Jakarta: 19-21 August |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jakarta: Attended the Special Conference on the Irregular Movement of Persons. Met with the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and PNG, the Justice Minister of Sri Lanka and Lt Gen Mr Prabowo Subianto. | | | |
| China | 25 July to 3 August 2013 | 10 | Hong Kong: 25-29 July Chengdu: 29-31 July Chongqing: 31 July Fuzhou: 31 July to 1 August Xiamen: 1-2 August |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hong Kong: Met with the Chief Justice, Court of Final Appeal, the President of the Legislative Council, the Vice-Chairman of Kerry Group, the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs and the Hong Kong Chief Executive. Attended a luncheon with the Australian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong and Macau and luncheon with the Asia Society, a roundtable discussion on China and a dinner hosted by the Australian Chinese Association of Hong Kong. - Chengdu: Met with the Mayor of Chengdu, the Sichuan Party Secretary and the Executive Vice Governor. Attended an Austcham Breakfast Event. | | | |

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chongqing and Quanzhou: Met with the Mayors of Chongqing and Quanzhou. Visited the old Australian Legation building. - Fuzhou: Met with the Secretary of Fujian CCP Provincial Committee. Visited the Fuzhou Aquatic Products Trading Centre and the Qingjing Mosque and Maritime Museum. - Xiamen: Met with the Mayor of Xiamen. Attended a roundtable hosted by Austcham Fujian. |
| Solomon Islands | 23 to 24 July 2013 | 2 | Honiara: 23-24 July |
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Honiara: Attended RAMSI 10th Anniversary events. Met with the Prime Minister. |
| Singapore and Myanmar | 8 to 12 July 2013 | 5 | Singapore: 8-10 July Nay Pyi Taw: 10 July Yangon: 10-11 July |
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Singapore: Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs the Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security. He delivered the keynote speech at the International Institute for Strategic Studies Fullerton Lecture. - Nay Pyi Taw: Met with the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Director-General for Consular and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Union Minister for the President's Office, the President's Office Minister, the Chairperson, Pyithu Hluttaw Committee for Rule of Law, Peace and Tranquillity; and Chairperson, National League for Democracy, the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House). - Yangon: Met with Rohingya Community Representatives and Rakhine Community Representatives. Attended a Roundtable with Australian business representatives and visited the Yangon Heritage Trust. |
| Indonesia, Brunei and the Republic of Korea (ROK) | 27 June to 5 July 2013 | 9 | Jakarta: 28-30 June Bandar Seri Begawan: 30 June to 2 July Seoul: 3-4 July |
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jakarta: Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Coordinating Minister for Legal, Political and Security Affairs, the Head of President Yudhoyono's Unit |

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| <p>to Accelerate Development in Papua and West Papua and the Chief Patron of the Gerindra Party. Visited the National Museum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bandar Seri Begawan: Attended the ASEAN-Australia Ministerial Meeting, the Southwest Pacific Dialogue Meeting, the Friends of Lower Mekong Meeting, the ASEAN Regional Forum and the East Asia Summit. Met with the Foreign Ministers of New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Japan, Vietnam, Canada and Brunei and with the US Secretary of State. - Seoul: Attended 2+2 meeting with ROK and Australian Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Defence. Met with the President and Democratic Republic of Korea (DPRK) defectors. Visited the War Memorial. | | | |
| United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Lebanon | 17 to 25 May 2013 | 9 | Abu Dhabi: 18-19 May Doha: 19-22 May Beirut: 22-24 May |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abu Dhabi: Met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister for International Cooperation and Development. Visited the Sheikh Zayed Grabd Mosque. - Doha: Met with the Prime Minister & Foreign Minister of Qatar, the Emir of Qatar, Mr Gordon Brown, the CEO of Qatar Airways, the Minister of Business & Trade, the Qatar Businessmen's Association and the Chairman of Hassad Foods. Visited the Doha Museum of Islamic Art and Al Jazeera. Attended reception with the Qatar Australia New Zealand Business Association - Beirut: Met with the Caretaker Prime Minister, the Prime Minister-designate, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, the Bishop-elect and Lebanese community. Visited Faour tented settlement for Syrian refugees, 'Child Friendly Space', the UN Relief and Works, Al Amin Mosque and the National Museum. | | | |
| Papua New Guinea | 3 to 4 May 2013 | 2 | Port Moresby: 3-4 May |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Port Moresby: Met with the Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration, the Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS, the Minister for National Planning and the Minister for Environment and Conservation. Attended a fundraising dinner for the Burnet Institute's Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Program. Launched the new Australia Awards. | | | |
| Luxembourg, Belgium, France and the United Kingdom | 19 April to 1 May 2013 | 13 | Luxembourg City: 20-22 April Brussels: 22-23 April |

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| | | | Paris: 23-24 April Amiens: 24-25 April Villers-Bretonneux: 25 April London: 25-30 April Oxford: 29 April |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Luxembourg City: Attended an informal meeting on Syria with Foreign Ministers from Luxembourg, the United Arab Emirates, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Sweden; the Portuguese State Secretary to the Foreign Minister; the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe; the EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Action and Crisis Response; the Executive Director of the World Food Program; and the President of the International Peace Institute. - Brussels: Met with senior EU Foreign Policy officials; the Secretary-General of NATO, the EU Commissioner for Development; the Russian Foreign Minister, the Swedish Foreign Minister and the Afghan Foreign Minister. - Paris: Met with the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and commentators. - Amiens and Villers-Bretonneux: Attended ANZAC day Dawn Service and various wreath-laying ceremonies. - London: Attended the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG). Met with the Vanuatuan Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade, the Canadian Foreign Minister, the UK Foreign Secretary, Mr Randolph Churchill, HRH the Prince of Wales and Mr Anthony Beevor and Ms Artemis Cooper. - Oxford: Met with Lord Robert May, Rhodes Scholars, Monash Scholars and Charlie Perkins Scholars. | | | |
| Indonesia, China and Singapore | 1-13 April 2013 | 13 | Bali: 1-2 April Jakarta: 2-5 April Bo'ao: 5-7 April Shanghai: 7-8 April Beijing: 8-11 April Singapore: 11-13 April |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bali: Attended the Bali Process Ministerial Meeting. Met with the Indonesian Foreign Minister, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Timor-Leste, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh, Sri Lankan Minister for Justice, the Japanese Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and the former Indonesian Foreign Minister. - Jakarta: Attended the 2+2 Meeting (Foreign and Defence Ministers). Met with the President, the Chair of the Golkar Party, the Governor of Jakarta and political commentators. Launched AusAID's Hadi Soesastro Prize. Visited a tea plantation and Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Manarul Huda. - Bo'ao: Attended the Bo'ao Forum for Asia with the Prime Minister and a lunch with the President of the People's Republic of China. Met with the Secretary-General of the Bo'ao Forum for Asia, the Managing Director, International Monetary Fund, the Prime Minister New Zealand, the President of Mexico, the Prime Minister of Cambodia, the Sultan of Brunei Darussalam and other senior leaders. - Shanghai: Attended a business breakfast with the Prime Minister. Met with the Chairman of the Shanghai's People's Congress and First Vice President of the China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong; and the Secretary of Shanghai Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China, and Member of the Political Bureau. - Beijing: Attended a dinner with the Prime Minister with senior Australian and Chinese business leaders, an education dinner and a Roundtable Report to Leaders. Met with the Premier of the People's Republic of China, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Chinese Communist Party International Department Minister and the State Councillor. - Singapore: Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law and foreign policy experts. | | | |
| USA | 16-28 March 2013 | 13 | Washington: 16-18 March and 21-25 March New York: 18-21 March and 25- 26 March |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington: Met with the Secretary of State, the UN Secretary-General, Dr Henry Kissinger, the Special Envoy for North Korean Human Rights, the Director of Central Intelligence, the President of the World Bank Group, the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, the Vice President of the US and various business leaders, Asia-Pacific experts, US Political Commentators and Senators. Attended a reception for The Ross Sea of Antarctica, the UNAMA (Afghanistan) debate, a roundtable with Executive of National Clandestine | | | |

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|--|------------------------|--------------|---|
| <p>Service, the Banyan Tree Leadership Forum and a roundtable on the Middle East</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New York: In the UN Security Council (UNSC), Senator Carr joined Council consensus in voting to adopt the Australian-facilitated UNAMA mandate resolution and delivered Australia's national statement on Afghanistan. Met with the UN Secretary General, Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the UNSG's Special Envoy for Malaria, President of the Global Fund for Women, the UK Parliamentary Under Secretary for State, the US PR, the Palestinian Permanent Observer and the Fijian PR. He attended a working lunch with the SG and UNSC Permanent Representatives (PR) hosted by UNSC President and Russian Federation Permanent Representative. - Senator Carr participated in the Final UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). Senator Carr hosted a roundtable discussion on development priorities for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with the UN Deputy Secretary General, the UN Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary of the International Conference for Small Island Developing States, and the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. | | | |
| Laos and Thailand | 17-22 February 2013 | 6 | <p>Vientiane: 17-19 and 20 February</p> <p>Luang Prabang: 19-20 February</p> <p>Bangkok: 20-22 February</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vientiane: Met with the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Planning and Investment. Attended a round-table with selected Australian business people and the Laos-Australia National Scholarships Program Awards Ceremony. Visited the Vientiane Ophthalmology Centre, the Mahost Hospital - Luang Prabang: Met with the Governor of Luang Prabang Province and visited the UXO Lao Visitor Centre and Pak Ou Caves. - Bangkok: Met with the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister and the Deputy Permanent Secretary. Attended a roundtable with Médecins sans Frontières and Human Rights Watch, a round table with major Thai investors in Australia, a round table with members of the Australian business community and a round table with academics and news editors. | | | |
| Kiribati, Samoa and | 10-13 February | 4 | Tarawa: 10-11 February |

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| Vanuatu | 2013 | | Apia: 11-12 February Port Vila: 12-13 February |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tarawa: Met with the President and visited the Kiribati Institute of Technology, WWII sites and the Bikenikora community. - Apia: Met with the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture and other key ministers. Attended an Australian Awards Alumni function and visited Cyclone Damaged Areas, the Australia-Pacific Technical College and SENESE. - Port Vila: Met with the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister, the Minister of Finance and Economic Management and the first President of the Republic of Vanuatu. Launched the Australian Government-funded Port Vila Urban Development Project and visited the Vanuatu Women's Centre and the Wan Smolbag Nutrition Centre. | | | |
| India, Switzerland, Germany and the UK | 19 January to 3 February 2013 | 16 | New Delhi: 19 to 22 January Davos: 23 to 27 January Berlin: 27 to 29 January London: 29 January to 2 February |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Delhi: Attended the 8th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue and launch of <i>Now and When Oz Fest</i> event. Met with the Prime Minister, the Minister of External Affairs and the Minister of State for Human Resource Development. - Davos: Attended the World Economic Forum. Met with the Prime Minister of Mongolia, the Union Minister of Myanmar, the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, the Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the former Arab League Secretary General and former Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Canadian Foreign Minister, the Director-General of the International Labour Organisation and various NGO, political and business leaders. - Berlin: Met with the Foreign Minister, the Minister for Development and Economic Cooperation, the former Foreign Minister (Mr Frank-Walter Steinmeier) and representatives of the Berlin cultural community. Attended Australia day celebrations. - London: Met with the Secretary General of the Commonwealth of Nations, the former Prime Minister (the Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP), the Shadow Foreign Secretary, the Shadow Minister for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Shadow Minister for Defence, the Shadow Secretary of State for Defence, the | | | |

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| <p>Secretary of State for International Development, the Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change, the Senior Minister of State (Faith and Communities) and Government Spokesperson of the Department for Communities and Local Government and Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Former Director General of the British Secret Intelligence Service. Attended a business roundtable and the Financial Times roundtable and visited Hanslope Park and Bletchley Park.</p> | | | |
| <p>Timor-Leste, Sri Lanka</p> | <p>13-18 December 2012</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>Dili: 13 to 14 December Colombo: 14 to 17 December</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dili: Met with the President, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and International Stabilisation Force (ISF) troops. Visited the Dili National Hospital and National Eye Centre and the Resistance Archive and Museum. - Colombo: Met with the President, the Minister of External Affairs, the Minister for Economic Development, the Secretary to the Ministry of Defence and Urban Development, the United National Party leader, the Commander of Southern Navy Command, the Tamil National Alliance members of parliament and civil society figures. Opened the Joint Working Group on People Smuggling and Transnational Crime and visited an AusAID Educational School project and a DAP project in Galle Fort. | | | |
| <p>Papua New Guinea</p> | <p>3-6 December 2012</p> | <p>4</p> | <p>Port Moresby: 3 to 4 December and 5 to 6 December Mt Hagen: 4 to 5 December</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Port Moresby: Met with the Acting Prime Minister and Minister for Intergovernmental Relations and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration. Participated in the PNG-Australia Ministerial Forum and the PNG-Australia Business Forum. Visited Wapenamanda and the Bomana War Cemetery. - Mt Hagen: Met with the Governor of Western Highlands Province, the Archdiocese of Mount Hagen and the Chairman of Coffee Plantations & Processors Association. Visited Mt Hagen Hospital and Notre Dame Secondary School. | | | |
| <p>Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore</p> | <p>3-10 November 2012</p> | <p>8</p> | <p>Kota Kinabalu: 3 to 5 November Sandakan: 5 November Kuala Lumpur: 5 to 7</p> |

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| | | | November Bali: 7 to 9 November Singapore: 9 to 10 November |
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kota Kinabalu: Met with the Malaysian Foreign Minister, the Chief Minister of the State of Sabah - Sandakan: Met with the President of the Sandakan Municipal Council. Laid a wreath at the Sandakan Memorial Park and visited the Sepilok Orang-utan Rehabilitation Sanctuary. - Kuala Lumpur: Participated in a roundtable with business leaders on promoting bilateral investment and a roundtable on foreign policy co-hosted by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies Malaysia. He also met the Minister of Home Affairs. - Bali: Attended the Bali Democracy Forum. Met with Foreign Ministers from Brunei, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Indonesia and the President of Indonesia. Visited Muhammadiyah Denpasar Secondary School. - Singapore: Met with the Foreign Minister of Singapore. |
| United States | 13-23 October 2012 | 11 | New York: 13 to 19 October Tennessee: 19 to 21 October |
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New York: Attended the UNSC vote. Met with the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Myanmar, the Permanent Representative of the United States to the UN, the UN Deputy Secretary-General, the Administrator of UNDP, the Editor-in-Chief of the New York Post, Dr and Mrs Kissenger and the the Permanent Observer of Palestine. Hosted a reception to mark Australia's UN Security Council candidacy and had a roundtable discussion with business leaders. - Tennessee: Met with the Senator of Tennessee. |
| France, Switzerland, United States and Mongolia | 19 September to 5 October 2012 | 17 | Paris: 20 September Geneva: 20 to 22 September New York: 22 to 30 September Ulaanbaatar: 1 to 4 October |
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ulaanbaatar: Met with the President of Mongolia, the Prime Minister, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Mining, the Minister for the Economy, the Minister for Food, Agriculture and Livestock, the CEO and |

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| | | | <p>President of Oyu Tolgoi and various Australian business representatives. He visited a kindergarten for children with disabilities and opened the Australian Consulate-General in Ulaanbaatar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New York: Conducted bilaterals with ten Foreign Ministers — Afghanistan, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Panama, Palestinian National Authority, Philippines, Togo and Tunisia. He conducted pull-asides with an additional seven Foreign Ministers — Belarus, Canada, Chile, Maldives, Montenegro, Netherlands and Switzerland. Senator Carr also had discussions with a wide range of counterparts and Permanent Representatives at the Australian reception hosted in honour of the Prime Minister on 25 September, and in the margins of various other meetings, events and receptions, including with the Foreign Ministers of Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bangladesh, Botswana, Italy, Finland, Germany, India, Jordan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Norway, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the FYROM, Tonga and Trinidad and Tobago. - Addressed a meeting of CARICOM Foreign Ministers, and participated in two trilateral discussions — the first with the Foreign Ministers of Fiji and New Zealand, and the second with the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Timor-Leste. He also met with the Deputy Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia (in his capacity as Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Chair) together with the GCC Secretary-General, and separately with the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. - Senator Carr took a leading role as Commonwealth Chair-in-Office in a number of Commonwealth events. He chaired at the outset a meeting of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group, co-hosted a reception for Commonwealth Heads of Delegation with the UK and Sri Lankan Foreign Ministers, and chaired a meeting of Commonwealth Foreign Ministers. - Geneva: Met with the UNHCR High Commissioner, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and Director-General Elect of ILO. Attended a roundtable on International Committee of the Red Cross Priorities and a Signing Ceremony for a Funding Agreement with ICRC with the Director-General. - Paris: Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister Delegate for Development. |
| Egypt | 3 to 8 September 2012 | 6 | Cairo: 4 to 7 September |
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cairo: Met with the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, the Yemeni Foreign Minister, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, the Sudanese Foreign Minister, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, the Secretary of the |

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| <p>Arab League, the Grand Imam of Al Azhar and the Acting Patriarch of the Coptic Church. Attended a dinner with academics and representatives of civil society.</p> | | | |
| Solomon Islands | 17 to 19 August 2012 | 3 | Honiara: 17 to 19 August |
| <p>- Honiara: Met with the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, the Forum Fisheries Agency Director-General and members of the Combined Taskforce and Participating Police Force. Attended an official reception with key government ministers, Australian volunteers and Australian Alumni Executive Committee representatives. Visited a provincial hospital and AusAID-funded infrastructure project.</p> | | | |
| United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Israel, the Palestinian Territories | 30 July to 9 August 2012 | 11 | <p>Abu Dhabi: 31 July to 2 August</p> <p>Amman: 3 August to 5 August</p> <p>Jerusalem: 5 August to 6 August and 7 and 8 August</p> <p>Ramallah: 6 August</p> |
| <p>- Ramallah: Met with the Palestinian Foreign Minister, the Palestinian Prime Minister, the Palestinian President and an Executive Committee Member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.</p> <p>- Jerusalem: Met with the Israeli Prime Minister, Israeli Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, the Middle East Quartet Representative, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Israeli Labor Party Leader and other Labor Party members and MFA officials. Attended a wreath laying ceremony (Yad Vashem).</p> <p>- Amman: Met with the Foreign Minister, His Majesty King Abdullah II, the Director-General of General Intelligence Directorate, the Chief Commissioner of Petra Development and Tourism Regional Authority and the National Director of the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation. Participated in the Interfaith Roundtable with the Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and various academic and religious leaders. Attended Iftar (breaking of the fast) and visited UNHCR Syrian refugee camps.</p> <p>- Abu Dhabi: Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and signed the Agreement on Cooperation on the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, met with the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, members of the Defence Force and members of the Australian Business Community.</p> | | | |

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| Unites States, France, Japan, Cambodia, Indonesia | 1 July to 24 July 2012 | 24 | New York: 1 July to 5 July Paris: 6 July Tokyo: 7 July to 10 July Phnom Penh: 10 July to 13 July Yogyakarta: 13 July to 15 July Jakarta: 15 July to 17 July San Francisco: 17 July to 22 July |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - San Francisco: Met with Governor Mitt Romney, Dr Condoleezza Rice, Professor of Political Science, Stanford University and Dr George P. Shultz. Attended Bohemian Grove Meeting at the invitation of former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Met a range of senior and highly influential US political, business and academic leaders. - Jakarta: Met with the Foreign Minister, Parliamentary Commission, the Counter-Terrorism Coordinating Agency (BNPT), Minister for National Development Planning and Indonesian Political Commentators. Attended Foreign Ministers' Meeting. - Yogyakarta: Visited AusAID funded community projects and met with the monarch of Yogyakarta Sultanate, ACICIS students and Australian Alumni. - Phnom Penh: Attended ASEAN-Australia Ministerial Meeting, the 10th Southwest Pacific Dialogue, the 2nd East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the 19th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Retreat and the 2nd Friends of the Lower Mekong (FLM) Ministerial Meeting. Met with Minister of External Affairs, India, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and Secretary of State, USA. Visited Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. - Tokyo: Met with Minister of Foreign Affairs, Japan, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Germany, Assistant Minister for Security and Military Affairs, United Arab Emirates, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan, Minister of Foreign Affairs, France, Deputy Prime Minister of Croatia, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Afghanistan. Attended the Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan and signed an MOU with Minister of Finance, Afghanistan - Paris: Attended Friends of the Syrian People Meeting. - New York: Met with Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) co-authors group, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of | | | |

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| <p>Japan, President of the General Assembly, UN Secretary-General, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Israel and the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United States of America. Attended the Development Cooperation Forum and UNSC Review Meeting. Hosted events for members of the UN Economic and Social Council, Alliance of Small Island State and Permanent Representatives joining the July SVP to Australia.</p> | | | |
| <p>Burma (Rangoon, Nay Pyi Taw), Oman (Muscat), Saudi Arabia (Jeddah, Riyadh), United Kingdom (London), Turkey (Istanbul), Libya (Tripoli), Algeria (Algiers) and Morocco (Rabat)</p> | <p>5 to 22 June 2012</p> | <p>18</p> | <p>Rangoon: 5 June to 7 June; 8 June</p> <p>Nay Pyi Taw: 7 June</p> <p>Muscat: 9 June to 11 June</p> <p>Jeddah: 11 June to 12 June</p> <p>Riyadh: 12 June to 13 June</p> <p>London: 13 June to 15 June</p> <p>Istanbul: 15 June to 18 June</p> <p>Tripoli: 18 June</p> <p>Algiers: 18 June to 19 June</p> <p>Rabat: 19 June to 20 June</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rangoon: met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and with Presidential Advisers, attended roundtables with ethnic representatives and representatives from other democratic parties and with young Burmese on the future of Burma, met with local cultural identities, including the founder of the Yangon Heritage Trust, and with student leaders recently released from prison. Visited AusAID-funded education projects - Nay Pyi Taw: met with the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and with senior Ministers including the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Industry, and the Minister for National Planning and Economic Development. - Muscat: Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Commerce and Industry and the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Engaged with Australian business representatives. - Jeddah: Met with senior Saudi officials including the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of State for Foreign | | | |

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| <p>Affairs and the Director General of the Mecca Region for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riyadh: (transit) - London: Chaired the Ministerial Task Force meeting, met with the Commonwealth Secretary-General and met the Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. - Istanbul: attended the NPDI working session and met with the Foreign Minister of Turkey. Met with the Syrian National Council Leader and with the Libyan Foreign Minister. - Tripoli: Met with the Prime Minister and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. Engaged in a round-table meeting with the UNSG's SR for Libya, ICC representatives, the Spanish and Russian Ambassadors; and the Lebanese Charge. - Algiers: Met with the President of Algeria and with senior Algerian officials, including the Foreign Minister and the Minister for Energy and Mines. - Rabat: Met with senior Moroccan officials, including the Minister of State, the Foreign and Cooperation Minister, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the President of the House of Representatives. | | | |
| <p>China (Shanghai, Beijing, Shenyang) and Japan (Tokyo)</p> | <p>11 May to 19 May 2012</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>Shanghai: 11 to 13 May Beijing: 13 May to 15 May Shenyang: 15 May to 16 May Tokyo: 16 May to 18 May</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Shanghai</u>: Met with the Vice Mayor of Shanghai, engaged with Australian business representatives - <u>Beijing</u>: participated in the launch of the 40th anniversary of the diplomatic relationship between Australia and China, met with Vice-Premier and with Foreign Minister, met with the Deputy Chief of the PLA General Staff - <u>Shenyang</u>: met with local officials including the Shenyang Party Secretary and the Liaoning Governor, engaged with Australian business representatives - <u>Tokyo</u>: signed the Australia-Japan Information Security Agreement. Met with senior Japanese officials including the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Defence and Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry | | | |
| <p>Fiji (Suva)</p> | <p>30 April to 1 May 2012</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>Suva: 30 April to 1 May</p> |

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 21 November 2013

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations |
|---|---------------------|-----------|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Suva</u>: Participated in Ministerial Contact Group (MCG) and met senior officials including Acting Prime Minister and interim Attorney General, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation | | | |
| United States (New York and Washington), United Kingdom (London), Belgium (Brussels) and Malta (Valetta) | 9 to 28 April 2012 | 20 | New York: 9 to 14 April London: 15 to 17 April Brussels: 17 to 19 April Malta: 19 to 20 April Washington: 20 to 26 April |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>New York</u>: Engaged with senior UN figures, including the UN Secretary-General; met with regional groups and PRs - <u>London</u>: Attended CMAG meeting - <u>Brussels</u>: Attended the ISAF session of the NATO Ministerial meeting - <u>Malta</u>: Met the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister - <u>Washington</u>: Met with the Secretary of State, President of the World Bank, Director of National Intelligence, National Security Advisor, Director of Central Intelligence, Deputy Secretary of Defense, Chief of Staff to House Speaker | | | |
| Cambodia (Siem Reap and Phnom Penh), Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi) and Singapore | 24 to 31 March 2012 | 8 | Siem Reap: 24 to 25 March Phnom Penh: 25 to 27 March Ho Chi Minh City: 27 to 28 March Hanoi: 28 to 29 March Singapore: 29 to 30 March |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Siem Reap and Phnom Penh</u>: Met with senior Cambodian officials, including the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister - <u>Ho Chi Minh City</u>: Officially opened the Australian Consulate-General in Ho Chi Minh City - <u>Hanoi</u>: Met with senior Vietnamese officials, including the Foreign Minister - <u>Singapore</u>: Met with the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister | | | |
| New Zealand (Auckland) | 9 to 10 March 2012 | 2 | Auckland: 9 to 10 March |

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations |
|--|--------------|----------------------|------------------|
| - <u>Auckland</u> : Met with senior New Zealand officials, including the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister | | | |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 219

Program: DFAT

Topic: OS visit program of former FM Carr

Question on Notice

Page: 23

Senator Edwards

Question

When did he [former FM Carr] travel to G20?

Mr Roach: He departed Australia on 31 August. He got to Moscow on the 1st. He was there until 4 September. On the 4th he then went up to St Petersburg until 7 September.

Senator EDWARDS: So he came back on election day?

Mr Roach: His official travel terminated on 7 September and he then began some leave that was approved by the Prime Minister.

Senator EDWARDS: He remained in Russia after the 7 September election till when?

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

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is not privy to information regarding Ministers' movements whilst on leave. This query should be directed to the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 220

Program: DFAT

Topic: Integration

Question on Notice

Page: 27

Senator RHIANNON

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Could you give a summary of the different thematic areas [of the 13 Integration working groups] and how they are being handled?

Mr Grigson: Are you interested in the corporate areas as well as the thematic areas?

Senator RHIANNON: Yes. If it is a long list and you have got a lot of detail you could put it on notice.

Mr Grigson: It is a long list but I do not have a great detail of detail before me. So for financial management, for instance, the chief financial officers of both organisations are working together. In the end we will have an integrated financial services structure.

Senator RHIANNON: Because of time, where there is actually information about how you are doing it or where decisions have already been made—

Mr Grigson: We will take it on notice, Senator, and give you some information.

Answer

A. As at 21 November 2013, the thirteen working groups were:

1. Financial management

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

2. People management
3. Information and Communications Technology
4. Records Management
5. Property
6. Security
7. Aid management – procurement, quality and evaluation
8. Foreign/development policy and aid program management (Asia)
9. Foreign/development policy and aid program management (Pacific)
10. Multilateral issues
11. Humanitarian, crisis management, stabilisation
12. Parliamentary, media and public communications
13. Economic Diplomacy and Trade-Aid issues

All the Working Groups were co-led by DFAT and former-AusAID staff and had membership from both DFAT and former AusAID. The Working Groups considered how to integrate the staff, functions and systems in their particular areas and made recommendations to the Task Force and the Steering Committee.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 221

Program: DFAT

Topic: Graduate Program

Question on Notice

Page: 31

Senator Lundy

Question

A. Could you provide a copy of that piece of correspondence to the committee. Could you also provide a copy of the correspondence informing them that their job was offered and then withdrawn.

B. Could you provide examples of those three pieces of correspondence to the committee.

Answer

A. Relevant correspondence with the 2014 Graduates includes:

- 22 August 2013: Written letter of offer of employment.
- 7 November 2013: Phone calls informing them of a preliminary decision to terminate their employment contract.
- 8 November 2013: Written letter notifying them of the preliminary decision to terminate their employment contract.

B. Examples of the two pieces of written correspondence; the Letter of Offer dated 22 August 2013 and the Preliminary Notice of Termination dated 8 November 2013 are at Attachments A and B.



Australian Government

AusAID

«Title» «First_Name» «Surname»

«Address»

«Suburb» «State» «Post_Code»

«GreetingLine»

I am pleased to confirm your offer of ongoing engagement to the position of Graduate, APS Level 3.2, position number «Position_Number_», in the «Stream» Stream of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID).

Your ongoing engagement is in accordance with Section 22(2)(a) of the Public Service Act 1999. Details of your engagement are set out in Attachment 1, Conditions of Engagement.

If you agree to the terms and conditions of your engagement and wish to accept this offer, please sign and return the notification of acceptance at Attachment 2 via fax to (02) 6178 6085 or email to graduate@ausaid.gov.au no later than 5pm AEST Wednesday 4 September 2013.

On your commencement date please report to the main reception desk at AusAID, 255 London Circuit, Canberra City at 9:00am.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact XXXXX at graduate@ausaid.gov.au or on (02) 6178 XXXXX.

Yours sincerely

XXXX XXXX

Manager, Recruitment and Placements Unit
Human Resource Services Branch

22 August 2013

| | |
|--|---|
| Full name | «Title» «First_Name» «Surname» |
| AGS Number | «AGS_number» |
| Classification | Graduate APS Level 3.2 |
| Position Number | «Position_Number_» |
| Hours per week | 37.05 hours Full Time |
| Salary | \$57,762 |
| Commencement Date | 4 February 2014 |
| Terms and Conditions | <p>The terms and conditions of your employment will be as set out in the AusAID Enterprise Agreement 2011-14, which can be found in the careers section of AusAID’s web site at www.ausaid.gov.au.</p> <p>The <i>Public Service Act 1999</i> applies to your employment and you should familiarise yourself with the provisions of that Act, in particular, sections 10 (APS Values), 13 (The APS Code of Conduct), 25 (Assignment of duties), 29 (Termination of employment) and 30 (Retirement). In signing your acceptance, you agree to abide by the APS Values and Code of Conduct as set out in the Act.</p> |
| Probation | <p>Your engagement is subject to an initial period of probation of six months. This period can be extended by three monthly increments up to a maximum duration of twelve months. In order to satisfy the probationary requirements, you will be required to obtain two consecutive effective performance ratings. If there are any doubts as to your work performance or conduct, during your probationary period, your probation may be extended or your engagement will be annulled. During the probationary period, unless otherwise advised, your probation will continue if you are assigned other duties within the agency at the same classification, or if your duties are affected by a machinery of government change. Whilst you are on probation Clause 86 of AusAID’s Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014 (Procedures for Management of Under Performance) will not apply.</p> |
| Qualifications | <p>It is a condition of your employment that you must hold a bachelor degree (or higher) from an Australian tertiary institution or equivalent overseas qualification. You will be required to provide certified true copies of your formal qualifications prior to commencement.</p> |
| Security clearance: | <p>You must obtain a security clearance to the level of Negative Vetting 1 within six months of commencement and maintain this throughout your employment.</p> |
| Other conditions of engagement under s. 22(6) | <p>Upon termination of your employment you will be restricted from participating in an AusAID project, where the project relates to the area where you have worked while employed by AusAID, for a period of nine (9) months after your separation from AusAID. In this context, participating in an AusAID project includes working on or advising in relation to the project or advising or assisting in the preparation of any tender or offer to undertake the project.</p> <p>If it becomes evident that you have not or cannot meet the conditions listed, your employment may be terminated under s.29(3)(f) of the PS Act ‘failure to meet a condition imposed under section 22(6)’.</p> |

Notice of Engagement

As delegate of the Director General under the *Public Service Act 1999* (the Act), I:

- i. engage the person who is specified below as an ongoing APS employee under section 22(2)(a) of the Act subject to the subsection 22(6) conditions set out below;
- ii. allocate the classification specified below to that employee under the Public Service Classification Rules 2000; and
- iii. assign the duties specified below to that employee under section 25 of the Act.

This Notice of Engagement will take effect on the commencement date specified, provided the employee takes up duty on that day. If the employee does not take up duty on the date specified, this offer of employment may lapse.

XXXX XXXX

Manager, Recruitment and Placements Unit
Human Resource Services Branch

22 August 2013

Notification of Acceptance

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: __/__/__

Signature: _____

Date: __/__/__

The APS Values

The Australian Public Service:

- is apolitical, performing its functions in an impartial and professional manner;
- is a public service in which employment decisions are based on merit;
- provides a workplace that is free from discrimination and recognises and utilises the diversity of the Australian community it serves;
- has the highest ethical standards;
- is openly accountable for its actions, within the framework of Ministerial responsibility to the Government, the Parliament and the Australian public;
- is responsive to the Government in providing frank, honest, comprehensive, accurate and timely advice and in implementing the Government's policies and programs;
- delivers services fairly, effectively, impartially and courteously to the Australian public and is sensitive to the diversity of the Australian public;
- has leadership of the highest quality;
- establishes workplace relations that value communication, consultation, co-operation and input from employees on matters that affect their workplace;
- provides a fair, flexible, safe and rewarding workplace;
- focuses on achieving results and managing performance;
- promotes equity in employment;
- provides a reasonable opportunity to all eligible members of the community to apply for APS employment;
- is a career-based service to enhance the effectiveness and cohesion of Australia's democratic system of government;
- provides a fair system of review of decisions taken in respect of employees.

Agency heads are bound by the Code of Conduct in the same way as APS employees and have an additional duty to promote the APS Values

The Code

The Code of Conduct requires that an employee must:

- behave honestly and with integrity in the course of APS employment;
- act with care and diligence in the course of APS employment;
- when acting in the course of APS employment, treat everyone with respect and courtesy, and without harassment;
- when acting in the course of APS employment, comply with all applicable Australian laws;
- comply with any lawful and reasonable direction given by someone in the employee's Agency who has authority to give the direction;
- maintain appropriate confidentiality about dealings that the employee has with any Minister or Minister's member of staff;
- disclose, and take reasonable steps to avoid, any conflict of interest (real or apparent) in connection with APS employment;
- use Commonwealth resources in a proper manner;
- not provide false or misleading information in response to a request for information that is made for official purposes in connection with the employee's APS employment;
- not make improper use of:
 - a. inside information, or
 - b. the employee's duties, status, power or authority, in order to gain, or seek to gain, a benefit or advantage for the employee or for any other person;
- at all times behave in a way that upholds the APS Values and the integrity and good reputation of the APS;
- while on duty overseas, at all times behave in a way that upholds the good reputation of Australia; and
- comply with any other conduct requirement that is prescribed by the regulations.



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

File Number: 13/16844

8 November 2013

(Insert Address)

Dear XXXXX

Termination of your graduate position

Further to our phone call on 7 November 2013, I am writing to advise you of the effect recent announcements made by the Australian Government will have on your employment with AusAID.

On 17 October 2013 the Australian Government decided to abolish AusAID as an Executive Agency. As a result, AusAID's employees and functions have been transferred to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Department) effective as of 1 November 2013.

The Australian Government has also announced significant reductions to the aid budget and increased efficiency savings measures. For these reasons, the circumstances that led to your offer of employment in the 2014 graduate program have changed. Regrettably, given the changed circumstances, the Department has made the preliminary decision to terminate your employment contract pursuant to section 29(3)(a) of the Public Service Act 1999 on the grounds that you are now excess to requirements. It is proposed that your employment will terminate on 17 December 2013.

Before making a final decision concerning the termination of your employment, you are invited to provide the Department with any information you consider may be relevant to the decision to terminate your employment contract. You should send your response to the XXXXX at graduate@dfat.gov.au by no later than 5pm (DST) on 22 November 2013.

After considering your response to this letter, the Department will notify you of its final decision concerning the termination of your employment contract.

If you do not provide the Department with a written response, the Department will make a decision concerning the termination of your employment contract on the information before it.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact XXXXX, on +61 2 XXXX XXXX or by email to graduate@dfat.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

XXXXX
First Assistant Secretary

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 222

Program: DFAT

Topic: Graduate Program

Question on Notice

Page: 32

Senator Lundy

Question

What I require is the time line for all of these events. Could you provide details on when the graduate program was first advertised, when the potential recruits were interviewed and all of the correspondence associated with that process, or examples thereof, and outline what remedies are available from the department to these recruits who believed they had a job and made a series of life decisions on that basis and are now being told there is no job.

Answer

The timeline of events for the 2014 AusAID Graduate Program is detailed in the table below:

| Date | Action |
|--------------------------|--|
| 26 March – 18 April 2013 | Applications opened for the AusAID 2014 Graduate Program. |
| 14 June – 8 July 2013 | Interviews were held in Canberra. |
| 26 July 2013 | Selection Committee Reports were signed. |
| 14 – 16 August 2013 | Verbal offers of employment were made. |
| 22 August 2013 | Formal Letter of Offer was e-mailed to successful candidates. |
| 29 August 2013 | Formal Acceptance of Offer was received by AusAID from candidates. |
| <i>18 September 2013</i> | <i>Government announced the integration of AusAID and DFAT.</i> |
| <i>31 October 2013</i> | <i>Senator Eric Abetz announced the interim recruitment arrangements in the APS.</i> |
| <i>1 November 2013</i> | <i>AusAID was integrated into DFAT.</i> |
| 4 November 2013 | Department made the preliminary decision not to proceed with offers of employment to prospective AusAID graduate trainees. |
| 7 November 2013 | Phone calls were made to candidates to notify them of the preliminary decision not to proceed with offers of employment. |
| 8 November 2013 | Letters notifying the candidates of the preliminary decision were e-mailed and posted to candidates. The letters invited |

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Supplementary Budget Estimates, 21 November 2013

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

| | |
|--|--|
| | candidates to respond by 22 November if they wished to raise any issues. |
|--|--|

Further to the timeline above, the following has occurred since the Senate Estimates hearing on 21 November 2013:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 22 November 2013 | Sixteen graduates submitted a joint response and 28 (including 12 which were part of the joint response) provided individual responses. One graduate responded with advice he had secured other employment. Three graduates did not respond. 20 individuals raised issues requiring clarification or sought extensions. |
| 29 November 2013 | The Department provided interim responses to 20 individuals and provided an extension of the consultation deadline until 6 December 2013. |
| 6 December 2013 | The Department received an additional 15 responses from 16 individuals (including one joint response). |
| 12 December 2013 | The Secretary made the decision to terminate employment of the 2014 AusAID graduates. |
| 17 December 2013 | Letters notifying the candidates of the final decision, which takes effect on 31 January 2014, were e-mailed and posted to candidates. The letters provided information about candidates being able to apply for reimbursement of costs outlaid, and about the Department contacting other APS agencies and the Australian Public Service Commission in an effort to seek alternative employment opportunities within the APS. |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 223

Program: DFAT

Topic: Graduate Program

Question on Notice

Page: 32

Senator Lundy

Question

Will you (the Department) be contacting the recruits from AusAID and notifying them about that potential opportunity? (the opportunity to apply for the integrated graduate recruitment round)

Answer

In its letter of 17 December 2013, the Department notified all the 2014 former AusAID graduate recruits that the Department would have a Graduate Program in 2015 and that candidates would be selected through a merit-based selection process. The Department also wrote to encourage those who wished to work for the Department to apply when applications opened in early 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 224

Program: DFAT

Topic: Graduate Program

Question on Notice

Page: 32

Senator Lundy

Question

Can you tell me whether these recruits have been offered any support following the receipt of this letter? What has been offered to them to at least help them understand what has happened?

Answer

Prior to sending letters, the Department made phone calls to the individuals concerned on 7 November in order to:

- . explain the preliminary decision to terminate their employment contract, including the reasons why the Department had reached this preliminary decision;
- . take any questions raised in response;
- . foreshadow that this advice would be conveyed in writing on 8 November 2013; and
- . explain there was an opportunity for individuals to respond in order to provide the Department with any information relevant to making a final decision.

The Department's letter of 8 November 2013 provided phone and email contact details of a Departmental officer for individuals to contact should they wish to discuss any aspect of the letter. The Department provided interim responses to issues requiring clarification on 29 November and extended the deadline for replies until 6 December 2013, where requested.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

The Department held consultations with employee representatives by phone and through meetings. On 17 December 2013, the Department wrote to the 35 individuals to advise of the Secretary's final decision to terminate their employment under section 29(3)(a) of the *Public Service Act*, effective on 31 January 2014. This letter advised that the Department was continuing to pursue possible APS employment opportunities prior to that time.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 225

Program: DFAT

Topic: Graduate Program

Question on Notice

Page: 33

Senator Lundy

Question

***A. Did AusAID staff travel to the locations to conduct the interviews;
and***

B. Did they incur any costs that can now be paid back?

Answer

A. AusAID staff did not travel to conduct interviews for the 2014 AusAID Graduate Program. All interviews were conducted in Canberra either face-to-face or via telephone.

B. No costs were incurred by AusAID staff for travel to conduct an interview.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 226

Program: DFAT

Topic: Graduate Program

Question on Notice

Page: 33

Senator Lundy

Question

Have you received any specific claims in relation to detriment caused by the axing of the program, apart from this letter that you have sent out eliciting a response?

Answer

Some graduates have raised various claims that they have suffered detriment as a result of the advice of termination of their employment. These claims included declining or the cessation of the pursuit of alternative employment, relocation costs and other financial commitments made on the expectation of employment, stress and anxiety and the impact on their careers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 227

Program: DFAT

Topic: FM Travel

Question on Notice

Page: 33

Senator Dastyari

Question

A. Senator Edwards, for altruistic reasons, asked a series of questions with regard to former Foreign Minister Carr. When you are doing those calculations and putting the figures together could you also do the same calculations for the current Foreign Minister, including travel requirements and similar matters. I refer in particular to media reports that the current Foreign Minister has requested that, while travelling overseas, somebody from the mission be assigned as her running mate. So I am asking that you do for Foreign Minister Bishop the exact same calculations for the exact same series of questions that have been asked about Senator Carr

Answer

A. No temporary gym memberships have been arranged for Minister Bishop. Security details only accompanied Ms Bishop to the gym in countries where the host government provided security for the duration of the visit. The Minister has not cancelled any scheduled meetings to attend the gym. The Minister has not attended any pilates classes while on overseas trips.

The Minister has been accompanied on morning runs while travelling on a number of occasions by staff who volunteered to do so. No posts have advised that the Minister requested this.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

B. Minister Bishop has visited the following cultural and historical sites on her overseas trips:

- Indonesia: - Wreath laying at Kalibata Heroes Cemetery, Wreath laying at the Bali Memorial Monument
- USA: - Wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington DC

C. Ministerial travel programs change significantly from the time of initial preparation to the time of travel.

For details of international travel by Foreign Minister Bishop, please see the answer to question 230.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 228

Program: DFAT

Topic: Graduate Program

Question on Notice

Page: 33

Senator Lundy

Question

Going back to the graduate program for 2014, could I ask the department to provide details of how many people were offered employment.

Answer

There were 42 offers of employment accepted as a result of the DFAT graduate recruitment process for the 2014 program.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 229

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staff Reductions

Question on Notice

Page: 33

Senator Fawcett

Question

What was the final number of staffing reductions from May 2012 as a result of the efficiency dividend?

Answer

The Department's actual FTE as at May 2012 was 2449 which increased by 1 FTE to 2450 as at 30 November 2013. This reflects that the department's FTE was increased to reflect new functions funded through budget measures and through adjustments under the Department's Passport Funding Agreement. The Department does not calculate staffing reductions associated solely with the efficiency dividend.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 230

Program: DFAT

Topic: FM Travel

Question on Notice

Page: 35

Senator Wong

Question

A. Mr Roach, could you give full details of the minister's trips since she was sworn in—how long she stayed in each place and a full list of who was met on each of those trips.

Mr Roach: I can probably assist you now.

Senator WONG: Do you have it in a document?

CHAIR: It is probably better on notice.

Senator WONG: You can table the document. I would much prefer that, if that is possible.

Mr Grigson: We will take it on notice...

Senator WONG: ... We might ask some questions about that, but that is a matter for you. Can you also indicate how many departmental and ministerial staff have accompanied the minister on each trip.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Answer

The Hon Julie Bishop MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Overseas Travel: 18 September 2013 to 8 January 2014

How many overseas visits has Ms Bishop undertaken since being sworn in as Foreign Minister?

- . Ms Bishop has undertaken **8** official overseas visits to **13** countries for a total of **46** days from **18 September 2013**. The Prime Minister's office has approved all of Ms Bishop's travel, including destinations and accompanying advisers.
- . Ms Bishop was accompanied by **two** advisers on visits to New Zealand; Singapore and Indonesia; Japan, Republic of Korea, China; and the United States of America. On all other visits she has been accompanied by one adviser.
- . EXB/MEL manages the logistics and coordination of Ms Bishop's overseas travel with her office, divisions and posts.
- . Ms Bishop's flights are booked by EXB through FCm Travel, which is contracted by the Department of Finance (DoF) to provide travel services to federal parliamentarians.
- . Costs and details for Ms Bishop's travel are available from DoF, which is responsible for the cost of airfares, accommodation, meals and incidentals, ground transport, non-portfolio-related hospitality and miscellaneous incidentals for Ministers and their staff. DoF tables a document on Ministerial Travel expenses every six months.
- . The Department of Defence manages the use of Special Purpose Aircraft (SPA)/VIP and RAAF flights. Ministers typically use RAAF SPA/VIP and chartered aircraft when:
 - scheduled services are not available; or
 - the use of scheduled services would prevent Ministers from meeting official commitments; or
 - the use of scheduled services would not be the most cost-effective means of travel.
- . From 18 September 2013 Ms Bishop has undertaken **10** SPA/VIP flights:
 - **Indonesia (Jakarta):** Sydney to Jakarta on 29 September and Jakarta to Canberra on 30 September 2013 (with the Prime Minister).
 - **New Zealand (Auckland), Singapore and Indonesia (Bali):** Canberra to Auckland on Wednesday 2 October, Auckland to

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Singapore on Thursday 3 October, Singapore to Bali on Friday 4 October and Bali to Perth on Saturday 5 October 2013.

- **Solomon Islands (Honiara), Nauru and Vanuatu (Port Vila):**
Sydney to Honiara on Monday 16 December, Honiara to Nauru on Wednesday 18 December, Nauru to Port Vila on Wednesday 18 December and Port Vila to Brisbane on Thursday 19 December.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Details of Ms Bishop's overseas visits from 18 September 2013

Ms Bishop has travelled to the following locations.

| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations Accompanying Staff |
|---|------------------------|-----------|---|
| Solomon Islands (Honiara), Nauru and Vanuatu (Port Vila) | 16 to 19 December 2013 | 4 | Honiara: 16 to 18 December 2013 Nauru: 18 December 2013 Port Vila: 18 to 19 December 2013 Assistant Media Adviser: Gabrielle Young |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Honiara: Met with the Prime Minister. Attended a briefing at the Forum Fisheries Agency. Visited the remote community at Avu Avu and Burns Creek to view aid programs. Visited the RAMSI base. Attended a breakfast with the Foreign Minister and Australian and Solomon Islands business representatives, attended a reception for senior government representatives, business leaders, scholarship recipients and volunteers and their host organisations. - Nauru: Met with the President and Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister Assisting the President and Minister for Justice, the Minister for Education and Minister for Women's Affairs, the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Parliamentary Council. Visited the Offshore Processing Centre. Attended a lunch with the President, Nauru Cabinet, caucus and women community and business leaders. Visited the Nauru Secondary school, viewed the Technical and Vocational Education and Training building under construction and met with an Australia Award scholarship recipient. - Port Vila: Attended a dinner hosted by the Prime Minister and a breakfast hosted by the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs. Attended a ceremony to mark the return to service of a patrol boat. Launched with the Vanuatu Government two programs funded by the Australian Government. Attended the Women's Economic Empowerment Forum. | | | |
| Indonesia, China and Philippines | 4 to 9 December 2013 | 6 | Jakarta: 5 December 2013 Beijing: 6 to 7 December 2013 Manila: 7 to 8 December 2013 Senior Adviser: Robert Fergusson |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jakarta: Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Met with former Foreign Minister and Member of the President's Advisory Council. | | | |

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations Accompanying Staff |
|--|---------------------------|-----------|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beijing: Met with the Vice-President and the Minister, International Department of the Chinese Communist Party. Participated in the Foreign and Strategic Dialogue with the Foreign Minister. Attended a dinner with the Foreign Minister, a lunch with Australian business representatives and a morning tea with New Colombo Plan stakeholders. - Manila: Toured typhoon affected areas in Leyte Province. Met with Cabinet Secretaries including the Foreign Secretary, Secretary for Public Works, Secretary for Socioeconomic Planning and Undersecretary for Energy. Met with the Defence Minister of Japan. Attended a dinner with a group of senior interlocutors from media, international financial institution, political consultancy, banking and NGO sectors. | | | |
| Sri Lanka, India and United States of America | 12 to 24 November 2013 | 12 | Colombo: 13 to 15 November 2013 Mumbai: 15 to 17 November 2013 Delhi: 17 to 18 November 2013 Washington 19 to 22 November 2013 Chief of Staff: Murray Hansen Senior Adviser: James Choi (USA only) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Colombo: Attended CHOGM including two lunches and a dinner hosted by the Minister of External Affairs of Sri Lanka. Phone call with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Minister of State. Met with the Minister of Economic Development, the Secretary of the Ministry of Defence and Urban Development, the leader of the Tamil National Alliance and the Opposition leader of Sri Lanka. Also met with the Foreign Ministers of Bangladesh, Zambia, Seychelles, the Foreign and Trade Minister of Kenya, the UK Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, CARICOM Foreign Ministers, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration of Papua New Guinea and the CEO of Senok group. Attended a reception for Australian business community and development partners and a reception hosted by the Chairman of Union Bank. Attended an Australian alumni event - Mumbai: Attended a breakfast with Australian business contacts and State representatives and a dinner with senior Indian Business representatives, the official opening of the Australian Consulate General, witnessed the signing of the MoU between National Trauma Research Institute and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Addressed business and financial representatives. Met with the Governor of | | | |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations Accompanying Staff |
|---|--------------------|-----------|---|
| <p>the Reserve Bank of India.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delhi: Attended a lunch with prominent Indian political and economic figures and a dinner hosted by the Minister of External Affairs. Met with the Minister of External Affairs, the Minister of Finance, the National Security Advisor, the leader of the Opposition in the Upper House, a winner of 'Win Your Future Unlimited', visited the Asha society and witnessed the signing of an MoU on Customs Cooperation and Letter of Intent to Fund Nalanda University. - Washington: Met with the Office of the Chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee, the Democratic Whip, the National Security Advisor, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the House Majority Leader, Senator for Arizona, Senior Advisor to the President and the Director of National Intelligence. Attended a wreath-laying ceremony and toured the Capitol building. Attended a lunch with political commentators, a lunch with CIA officials and a dinner with Asia-Pacific commentators. Attended AUSMIN, an AUSMIN dinner hosted by the United States and an AUSMIN dinner hosted by the Ambassador. | | | |
| Indonesia | 6-8 November 2013 | 3 | Bali: 6 to 8 November 2013 Adviser: Sam Riordan |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bali: Attended Bali Democracy Forum including a lunch hosted by the President of the Republic of Indonesia and a dinner hosted by the Foreign Minister of Indonesia. Met with the Secretary of State for Wales (UK), the Foreign Minister of the Netherlands and the Foreign Minister of Indonesia. | | | |
| Japan, Republic of Korea and China | 14-20 October 2013 | 7 | Tokyo: 14 to 16 October 2013 Seoul: 16 to 19 October 2013 Hong Kong: 19 to 20 October 2013 Chief of Staff: Murray Hansen Senior Adviser: James Choi |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tokyo: Met with the Prime Minister, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; the Minister for Defence, the Minister of State for Economic Revitalisation; Social Security and Tax Reform; Economic and Fiscal Policy, the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Secretary-General, the Regional General Manager, Japan and Korea, Tourism Australia, the Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committee Executive Committee and Japan- | | | |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|
| <p>Australia Diet Members' League. Attended a roundtable to discuss the New Colombo Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seoul: Attended the Seoul Conference on Cyberspace including a reception hosted by the President. Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Trade, the Minister of Defense and the Chief of the National Security Council. Met with the Secretary of State's Coordinator for Cyber Issues, USA, Deputy Foreign Minister of Israel, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the UK, the Parliamentary Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs from Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Sweden and Thailand, the Commander of USFK/CFC/UNC, the acting President of Sungkyunkwan University and the Chairman of POSCO. Attended a breakfast with Australian and Korean business representatives and a dinner with prominent Korean political and economic figures. - Hong Kong: Met with the Chief Executive of Hong Kong, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, AustCham Hong Kong board members and the President and Chief Executive of Hayco Manufacturing Ltd. Attended a dinner with New Colombo Plan stakeholders. | | | |
| New Zealand, Singapore and Indonesia | 2 October to 5 October 2013 | 4 | <p>Auckland: 2 to 3 October 2013 Singapore: 3 to 4 October 2013 Bali: 4 to 5 October 2013</p> <p>Adviser: Sam Riordan</p> <p>Assistant Media Adviser: Gabrielle Young</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Auckland: Met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Defence and State Services and the Minister for Food Safety, Civil Defence and Youth Affairs. - Singapore: Met with the Prime Minister, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law, and business leaders. - Bali: Attended the APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM). Met with Ministers for Foreign Affairs from Canada, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines. Participated in trilateral discussions with the Secretary of State, USA and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan. Met with the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Hong Kong and the Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei. | | | |
| Indonesia | 30 September to 1 October 2013 | 2 | <p>Jakarta: 30 September to 1 October 2013</p> <p>Adviser: Sam Riordan</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jakarta: Accompanied the Prime Minister to Indonesia. Met with the President, | | | |

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| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations Accompanying Staff |
|---|----------------------|-----------|---|
| members of the Indonesian Cabinet, and Indonesian and Australian business leaders. | | | |
| United States of America | 22-29 September 2013 | 8 | New York: 22-27 September 2013 Chief of Staff: Murray Hansen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New York: Attended UN Leader's Week including delivering Australia's national statement at the General Debate of the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly and at the UN High-Level Meeting on the Realisation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for Persons with Disabilities. Chaired the UN Security Council High-Level Debate on Small Arms; the High-Level Event on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT); and the Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting. - Met with Foreign Ministers from Afghanistan, Argentina, Barbados, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Fiji, Finland, France, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Russia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United States of America, Vanuatu and Yemen. - Met with the UN Secretary-General; the Minister of Planning and Sustainable Development of Trinidad and Tobago; the Prime Ministers of Malta and Samoa; the Director, Copenhagen Consensus Centre; the President of the World Bank Group; the President of the 68th Session of the General Assembly; the Chef de Cabinet to the President of the General Assembly; the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs; the Administrator, UNDP and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission. - Met with the Kings of Swaziland and of Tonga; the Presidents of Federated States of Micronesia; Cyprus; Liberia; Lebanon; Côte d'Ivoire; Latvia; and Georgia - Attended a reception hosted by the President of the United States of America. | | | |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 231

Program: DFAT

Topic: Japan

Question on Notice

Page: 37

Senator Wong

Question

Were there any reactions from other foreign diplomats or diplomatic corps to the minister's statements? [we should describe Japan as our best friend in Asia and not only say it but mean it]

Answer

There have been no representations in response to the Foreign Minister and Prime Minister's statement that Japan is our best friend in Asia.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 232

Program: DFAT

Topic: Burma

Question on Notice

Page: 37

Senator Dastyari

Question

A: What can we expect to be the nature of any kind of diplomatic support for Defence engagement - in particular, are you aware of plans for things like joint military exercises and training exchanges?

B: Is it the understanding of the Australian government that the Myanmar military is still involved in any form of domestic military activity?

Answer

A. Defence will post a resident Defence Attaché to Burma on 20 January 2014.

Defence engagement with Burma will focus on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in multilateral settings. We will engage bilaterally on peacekeeping issues. The Australian Defence Force will not engage in any combat-related training exercises with the military.

B: Yes. The Tatmadaw is involved in a broad range of domestic military activities.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 233

Program: DFAT

Topic: China

Question on Notice

Page: 37

Senator Wong

Question

On notice are you able to provide the committee with an analysis focusing on the economic reforms in the communiqué and the extent to which they are beneficial to Australia's interests? I would be interested in an analysis of that. I assume there are Treasury people also available to do that. Is that possible? I think it will be useful.

Answer

At the Third Plenum of the Chinese Communist Party's 18th Central Committee in November 2013, Chinese authorities endorsed a broad suite of market-oriented reforms to push the Chinese economy towards greater opening and a more balanced and sustainable growth model. This should support longer-term growth prospects if successfully implemented.

The liberalisation of China's capital account over the next decade is widely seen as a key outcome of the financial reform process. The resulting international re-balancing of portfolio assets will have significant impacts on Chinese and world financial markets, including Australia, as Chinese households and businesses seek to diversify their holdings towards foreign assets and foreigners gain fuller access to China's financial markets.

Some aspects of the reforms could temper China's growth in the short-term. The market allocation of resources, a linchpin of China's reform program, is likely to lead to higher factor costs for business and a stronger exchange rate. To successfully manage the rising cost pressures for many businesses flowing from the reforms, Chinese firms will need to continue to invest in and adjust their business models, including fostering ongoing improvements

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

in productivity and moving further up the production chain into more sophisticated products. In addition, a more restrained approach to state-led investment may weigh on economic growth in coming years, as the authorities look to encourage private sources of growth.

The Australian Treasury expects China's demand for raw construction materials to continue to grow in the medium term as GDP per capita in China increases. However, this is likely to be at a slower pace than in the past as China's need for resource-intensive infrastructure moderates in line with the economic transition to a more balanced and sustainable growth path as outlined in the reforms package, and in line with more efficient resource usage.

Liberalisation of China's exchange and interest rates, and a move towards full convertibility of the renminbi, has the potential to significantly increase Chinese investment in Australia. Australian services firms such as in the banking, pension funds, consulting, legal and insurance sectors will benefit from access to a larger market, and also from managing their Chinese clients' increased investments in Australia.

The reforms also have the potential to create export opportunities for Australian firms in sectors such as clean energy, green design, environmental services, specialised manufactured goods and agribusiness, especially in China's fast-growing second and third tier cities and provinces.

The Third Plenum has made a promising start to address China's economic problems. The next step is for its decisions to filter down through the bureaucracy for implementation. This will be critical, and a difficult task amid continuing pressure to maintain strong rates of economic growth, particularly at the provincial level of government. The central question remains whether policy implementation can move quickly enough to address these pressures before they have any dampening effect on economic activity, with possible consequences for the reform path itself. **Table 1** below provides a list of the proposed reforms and how they are expected to be implemented in the years ahead.

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Table 1

| The commitment | What might we see? |
|--|--|
| Encourage growth of the private sector alongside the public sector | SOE reform likely to be gradual, with competition opened up to the private sector in some areas. |
| Allow the market to play a decisive role in resource allocation | Reduced state intervention, market-determined factor prices, including land. Financial system reform. |
| Establish a 'rule of law' and service-oriented government | Administrative reform to strengthen and optimise government structure and governance capacity. |
| Deepen fiscal and taxation reform | Effort to modernise fiscal system to improve transparency, efficiency and better coordinate central and provincial interests. |
| Integrate urban and rural development | Possible <i>hukou</i> (household registration) reform. Rural residents to get more equal treatment as well as more property rights and protection. |
| Build open economic systems | Relaxation of foreign investment rules; more free trade zones; free flow of resources and market integration across borders. |
| Strengthen the Socialist democratic political system | Focus on improving the People's Congress system, while maintaining CCP control. |
| Deepen judicial reform | Effort to encourage the rule of law but independence may be difficult due to Party control. |
| Strengthen restraint and supervision of the use of power | Anti-corruption campaign to continue in the effort for clean government. Checks and balances introduced within the Party. |
| Promote innovation and | Effort to develop a 'better' cultural management |

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| | |
|---|---|
| cultural reform | system, with a more open cultural market. |
| Social reform | Increased fiscal expenditure on social security, health care and education. Efforts to reduce income inequality. |
| Guarantee national security through social governance | Continued preoccupation with internal stability. China will establish a National Security Committee. |
| Draw 'red lines' for ecological protection | Better natural resources rights and management system. If enforced, this may constrain development of heavy industry. |
| Deepen national defence and military reform | Address corruption within military and ensure it remains subordinate to the Party. |
| Strengthen the Party's leadership over the reform process | Leading Small Group on Comprehensively Deepening Reform to be established. Could be a key agent to push through difficult reform. |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 234

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia/People Smuggling

Question on Notice

Senator Wong

Page 40

Question

Senator WONG: ... I was asking whether the Indonesian government, prior to the election, raised the issue of turning back the boats, a coalition's policy, with embassy or any DFAT staff.

Mr Chittick: I do not have a recollection, but I can take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Could you do that—and whether there were any meetings held about this issue. I do not need to know everything that happened at the meeting, but on how many occasions it was raised, in what context and at what level—was it with the ambassador or was it with whatever number secretary or any other the context?

Answer

DFAT, including the Embassy in Jakarta, did not discuss the then opposition's policy on people smuggling with the Indonesian Government prior to the election.

Engagement with the Indonesian Government on people smuggling issues during the care-taker period focused on Australia's participation (Senator Carr) at Indonesia's Special Conference on Irregular Movement of People hosted held in Jakarta on 20 August.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 235

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia – Engagement with Indonesian Government between 7 and 30 September 2013

Question on Notice

Page: 41

Senator WONG

Question

Between 7 September and 30 September, what engagement did embassy staff or other DFAT officials have with the Indonesian government? Tell me how that worked. Post the election, were meetings held in preparation for the visit? I presume the ambassador must have spoken to his counterpart. In that three-week period prior to the 30th, what sort of engagement was there between embassy staff and Indonesian officials?

Senator Brandis: You are calling that a process, are you, Senator Wong?

Senator WONG: Yes.

Mr Cox: I think we had better take that on notice, Senator.

Senator WONG: On what basis?

Mr Cox: On the basis that we need to get a full readout from the embassy about the meetings that they have had.

Senator WONG: Sure. If you do not know, that is fine. Take it on notice. I presume in the lead-up to a prime ministerial visit you are going to have a lot of engagement, correct?

Mr Grigson: Yes, but we cannot detail all the meetings that the ambassador would have had. We do not have notes on that now.

Answer

Between 7 September and 30 September 2013, Australian Embassy officials in Jakarta and DFAT officials in Canberra continued to engage as usual with the Indonesian Government on a range of bilateral and multilateral issues. In addition, preparation for the Prime Minister's visit to Jakarta from 30 September to 1 October 2013, accompanied by the Minister for

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Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Trade and Investment and a senior business delegation, involved additional engagement with the Indonesian Government, including meetings, telephone calls and email correspondence to discuss program, logistics, protocol and other issues.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 236

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia/People Smuggling

Question on Notice

Page: 41

Senator Wong

Question

Were there discussions [with the Indonesian government] about the incoming government's approach to asylum seeker policy?

Mr Grigson: We will take it on notice. We do not have the notes here.

Senator Wong: I am not asking for those, was the topic raised?

Answer

As the First Assistant Secretary of the South-East Asia Division Mr Cox advised (page 41 of Hansard) “the minister met with her counterpart, Marty Natalegawa in New York during the leaders week and the bilateral relationship was discussed, including our broad policies on people smuggling issues”. The meeting took place on 23 September 2013. The meeting took place on 23 September 2013.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 237

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia – Bilateral meetings between Foreign Minister Bishop and Indonesian Minister for Foreign Affairs Natalegawa

Question on Notice

Page: 41-42

Senator WONG

Question

How many bilateral meetings to date has Ms Bishop had with Mr Natalegawa?

Mr Cox: Six.

Senator WONG: Was the leaders week one the first?

Mr Cox: Yes.

Senator WONG: How many? Was it just the one in that week?

Mr Cox: Yes.

Mr Grigson: Senator, just let me check that for you. I think there may have been a second—not a formal meeting, but a second conversation.

Mr Cox: We will check that. She did meet with him once bilaterally and then trilaterally, with the East Timorese. And she may have met him again in passing, because there are a lot of meetings during that week. We will check.

Mr Grigson: For the sake of completeness we will check.

Senator WONG: That is fine. Tell me about the six—the six or seven, depending on Mr Grigson checking the record.

Senator Brandis: Why don't we give you the date and the venue of each?

Senator WONG: On notice that would be very useful...

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Answer

Foreign Minister Bishop met Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr Marty Natalegawa on eight occasions between 7 September and 21 November 2013. This included three formal bilateral meetings:

- . on 23 September in New York at the UN General Assembly;
- . on 17 October in Seoul at the Seoul Cyberspace Conference; and
- . on 8 November in Bali at the Bali Democracy Forum.

It also included:

- . a trilateral meeting with Dr Natalegawa and Timor-Leste Minister of State and Foreign Affairs Gutteres on 25 September in New York at the UN General Assembly; and
- . a multilateral meeting with Dr Natalegawa and the foreign ministers of Mexico, the Republic of Korea and Turkey on 25 September in New York at the UN General Assembly.

In addition, Ms Bishop and Dr Natalegawa interacted during the following events:

- . the Prime Minister's visit to Jakarta on 30 September;
- . the APEC Ministerial Meeting in Bali from 4-5 October; and
- . the Indian Ocean Rim Association Meeting in Perth on 1 November.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 238

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia/People Smuggling

Question on Notice

Page: 46

Senator Wong

Question

Mr Morrison publicly stated that the coalition would have a program—this is in relation to the 'buy back the boats' policy—that reaches out to up to a hundred villages across Indonesia. Has anyone from DFAT been involved in any aspect of the implementation of that particular commitment?

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

Senator WONG: Have we visited a hundred villages?

Senator Brandis: That is a different question.

Senator WONG: That is why it is another question.

Senator Brandis: We will take that on notice as well.

Senator WONG: Has anyone from the embassy been sent to any Indonesian fishing village to assess whether or not it is possible to implement a boat-buyback policy in any of those villages?

Mr Grigson: We will take that on notice.

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 239

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia – Prime Minister’s Press Conference on 1 October 2013 in Jakarta

Question on Notice

Page: 47

Senator WONG

Question

In relation to the [Prime Minister's] press conference on 1 or 2 October, were embassy staff involved in organising a press conference?

Mr Grigson: I will take that on notice.

Answer

Yes.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 240

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia – Prime Minister’s Press Conference on 1 October 2013 in Jakarta

Question on Notice

Page: 47

Senator WONG

Question

Are there general protocols in relation to the admission of foreign press to Prime Ministers' press conferences whilst on a visit, or is it ad hoc?

Mr Grigson: It is certainly not a protocol run by this department. I would need to check with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for you.

Senator WONG: So you cannot comment on the fact that Indonesian journalists were not permitted to attend? This is what is reported; I do not know.

Mr Grigson: I do not, either, because I was not involved in the organisation of it.

Senator WONG: Can you tell me what the public reaction, if any, of the Indonesian government was to that?

Senator Brandis: For the same reason, without having the same discussion again, we have canvassed the objectionable character of that question. But, in any event, we will take that on notice.

Answer

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet advises that there are no general protocols in relation to the admission of foreign press to Prime Ministers' press conferences on overseas visits.

DFAT is not aware of any public statement from the Indonesian Government regarding the attendees at the Prime Minister's press conference on 1 October in Jakarta.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 241

Program: DFAT

Topic: Royal Commission on Child Abuse

Question on Notice

Page 47-48

Senator Heffernan

Question

It might be inappropriate, but I would like to ask questions on whether the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade have made a submission to the Royal Commission on Child Abuse.

Answer

The department has not made a submission to the Royal Commission on Child Abuse.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 242

Program: DFAT

Topic: Bali – Consulate Security Perimeter Breach

Question on Notice

Page: 48

Senator DI NATALE

Question

Did they [the three Papuan students, Rofinus Yanggam, Markus Jerewon and Yuvensius Goo, who scaled the Australian consulate in Bali on Sunday, 4 October] indicate any desire or intention to remain within the consulate?

Mr Smith: My understanding is that they asked that the letter be passed to the ambassador or the Prime Minister.

Senator DI NATALE: But did they express any desire or intention to remain within the consulate?

Mr Smith: Not to my knowledge.

Senator DI NATALE: Is that something you need to take on notice or are you certain of that?

Mr Smith: If that is not correct, we will correct the record.

Answer

Yes, but it was not clear how long they intended to remain. Following discussion with the Consul-General the three students decided to leave the premises. They departed by taxi.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions No. 243

Program: DFAT

Topic: Montara Oil Spill in 2009

Question on Notice

Page: 87

Senator Whish-Wilson

Questions

There are a lot of reports of issues such as damage to seaweed businesses and health problems relating to the oil spill. Have DFAT officials met with any of the affected communities in recent times, especially with heads of provincial governments, to assess these types of claims?

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions No. 244

Program: DFAT

Topic: Montara Oil Spill in 2009

Question on Notice

Page: 87

Senator Whish-Wilson

Questions

Has there been any liaising at all with the Indonesian government? I understand that there is currently a claim against PTTP, the company who leaked the oil and had the externality, and that that claim is ongoing. There has been some research there, and I was just wondering if you had been involved in any liaison activities with regards to the claim.

Answer

The Australian Government continues to engage with the Indonesian Government in a cooperative manner on the issue of the Montara oil spill. These discussions are a matter for the Indonesian Government and PTTEP.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 245

Program: DFAT

Topic: Dili – DFAT staffing resources

Question on Notice

Page: 52

Senator Fawcett

Question

- A. How many staff does DFAT have in East Timor from 2007 to now?**
- B. What are the operating costs between 2007 to now?**

Answer

- A. It has been our long-standing practice not to provide the number of DFAT A-based staff at individual posts.
- B. Between 2007 and 2013 the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade expended \$20,702,035 on operating expenses for East Timor.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 246

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq - Camp Ashraf

Question on Notice

Page: 52

Senator McEwen

Question

What has the foreign minister done to convey Australia's concerns, assuming we have some, about these incidents to the government of Iraq?

Answer

Mr Robilliard responded to Senator McEwen's question at Estimates, please refer to page 52 of Hansard.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 247

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq – Camp Ashraf

Question on Notice

Page: 52

Senator McEwen

Question

A. Have we raised the matter [the attack on 1 September 2013] with the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq?

B. Any further details about that [Iraqi Government's investigation]?

Answer

A. Yes.

B. The Iraqi Government has not yet completed its investigation.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 248

Program: DFAT

Topic: Burma

Question in Writing

Page: 54

Senator Ludlam

Question

There are at least half a million people displaced from Burma/Myanmar onto the Thai side of the border. Australia has done some very good work funding some of the aid organisations, health clinics and so on and the camps that operate in Thailand. I am asking you for the government's policy on whether, as the UNHCR believes, it is not yet time for large-scale transition and movement of people back into the country.

Answer

Consistent with UNHCR's position, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade assesses that conditions in Burma are not yet favourable for the large-scale voluntary return of people from the nine camps on the Thai-Burma border.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 249

Program: DFAT

Topic: Honorary Consulate, Phuket

Question on Notice

Page: 56

Senator Dastyari

Question

Are you able to take on notice whether or not there is any proposal or any kind of documentation that has been prepared to that effect of upgrading the status of that [Honorary Consulate Phuket]?

Answer

The Department has an ongoing interest in ensuring that it maintains the most effective representation of Australian interests in Thailand, including in Phuket. Decisions on changes to the overseas network, including the status of the Honorary Consulate in Phuket, are a matter for the Government.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 250

Program: DFAT

Topic: Subclass 600 visa category

Question on Notice

Page: 56-57

Senator Fawcett

Question

A. Mr Grigson, can you tell me if DFAT was consulted about the government's rollout of the new subclass 600 visa category, which extended to a further 21 countries earlier this year?

B. Could you just confirm the fact that there were seven countries in the Middle East that were included in that but Israel was not?

C. Could you confirm whether the department was consulted over that exclusion and if there are any reasons as to why they were not included in that program?

D. Could you also find out if the Israeli government has made any representations to DFAT over that issue?

Answer

A. DFAT was not consulted about the selection of countries for the e600 visa program as decisions around eligibility are made by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) based on visa processing systems availability.

B. All countries that were eligible to lodge online e676 applications were moved over to e600 on 1 July 2013, including six countries in the Middle East. Since that date there has been a phased rollout of e600 eligibility to new countries, including six North African countries on 16 August 2013. Israel gained eligibility on 14 November 2013.

C. DFAT was not consulted about the selection of countries for the e600 visa program.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

D. DFAT is not aware of any representations from the Israeli government regarding eligibility for the subclass 600 visa.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 251

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Travel

Question on Notice

Page: 71

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: We are fairly short of time—because I suspect other senators have questions as well—so I wonder if we could do some of this on notice. On notice, Mr Grigson, can we have details of Mr Robb's travel since the election, including how many staff travelled with him, both personal and departmental, on each of those visits; duration, cost and meetings?

Mr Grigson: Yes.

Answer

- . **5** overseas visits to a total of **6** countries/regions for a total of **38** days from 18 September 2013.
- . Mr Robb has been accompanied by one Adviser on all visits.
- . Costs and details for Mr Robb's travel are available from the Department of Finance (DoF), which is responsible for the cost of airfares, accommodation, meals and incidentals, ground transport, non-portfolio-related hospitality and miscellaneous incidentals for Ministers and their staff. DoF tables a document on Ministerial Travel expenses every six months.
- . Defence manages the use of RAAF Special Purpose Aircraft (SPA)/VIP flights. Ministers typically use RAAF SPA/VIP aircraft where commercial options are not viable. From 18 September 2013 Mr Robb has undertaken **1** RAAF SPA/VIP flight:

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- **Indonesia (Jakarta):** Sydney to Jakarta on 30 September 2013 (accompany the Prime Minister).

Details of Mr Robb's overseas visits

| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations Accompanying Staff |
|--|------------------------|------------------|---|
| Indonesia and Singapore | 1 to 11 December 2013 | 11 | Bali: 1 to 7 December 2013 Singapore: 7 to 10 December 2013 Chief of Staff: Zoe McKenzie |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bali: Attended the Cairns Group Ministerial Meetings and the WTO MC9 Meetings. Met with ministerial counterparts - Singapore: Attended TPP Ministerial Meetings. Met with the Minister for Trade and Industry and ministerial counterparts, National Farmers' Federation and business leaders | | | |
| Republic of Korea, Japan and China | 14 to 22 November 2013 | 9 | Seoul: 14 to 17 November 2013 Tokyo: 17 to 19 November 2013 Beijing: 19 to 21 November 2013 Senior Adviser: Lyall Howard |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seoul: Met with the Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Strategy and Finance, business leaders/investors and AustCham - Tokyo: Met the Prime Minister; Minister of Economic Revitalisation and the Trans-Pacific Partnership; Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry; Chairman of the Japan Australia Business Cooperation Committee and Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Minister of Foreign Affairs; LDP Diet Members, members of the Australia and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce and business leaders/investors. - Beijing: Met with the Minister for Commerce, business leaders/investors and AustCham | | | |

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| Visit | Dates | Days Away | Locations Accompanying Staff |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| USA | 28 October to 2 November 2013 | 5 | Washington: 28 to 30 October 2013 A/g Chief of Staff: Cameron Hill |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington – Attended the Global Services Summit. Met with the USTR, Senators and Congressmen. Attended a US Chamber of Commerce Investment Roundtable and a working group with trade policy experts. | | | |
| China | 22 to 26 October 2013 | 5 | Shanghai: 23 to 25 October 2013 Suzhou: 24 October 2013 Hong Kong: 25 October 2013 A/g Chief of Staff: Cameron Hill |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shanghai: Attended the Agri-Business Investment Forum. Met with Shanghai Mayor, business leaders and AustCham members - Suzhou: Opened Suzhou Campus - Monash University Joint Graduate School Joint Research Institute. Met Vice Governor, Jiangsu Provincial Government - Hong Kong: Attended the Australian education briefing to promote Future Unlimited digital media campaign; and an Investor Roundtable. Met with business leaders and AustCham members | | | |
| Indonesia | 30 September to 7 October 2013 | 8 | Jakarta: 30 September to 2 October 2013 Bali: 2 to 6 October 2013 Adviser: Gareth Simpson |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jakarta: Accompanied the Prime Minister to Indonesia. Met with the President, members of the Indonesian Cabinet, and Indonesian and Australian business leaders - Bali: Attended APEC and TPP meetings. Met with ministerial counterparts including from Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, United States; and the Director-General of the WTO | | | |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 252

Program: DFAT

Topic: US Free Trade Agreement / ISDS

Question on Notice

Page: 77

Senator Wong

Question

But my recollection around the US FTA—and it is a long time ago—when there was an issue raised and, actually ISDS, I think, was one of the primary issues. There had to be side arrangements then because the text itself could not be changed. Is that not right?

Answer

There are no side agreements on Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) in the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA). Article 11.16 of the AUSFTA provides for consultations in relation to ISDS.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 253

Program: DFAT

Topic: Annual Statement on Investment

Question on Notice

Page: 77-78

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: Under consideration? That is a good term. The former minister in 2011 released five guiding principles on government trade policy. It was a trade policy statement released in 2011. What is the status of those guidelines now? Does anybody know what I am talking about? I have a download from your website last year. It is just called 'Australia's Trade Policy' and it has five guiding principles— unilateralism, nondiscrimination, separation, transparency, and indivisibility of trade policy and wider economic reform.

...

Senator WONG: I am advised by my staff that we actually downloaded the guidelines I referred to off your website yesterday. So maybe you can check if they remain government policy or not.

Mr Grigson: We will do that. As I sat here they seemed unremarkable and I would find it hard to argue against any of them.

Answer

The Government's trade policy was outlined in The Coalition's Policy for Trade in September 2013.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 254

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement / JSCOT Process

Question on Notice

Page: 81

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

The final draft gets shown to cabinet first, who sign off on it, and then it goes to parliament for ratification, and off to JSCOT. Is that correct?

Answer

The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP), like all free trade agreements under negotiation, will be subject to the Government's treaty-making process.

Cabinet will take the decision to approve the final draft TPP agreement. Once agreed by all negotiating parties, arrangements will be made for TPP parties to sign the text. The agreement of the Federal Executive Council must be sought before Australia can sign the TPP text.

After signature, but prior to Australia becoming bound by the TPP, the text will be tabled for 20 joint sitting days of both Houses of Parliament along with a National Interest Analysis and a Regulation Impact Statement. The text will be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (JSCOT) for consideration before any binding treaty action is taken. JSCOT may hold public hearings on the proposed treaty action.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 255

Program: DFAT

**Topic: Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement / JSCOT Ratification
Process**

Question on Notice

Page: 81

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

So is it correct to say that if the draft agreement gets changed by the Australian parliament, it then has to go back to the other 11 parties, and they have to agree to the changes, otherwise the whole thing falls apart?

Answer

Should the Government decide to propose changes to the final TPP text, this would need to be agreed by all negotiating parties.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 256

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement / Legal Scrub

Question on Notice

Page: 81

Senator Wong

Question

So is it the government's intention to release anything prior to the legal scrub and the final text of the treaty?

Answer

Consistent with Australia's treaty making practice, the draft Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement text will not be made publicly available. Once the final text is agreed by all negotiating parties following legal scrub it will be tabled in both Houses of Parliament.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 257

Program: DFAT

Topic: Safeguards in modern ISDS provisions

Question on Notice

Page: 83

Senator Wong

Question

Can you table any of those examples? Can you table example clauses of the sort you have described, which actually protect? Do have any of those accessible or could you just reference where they are?

Answer

Recent agreements which contain Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) contain a number of safeguards for legitimate public welfare regulation. For example, the Australia-Chile Free Trade Agreement (FTA) provides that except in rare circumstances, non-discriminatory regulatory actions by a Party to protect legitimate public welfare objectives, such as public health, safety, and the environment, do not constitute expropriation. It also contains procedural safeguards such as an expedited procedure to decide and dismiss frivolous claims. The ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA contains similar safeguards.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 258

Program: DFAT

Topic: Stakeholders

Question on Notice

Pages: 83-84

Senator Madigan

Question

Earlier you mentioned about stakeholders, could I put on notice that you give us a list of who you would term as stakeholders—a list of those?

Answer

There is no formal list of Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) stakeholders. TPP stakeholders include any individual, organisation or entity with a professional or private interest in matters concerning the TPP. DFAT has provided over 590 stakeholder briefings since May 2011. In 2012-2013 DFAT held 15 formal public consultations. DFAT has also received over 160 submissions from industry groups and private enterprises.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 259

Program: DFAT

Topic: Free Trade Agreements (Japan / South Korea)

Question on Notice: Whether automotive unions have been consulted or made submissions for the Japan or Korea FTAs

Page: 84

Senator: Senator McEWEN

Questions

Senator McEWEN: Have the Australian unions that operate the car industry been involved in those negotiations [Korea and Japan FTAs] or consulted about what is being proposed?

Senator McEWEN: So you would wait for them to make a submission or would you actively go out and seek their views?

Answer

The Government consults directly with the union movement on FTA issues and seeks and receives their views through a variety of processes. As a matter of priority, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) commences a comprehensive public consultation process when free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations are launched. In conjunction with relevant Commonwealth agencies, DFAT conducts an extensive program of direct consultations and discussions with stakeholders to ensure their views inform the development of the Government's negotiating strategy. DFAT's FTA website is regularly updated following negotiating sessions, providing for wide dissemination of information to stakeholders.

In addition, public forums, open to individuals and groups including unions, are held in capital cities, including on the progress of FTAs. Invitations are sent to key stakeholders, such as the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union (AMWU) and the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), before convening public meetings. DFAT is in regular contact with the AMWU and the ACTU on a range of FTAs, most recently in early December 2013 on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

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Submissions have been received from a broad range of interested stakeholders on specific FTA negotiations. The AMWU has made submissions on Australia's FTAs with China, Thailand and Malaysia. The ACTU made a written submission on the Korea-Australia FTA in which it expressed views regarding the lowering of Australian tariffs on automobiles and automotive parts. The AMWU wrote to then Trade Minister, Dr Craig Emerson, in November 2010 expressing detailed views on the Korea Australian FTA.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 260

Program: EFIC

Topic: Impact of the Special Dividend

Question on Notice

Page: 86

Senator Smith

Question

Senator SMITH: *So is there no impact on your ability to support Australian exporters as a result of the extraction of \$200 million by way of a special dividend? Is that what you are saying?*

Mr Hunter: *No, it is not.*

Senator SMITH: *My question is trying ascertain what is the impact, or potential impact.*

Mr Hunter: *The impact is that we experienced a number of breaches of our large exposure capital based limits. We as a board and as a management are cognisant of our capital position and the APRA guidelines and Basel III that we feel are important to the management of EFIC. Going forward, we feel that additional capital will enable EFIC to operate in a prudent fashion, consistent with our purpose of supporting Australia's exporters financially.*

Senator SMITH: *I will come to the issue of prudence in a moment. Would you prefer, Mr Hunter, to—*

Senator WONG: *I just want to clarify—*

Senator SMITH: *I afforded you some courtesy. I think that is only—*

Senator WONG: *So did I.*

CHAIR: *He has made his position clear.*

Senator SMITH: *Would you prefer to take that on notice, Mr Hunter?*

Mr Hunter: *I am happy to take the question on notice.*

Answer

As a result of the Special Dividend payment, EFIC has \$200 million less capital available to support growth in its portfolio for the purpose of meeting its statutory objectives. As stated in the Annual Report 2012-13 (page 119-120), and in line with its internal risk appetite and risk management policies, EFIC's capital requirement

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based on its risk weighted assets was \$339.1 million at 30 June 2013, compared with available capital (after the payment of the special dividend) of just \$428.4 million. The payment of the Special Dividend resulted in EFIC breaching some previously approved Board limits and guidelines in relation to certain counterparty and country exposures. In the absence of additional capital, these exposures will need to be managed within lower tolerance limits.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 261

Program: EFIC

Topic: Impact of the Special Dividend

Question on Notice

Page: 87

Senator Smith

Question

Senator SMITH: I think that is a very prudent thing to do in your position at this point in time. What specific sectors are you now out of bounds in supporting as a result of the \$200 million reduction in your balance sheet?

Mr Hunter: That is a question that I will need to take on notice, if that is okay?

Senator SMITH: Yes. Further, are there any regional locations where EFIC is now overexposed and therefore restricted in providing support?

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

Answer

Subject to EFIC's statutory responsibilities, each request for EFIC support is assessed on a case-by-case basis in reference to EFIC's risk management framework.

Since paying the Special Dividend in June 2013, EFIC has been in breach of some of its internal capital-based limits and guidelines. This has reduced EFIC's scope and flexibility to provide additional support to particular counterparties and reduced capacity to provide additional support in some frontier and emerging markets such as Russia, Sri Lanka, PNG and Indonesia.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 262

Program: EFIC

Topic: Impact of the Special Dividend

Question on Notice

Page: 87

Senator Smith

Question

Senator SMITH: Going back to your earlier comments, Mr Hunter, in regards to breaches of capital based limits, how many breaches of capital based limits occurred in consequence of this decision to pay the special dividend?

Mr Hunter: I will need to take that on notice to give you a thorough and detailed response.

Answer

EFIC has a Board-approved maximum counterparty exposure limit of 25 per cent of capital and reserves (including callable capital). As a consequence of the Special Dividend payment, EFIC experienced four breaches of this maximum counterparty exposure limit as at 30 June 2013. A number of other exposures also moved above Board-approved internal guidelines as a result of the reduction in capital.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 263

Program: EFIC

Topic: Impact of the Special Dividend

Question on Notice

Page: 88

Senator Smith

Question

Senator SMITH: This is the last section in my first part of the questioning. Did the responsible minister in the former government express any concern at the decision and the consequences of the impact on the EFIC balance sheet? Again, you might just have to ask your colleagues for assistance.

Mr Hunter: I think we had best to take that on notice.

Answer

In response to the payment of the Special Dividend, the EFIC Board requested the Government provide EFIC with \$200 million of additional callable capital, and was in advanced discussion with responsible Ministers (and Government officials) prior to the September 2013 election about how to enable EFIC to function within its risk management framework following the payment of the Special Dividend.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 264

Program: EFIC

Topic: Impact of the Special Dividend

Question on Notice

Page: 88

Senator Smith

Question

Senator SMITH: 'In the 2012-2013 federal budget'—I am reading from the annual report, signed by the chairman and the former managing director, at page 9:

In the 2012–13 Federal Budget, the Treasurer announced that EFIC would be required to pay a 'special dividend' of \$200 million during 2012–13. The mechanism to direct how this will be paid is yet to be determined; however, legislative changes to the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act 1991 (Cth) will be needed to enable payment. The timing of these legislative changes is yet to be finalised, but the Budget requires the dividend to be paid to the Federal Government by 30 June 2013.

There are no surprises in that statement.

Despite this— this is from the annual report signed by the chairman and the managing director— our capital base is solid and allows us to support many small and medium-sized exporters. However, the level of demand to support large, long-term transactions continues to be greater than we can prudently meet on the Commercial Account.

Why does the annual report of 2011-12 talk about the special dividend needing to be paid and does not—to replay your comments, Mr Hunter, you are a risk averse organisation. We go to the composition of the board, whose photographs are in this annual report, who are well-regarded, risk averse individuals. Why is that we go from this, not raising any alarms about the need to extract \$200 million, and then in one annual report we go to statements about breaches of adequacy requirements and we go to requests for the new government to provide capital injections? It seems like a very, very large shift in attitude for a risk averse organisation with many prominent people on its board. I am just wondering if someone can provide an explanation about why the 2011-12 annual report did not

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

express more caution, was not more prudent, and did not reflect the risk adverse nature of the organisation and, I expect, the board members.

Mr Hunter: I obviously cannot comment on an annual report written twelve months ago when I was not on the board—

Senator SMITH: Agreed.

Mr Hunter: and I do not think it would be appropriate for my colleagues who would not have been sitting at the boardroom table at that point, so I will take that question on notice and we will give you a response.

Answer

Note 20 “Capital” of Part 2 “Financial Statements” on page 124-125 of the 2011-12 Annual Report provided some detail on the impact of the Special Dividend on EFIC’s capital position.

The EFIC Board was in discussion with government regarding EFIC’s capital position at the time of preparing the 2011-12 Annual Report. Given the assurance provided to the Board that, as stated in the 2012-13 Budget Paper, payment of this dividend would not affect EFIC’s ability to meet its core business requirements; the Board did not comment further on the matter in the 2011-12 Annual Report.

In addition, the legislative process to enable the payment of the Special Dividend had not commenced at the time of drafting the 2011-12 Annual Report.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 265

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative pilot program

Question on Notice

Page: 91

Senator Rhiannon

Question

I understand the Australian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative pilot program started in November 2011 to test the application of extractive industries transparency initiative principles to Australia's financial reporting regime for the resources sector. Can you provide an update on where the pilot is up to now, and what sort of recommendations are on the table regarding Australia's commitment to this initiative?

Answer

The Department of Industry is responsible for the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative domestic pilot, and is responding to a question on notice on this topic.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 266

Program: EFIC

Topic: Mongolian Mine

Question on Notice

Page: 92

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: When did you first start negotiating with Rio Tinto about the Mongolian mine?

Mr Pacey: I will take that on notice for an exact date.

...

Senator RHIANNON: You publicly disclosed it, but before that how long have you been working with Rio Tinto on the Mongolian mine? When did they first approach you?

Mr Hunter: I think that to give you an accurate response, as in the month and the year, we should take that on notice and come back to you, because I would like to give you the right answer.

Answer

EFIC was first approached regarding possible financial support for the development of the Oyu Tolgoi project in March 2011.

EFIC joined the negotiations on the proposed financing for the Oyu Tolgoi Project in May 2012.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 267

Program: EFIC

Topic: Focus on SMEs

Question on Notice

Page: 93

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: I take your point about distorting, but I still ask you to take on notice, in terms of all your work, to give that breakdown between SMEs and the big ones.

Mr Hunter: We will do that, and I can assure you that there is a real emphasis on supporting SMEs within EFIC.

Answer

| EFIC signings by number of transactions – 5 years to date | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 08-09 | 09-10 | 10-11 | 11-12 | 12-13 |
| SME | 46 | 44 | 90 | 95 | 135 |
| Larger | 5 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 8 |
| Bank support* | - | - | 1 | 2 | 25 |
| Total | 51 | 54 | 101 | 104 | 168 |

| EFIC signings by value – 5 years to date | | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | 08-09 | 09-10 | 10-11 | 11-12 | 12-13 |
| SME | \$65.8 | \$88.5m | \$136.7m | \$ 195.5m | \$127.4m |
| Larger | \$510.7 | \$882.8m | \$426.1m | \$ 784.4m | \$306.5m |
| Bank support* | - | - | \$30.3m | \$ 23.6m | \$79.8m |
| Total | \$576.5 m | \$971.3 m | \$593.1 m | \$1 billion | \$513.8 m |

* Due to their short-term nature; transactions in the bank support portfolio are managed by the SME team. However, bank support clients are generally considered non-SME and hence are excluded from total figures for SME support.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 268

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question on Notice

Page: 93

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Do those numbers you have just given include contract staff who may be working on some of these negotiations?

Mr Hunter: I would have to take that on notice in terms of the breakdown, but the vast majority of staff at EFIC are full-time staff rather than contract people.

Senator RHIANNON: Okay. So you are happy to take that on notice regarding your contract staff and what they do.

Answer

Yes. The breakdown provided included three contract staff. These staff members are not directly involved in business origination negotiations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 269

Program: EFIC

Topic: Definition of Australian Exporter

Question on Notice

Page: 93-94

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: ...Coming back to that question, is Rio Tinto an Australian exporter?

Mr Hunter: Rio Tinto has a very significant presence in Australia. There are a lot of Australians employed by Rio Tinto. They have very significant operations in Australia and are one of Australia's biggest exporters.

Senator RHIANNON: Maybe you could take it on notice, because I assume you do have a definition of what an Australian exporter is.

Mr Hunter: We will take that on notice.

Answer

EFIC's Board has conditionally approved a direct loan to the Oyu Tolgoi Project (Project) company, Oyu Tolgoi LLC. The Project is a joint venture between the Mongolian Government and Turquoise Hill Resources Limited (TRQ). Rio Tinto acquired a majority shareholding in TRQ in January 2012.

EFIC's support is contingent on Australian content in the Project. The project sponsor has provided EFIC with a list of over 200 Australian suppliers to the Oyu Tolgoi project. The aggregate of Australian supplier contracts is in excess of approximately \$220 million.

The required quantum of Australian content is determined in accordance with EFIC's Australian content guidelines. The guidelines are publicly available at:

<http://www.efic.gov.au/about/governance/Pages/Australiancontentguidelines.aspx>

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One of EFIC's key functions is to "facilitate and encourage Australian export trade by providing insurance and financial services and products to persons involved directly or indirectly in export trade." Threshold eligibility criteria for EFIC support is determined by the provisions of the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act (EFIC Act) 1991. EFIC considers the Oyu Tolgoi Project to have met the eligibility requirements for EFIC support under the EFIC Act.

The EFIC Act is available at:

<http://www.efic.gov.au/about/governance/Pages/EFICact.aspx>

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 270

Program: DFAT

Topic: ISDS

Question on Notice

Page: 95

Senator Wong

Question

I think one legal action has got some international press in Quebec in relation to shale gas, I think. You may not know this, but does the clause under which that is being taken have a similar carve-out for public health?

Answer

On 6 September 2013 Lone Pine Resources, a US company, initiated an Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) claim against Canada under the North-American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) challenging a moratorium on oil and gas mining in a region of Quebec. Canada has not formally responded to Lone Pine's claims and a tribunal has not been established to hear the matter.

Unlike Australia's recent agreements, the investment chapter of NAFTA does not explicitly state that non-discriminatory regulatory actions by a Party to protect legitimate public welfare objectives, such as public health, safety, and the environment, do not constitute expropriation. However NAFTA tribunals have generally interpreted the agreement consistently with this principle.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 271

Program: DFAT

Topic: Productivity Commission Report / ISDS

Question on Notice

Page: 95

Senator Wong

Question

So can you respond to the comments by the PC in relation to ISDS in which it indicated that they constitute a considerable policy and financial risk?

Answer

The Productivity Commission noted a number of risks associated with Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) but did not undertake a detailed legal analysis of ISDS provisions. The Productivity Commission also noted that in recent agreements, such as the Australia-Chile Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA that Australia had included provisions to address risks associated with ISDS.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 272

Program: DFAT

Topic: Food Labelling

Question on Notice

Page: 99

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

I mentioned food labelling as a potential issue with ISDS. But, outside of ISDS, can you confirm if that has been any move by food companies to standardise or to put limitations on food labelling for agricultural products.

Answer

The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) Technical Barriers to Trade chapter does not deal specifically with food product labelling. Two sector specific annexes, a Wine and Distilled Spirits annex and a Proprietary Formulas annex include some labelling-related provisions but these do not change Australia's existing labelling regimes. The former would facilitate trade by reducing labelling costs for wine and spirit exporters.

Nothing being discussed in the TPP will affect Australia's existing rights to make regulations (including labelling) relating to public health and safety.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 273

Program: DFAT

Topic: FIRB Approvals

Question on Notice

Page: 99

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

In relation to FIRB approvals, specifically for agriculture, I understand with the free trade deal Australia has with the US we have a much higher threshold that kicks in for FIRB approvals. We have one with New Zealand but, given we are negotiating a lot of similar things with the other 10 countries, have there been any discussions about raising FIRB approvals in TPPA?

Answer

Yes, the issue of higher thresholds before an application must be submitted to the FIRB has been raised in the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) negotiations.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 274

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 101

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: I do appreciate that, Minister. With respect to the reaction to the public statements around the reduction in international development processes, has there been any reaction from community organisations and other agencies expressing any concerns about reductions in the aid budget?

Mr Grigson: I think you have seen the public debate, as we have—some are in favour; some are against. We will need to wait to see the government's final decision on the shape of the program.

Senator MOORE: Has anyone from any organisation expressed concerns directly to your department, as opposed to the media discourse?

Mr Grigson: Let me check for you. I can take that on notice.

Answer

A. Yes, some organisations have expressed their concerns to the Department in relation to the reductions in the aid budget.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 275

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 101

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: Minister, is it appropriate to ask you to take on notice whether this issue has been raised formally with the Prime Minister or with the ministry with respect to concerns about this part of the budget considerations?

Senator Brandis: I can take on notice whether it has been raised with the Prime Minister. When you say 'raised with the ministry' do you mean has it been raised with individual members of the ministry?

Senator MOORE: I am trying to see whether people have actually asked questions and been concerned about this particular element of the budget considerations. I would take it, in this case, Minister, that I would be referring to the Prime Minister, the foreign minister or Senator Mason, because it falls within their—

Senator Brandis: All right. I will take that on notice and I will have inquiries made of those three colleagues.

Answer

Yes, some organisations have expressed their concerns to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister in relation to the reductions in the aid budget.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 276

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 101

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: Mr Grigson, are you aware of whether there has been any concerns raised on this issue through representatives of foreign governments or through cables?

Mr Grigson: I am not aware, but let me check for you again.

Answer

The program level details of the aid budget reductions will be the subject of consultation with partner governments and organisations once the details of the reductions are announced.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 277

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 102

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: So, in the current budget, can you provide us with the key multilateral partnerships that are funded?

Mr Grigson: We can certainly provide publicly available spending figures.

Senator Brandis: I think the AusAID annual report too would have something to say about that.

Senator MOORE: It does have some, but in that particular phase it is not set out in that way; it just lists them. I am sure the department would have its own way of defining priority, but it is not just in gross payment, and I think the listing in the annual report is by who gets the most money.

Mr Grigson: I understand the point you are making. I will have a look at it for you.

Senator MOORE: That would be really useful.

Senator Brandis: I think there is also a slight difference between priority and preference, because one can have a number of equal priorities, but if one is expressing preference then one is actually ranking one destination above another. I am sure we have priorities; I am not sure whether within those priorities we express preferences.

Senator MOORE: I accept that and I would certainly be seeking priorities—in terms of what the government's priorities are. And I am talking now because the new government has not made its priorities clear. That is true, isn't it: you have not, because they are still part of budget considerations?

Answer

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Please refer to the AusAID Annual Report 2012-13.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 278

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 103-104

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: Are we aware whether in those countries there have been reductions in their aid budgets?

Ms Walsh: I do not have the figures in front of me, Senator, but I am not sure that it is necessarily a specific G20 correlation, but yes there have been reductions in the aid programs of donor countries, reflecting the general downturn in the financial circumstances countries find themselves in.

Senator MOORE: That has been over a number of years too.

Ms Walsh: A number of years. On notice we could come back to you with a list of those aid programs that have reduced.

Answer

A. Official development assistance (ODA) disbursements (or expenditure) rather than budgets are recognised internationally as the best measure of aid. ODA disbursements are reported to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) using a consistent methodology approved by member states. Comparable data is not available for G20 members that do not report ODA disbursements to the DAC.

The figures provided in response to question 279 (below) indicate that among the nine G20 countries for which data is available, in 2012, official development assistance (ODA) disbursements for Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States declined compared to 2011. International ODA figures are not yet available for 2013. (Source: OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC)).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 279

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 103-104

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: Is it possible for the department to provide information on what the aid budgets of the members of the G20 are?

Ms Walsh: We can provide that on notice.

Senator MOORE: I would like to see that in terms of their current percentage of GNI as well to get a feel of the members on that working group about where we stand in terms of our own position and also commitments that we have made in moving into that leadership group around this area. So if I could get that, it would just be useful as a comparator.

Answer

A. Official development assistance (ODA) disbursements (or expenditure) rather than budgets are recognised internationally as the best measure of aid. ODA disbursements are reported to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) using a consistent methodology approved by member states. Comparable data is not available for G20 members that do not report ODA disbursements to the DAC.

The following tables provide the most recent data for official development assistance (ODA) disbursements for the nine G20 members for which OECD data is available over the period 2010 to 2012, and the ratio of those disbursements to GNI.

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ODA figures are gross disbursements and do not include core payments (to cover membership subscriptions, fees etc) made to multilateral agencies. ODA/GNI ratios are calculated by the OECD using ODA net disbursements, which includes core payments made to multilateral agencies.

ODA gross disbursements

(Source: OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC))

| G20 member | 2010 (USD million) | 2011 (USD million) | 2012 (USD million) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Australia | 3,254.3 | 4,153.7 | 4,672.8 |
| Canada | 3,969.6 | 4,158.0 | 4,105.2 |
| France | 9,148.3 | 9,540.2 | 9,406.4 |
| Germany | 9,436.6 | 10,239.5 | 10,214.2 |
| Italy | 975.9 | 1,986.5 | 717.7 |
| Japan | 15,144.2 | 15,638.7 | 14,459.9 |
| Republic of Korea | 933.2 | 1,034.3 | 1,232.2 |
| United Kingdom | 8,364.4 | 8,773.1 | 9,029.3 |
| United States | 27,384.7 | 28,278.1 | 26,042.2 |

ODA /GNI ratio

(Source: OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC))

| G20 member | 2010 (%) | 2011 (%) | 2012 (%) |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Australia | 0.32 | 0.34 | 0.36 |
| Canada | 0.34 | 0.32 | 0.32 |
| France | 0.5 | 0.46 | 0.45 |
| Germany | 0.39 | 0.39 | 0.37 |
| Italy | 0.15 | 0.2 | 0.14 |
| Japan | 0.2 | 0.18 | 0.17 |
| Republic of Korea | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.14 |
| United Kingdom | 0.57 | 0.56 | 0.56 |
| United States | 0.21 | 0.2 | 0.19 |

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 280

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 104

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: ...

Mr Grigson, has the department contacted any of the organisations currently funded under our aid program to give them any information about possible changes—to state what the government's position is as we move into budget deliberations around aid?

Mr Grigson: Senator, I think the material is publicly available. We have not sought to engage them in terms of a discussion around the outcomes, because the process is not complete.

Senator MOORE: So the department has not contacted any of our aid areas?

Mr Grigson: There have been discussions over time between the integrated department, as it now is, and organisations about the future of the aid program. There has been not much more than that, Senator, simply because we have not got the shape of the program from the government.

Senator MOORE: As the minister has pointed out, it is not firm, but I am interested to know what the communication process is—

Mr Grigson: It will be much fuller after we have a decision, Senator.

Senator MOORE: Then there is nothing that you can tell us now that you have done, except for general conversation and discussion?

Mr Grigson: I can take it on notice and see if there is any more we can give you, Senator.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Answer

Implementation of the revised 2013-14 budget is currently under discussion with partner governments and organisations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 281

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 104-105

Senator Moore

Question

Senator MOORE: That would be useful. I have got a number of data collecting questions which I will put on notice which are about our programs in the past over a number of years that I am not going to read out.

I have got one question about a commitment that our previous government made, and I will read it out, because it something that is very dear to my heart, so I want to get it absolutely right. On the 11 July 2012 Australia pledged an additional \$58 million over five years to family planning, increasing annual contributions to A\$53 million by 2016. This commitment complements our investments in maternal, reproductive and child health at least \$1.6 billion over five years to 2015 and is being monitored by our global partners. I would like details of the governments forward plans to implement this commitment, including any relevant information on selected countries for support, funding amounts and proposed timetables.

Mr Grigson: We will take it on notice, Senator.

Senator MOORE: I am interested, Mr Grigson, in terms of the process around this one. It was publicly announced at the womens conferences last year, at which I was present, so I have a certain sense of ownership about the way that this was done. So if we can get answers back on notice about where this particular commitment fits and also that last bit about relevant information on selected countries for support, funding amounts and proposed timetables. You may not have that degree of detail at this time, but if we could get that back—

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Mr Grigson: We will do what we can within the parameters of the budget discussion.

Answer

The Government is committed to supporting global efforts to reduce the unmet for quality reproductive health services, including family planning.

The Government is currently considering its funding priorities, including for its foreign aid program.

Information on the funding priorities of Australia's aid program will be provided by the Government in due course.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 282

Program: DFAT

Topic: Integration

Question on Notice

Page: 106

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Right. With regard to this merger, which obviously would have its complexities, has it been necessary to bring in an additional public sector staff or contract staff to manage the merger or to train people in how you are conducting the merger?

Mr Grigson: Let me check for you. My answer is 'no', but just let me check that there is not someone who has been brought in that I am not aware of. But I think my answer is no.

Answer

A. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 283

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change - ODA

Question on Notice

Page: 107

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Does the government believe that helping developing countries mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change is a legitimate use of official development assistance?

Answer

A. Yes.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 284

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid effectiveness and evaluation

Question on Notice

Page: 107

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Will the government retain the Independent Evaluation Committee established by the previous government?

Answer

A. Yes.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 285

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid effectiveness and evaluation

Question on Notice

Page: 107

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Will the findings of independent evaluations and management responses to these evaluations continue to be published on the website?

Answer

A. Yes.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 286

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mining for Development

Question on Notice

Page: 109

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What is the Mining for Development initiative's funding for the current financial year?

Answer

The Government is currently considering its strategic, budget and funding priorities, and further information on Australia's aid program will be provided by the Government in due course.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 286 b)

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mining for Development

Question on Notice

Page: 109

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Could you provide examples of what those community-building projects are within the context of aid going to mining?

Answer

The Mining for Development (M4D) Initiative does not fund community-building projects.

The M4D Initiative works with governments, industry and civil society to improve the share of benefits from extractive sector development with affected communities. Some examples of activities we supported in this area in 2012/13 are:

| Activity/partner | Description of activities |
|--|--|
| International Mining for Development Centre (IM4DC) | Research on topics such as: gender-based violence in Mongolian mining communities; artisanal mining in Africa; relations between mining companies and communities in Indonesia; mining and sustainable livelihoods in Zambia; and participatory water monitoring in Ghana. |
| Australian Development Research Award Scheme (ADRAS) | Research on a range of topics including: the impact of Mongolia's mining boom on the sustainability of traditional herder livelihoods; and equitable employment for women in mining in Laos and Thailand. |
| Minerals Council of | Joint research on the implementation of mining and land |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

| | |
|--|--|
| Australia (MCA) and Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining (CSRMI) | use agreements between communities and companies on women. |
| Public Sector Linkages Programs (PSLP) | Development of a community engagement framework for the Peruvian mining sector. |
| Department of Industry | Update of the Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program's <i>Community Engagement and Development</i> handbook. |

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 287

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mining Study Tours

Question on Notice

Page: 109

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What are the mining study tours that you have planned?

Answer

Australia and Canada have funded the Revenue Watch Institute (RWI) to support the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative process in Mongolia. Using this funding, RWI will conduct a study tour and workshop for MPs, parliamentary researchers and civil society actors from Mongolia to build their capacity on mining resource wealth management.

Additionally, the DFAT-funded International Mining for Development Centre (IM4DC) plans to undertake the following study tour activities from January - July 2014:

- A one week study tour in Western Australia (WA) for officials from the Indonesian Ministry of Energy and Minerals, focussed on the Nickel value chain including processing technologies.
- A one week study tour in WA for the Kenyan Cabinet Secretary for Mines, focussed on legislative and regulatory frameworks covering minerals development.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 288

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mining for Development University Funding

Question on Notice

Page: 109

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Does the bulk of the MDI money still go to Murdoch University and Griffith University for their involvement?

B. When we say 'the bulk of the money', what proportion are we talking about?

Answer

A. No.

B. Murdoch University and Griffith University, together, have been awarded \$2.3 million for research under the Mining for Development Initiative. The University of Western Australia and the University of Queensland, together, were awarded a grant of \$31 million for the establishment of the International Mining for Development Centre. The total allocated funding for the Mining for Development Initiative is \$127 million over four years from 2011-12 to 2014-15.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 289

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 112

Senator Dastyari

Question

Senator DASTYARI: *Senator Brandis, I appreciate that you probably would have to take this on notice, because the evidence that I am getting here is effectively telling me—to draw an analogy with other departments—that what has actually happened to the breakdown of the spending of the aid budget is not dissimilar to what has happened to the grants budget or grants across the board. That is, if something has been entered into a contract, you will honour the contract; but where no contract has been entered into, but it was just the decision of the government, then it is open to review. Are you able to take that on notice?*

Senator Brandis: *Yes, I will take that on notice.*

Senator DASTYARI: *While taking the details of it on notice, is that your broad understanding or do you not have an understanding of it?*

Senator Brandis: *The precise movement of the funds through the foreign aid budget—and the sort of stages at which funds are allocated, committed, contracted for and ultimately spent and so on—is not something on which I have a particular expertise. Senator Mason is the parliamentary secretary who is responsible for this area, but he is not here tonight. So I will take that on notice.*

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Answer

The program level details of the aid budget reductions and implications are the subject of consultation with partner governments and organisations on a case-by-case basis.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions No. 290

Program: DFAT

Topic: Centre for Democratic Institutions

Question on Notice

Page 112

Senator Fawcett

Question

A. Could you confirm that the Centre for Democratic Institutions, which was started in the late 90s, basically was told last year that its funding would cease as of 31 June this year, is that correct?

Answer

A. AusAID informed ANU that, in line with the recommendations of the 2012 Independent Progress Review on AusAID's funding of the Centre for Democratic Institutions (CDI), AusAID would approach the market at the end of the current contractual arrangements in order to ensure value for money. In February 2013 AusAID and ANU agreed to a zero-cost extension to the CDI contract, from 30 June 2013 to 31 December 2013, to allow time to implement the findings of the review. ANU subsequently requested to change the contract end date to 30 September 2013.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions No. 291

Program: DFAT

Topic: Centre for Democratic Institutions

Question on Notice

Page 112

Senator Fawcett

Question

A. Upon that notice that the funding would cease as of 31 June this year, did the director of CDI leave the organisation upon that announcement?

Answer

A. The contract for the former Director of CDI, Dr Stephen Sherlock, concluded on 30 June 2013. Mr Grant Harrison, the former Deputy Director, acted as Director from 1 July 2013 until his retirement on 1 November 2013.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions No. 292

Program: DFAT

Topic: Centre for Democratic Institutions

Question on Notice

Page 113

Senator Fawcett

Question

- A. Were they then subsequently advised, literally a month or two before the end of June, that funding would be maintained for a further 12 months?***
- B. Are you able to tell me what the amount of funding for that additional 12 months was?***

Answer

- A. AusAID and ANU agreed to a further 12 months of funding, from 1 October 2013 to 30 September 2014. This extension will provide time to implement the findings of the Independent Progress Review. During this 12 month period, DFAT will redesign its investment in supporting democratic institutions and will approach the market for the next stage of the program. Note that for the 12 month extension, DFAT's management of CDI has been transferred to Pacific Division to increase CDI's focus on country program priorities.
- B. \$2.15 million (plus GST) from 1 October 2013 to 30 September 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions No. 293

Program: DFAT

Topic: Centre for Democratic Institutions

Question on Notice

Page 113

Senator Fawcett

Question

A. Was there a contract signed between what was then AusAID and the Australian National University regarding that additional 12 months of funding?

Answer

A. AusAID amended an existing agreement with the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia program at the ANU to incorporate the CDI program from 1 October 2013 until 30 September 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions No. 294

Program: DFAT

Topic: Centre for Democratic Institutions

Question on Notice

Page 113

Senator Fawcett

Question

A.

- i. Could you table a copy of the contract?*
- ii. Can you tell me, did the contract contain a requirement that the program for the following 12 months be prepared within four weeks of the signing of the contract?*

B. *If so, has the ANU delivered a work program for the 12 months to DFAT for the period of that additional 12 months funding?*

C. *This is a hypothetical, so you might not want an answer this. If the contract did require that and they have failed to deliver that, would DFAT see that as a breach of contract?*

Answer

A.

- i. No. As outlined in outlined in paragraph 2.37 (vi) and (viii) of the Government Guidelines for Official Witnesses Before Parliamentary Committee and Related matters – November 1989, contracts contain commercial-in-confidence information.*
 - ii. Yes.*
- B. ANU provided a draft indicative work program within four weeks of entry into the agreement.**
- C. Not applicable.**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions No. 295

Program: DFAT

Topic: Centre for Democratic Institutions

Question on Notice

Page: 113

Senator Fawcett

Question

- A. *Given that its success was very much based around the practical experience of the members of staff, can you tell me or take on notice whether there are any prerequisites for the qualifications or skills of staff who are going to be employed by the IPS to staff the CDI to maintain that practical flavour?***
- B. *Has the current head of CDI indicated that he will leave the organisation in December?***
- C. *Could you table a copy of the program for 2013 and detail any courses that are programmed for that period?***

Answer

- A. The current CDI Convenor, employed by the School of International, Political and Strategic Studies at the ANU, was selected for the position based on his operational experience in parliamentary strengthening, election management, party strengthening and women candidate training within CDI's target countries.
- B. The Convenor's extensive operational experience engaging with democratic governance issues in the region is critical to the on-going relevance and effectiveness of CDI. The former Deputy Director of CDI, Mr Grant Harrison, retired from ANU in November 2013.
- C. The program for 2013 is attached.



2013/14 Interim CDI Workplan

The current draft workplan have been designed to continue CDI operations throughout 2013/14 while a comprehensive redesign process is undertaken. This interim program aims to build on lessons learned from the 2012 CDI review which highlight the need for: demand driven and context specific activities (more work in partner countries rather than in Canberra), the need for political economy analysis to inform activity targeting, and to put in place a monitoring and evaluation regime to measure and improve the performance of both developmental and political CDI activities.

To improve alignment, coordination and effectiveness of democratic governance activities in the region, CDI will focus more on working through Australian Government institutions such as the Australian Parliament to deliver training. This builds on international lessons learned to allow for long-term relationships to be cultivated rather than stilted short term contractual relationships which fragment assistance to the sector. It also allows CDI to tap into the extensive experience both technical and developmental of the Federal and State parliaments. Not only is this approach more effective¹ it is more cost effective approach. The CDI management team is focused on reducing administrative costs to allow for greater programing scope in light of recent cuts to the aid program.

The workplan in this period also seeks to reengage with Fiji to provide flexible programming and policy support. Details of this engagement will undergo extensive consultation with stakeholders as needs are elucidated in the first quarter of 2014.

Finally, CDI recognises that 2014 will be a busy year for democratic governance in the region with elections in Indonesia, Solomon Islands and Fiji. CDI's recent colocation with SSGM allows for closer linkages with internationally renowned experts at ANU. By improving synergies between policy and programing, it allows CDI to: 1) more quickly and effectively respond to policy support requests from the Australian Government and, 2) enhances CDI's capability to implement the 2012 Independent Review recommendations to improve CDI's monitoring and evaluation to provide an evidence base to better target and assess impact of its activities.

Given the fluidity in terms of the ad-hoc assistance CDI may need to provide to elections in the region and the emerging needs of Fiji, it is important to note that to ensure dynamism, CDI may need to defer non-time specific activities into 2015 in order to meet urgent priorities as determined by CDI in collaboration with the Australian Government.

¹ Research from DFID (2013) focusing on the international experience of Parliamentary Strengthening activities advocates for this consolidated approach.



| ACTIVITY | RATIONALE | EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMING AND MONITORING | PERSONNEL/DELIVERY MECHANISM | EST. COST |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|------------------|
| <p>Parliamentary Strengthening</p> | <p>CDI will continue to work with the PNG Parliament to contribute to its reform agenda and maintain key relationships with stakeholders.</p> <p>CDI will partner with both Australian Federal Parliament and Queensland Parliament to provide long term support for the PNG Parliament. Support in this period will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Develop terms of reference for a Select Committee to conduct a public inquiry into reform issues and provide assistance to the committee secretariat in the conduct of hearings and preparation of a report to Parliament. 2) Support for information product development to address the knowledge gap among MPs, public servants, and civil society to improve the understanding about the role of parliament. 3) Support the development of a corporate plan to improve workforce planning and donor coordination. 4) Facilitate dialogue discussions among MPs to build a reform network and enhance the Parliament's potential as an institution with legislative, accountability and representational responsibilities. 5) Provide long term mentoring support between parliaments that can provide niche, context specific advice and support. 6) Supporting and facilitating Melanesian south-south cooperation | <p>The International Office at Australian Parliament has built an excellent reputation for improving the rigor of its Parliamentary support work in the region and bolster support for twinned parliaments both in terms of resources (which are scarce for State parliament overseas operations) and in terms of lessons learned to promote effective interventions.</p> <p>The provision of assistance through this medium has been proven to be more effective than short term contracted interventions as it maintains a consistent relationship and better</p> | <p>Coordinated support between the International Office of Australian Parliament and the twinned QLD Parliament.</p> | <p>\$200,000</p> |



| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|-----------------|
| | <p>Consultation: CDI has confirmed details of this activity with the PNG Speaker, Clerk, Australian Federal and Queensland parliaments and DFAT (Post and Canberra).</p> | <p>responds to the local contextual needs.</p> | | |
| <p>Political Party Strengthening</p> | <p>CDI will continue to support the Registry of Political Parties & Candidates Commission. Specifically support will target IPPCC's quarterly workshops for political parties in December 2013, February, April and August 2014. Through this work CDI will contribute to consolidating IPPCC's position as the lead agency in political party strengthening in PNG.</p> <p>Consultation: CDI has confirmed details of this activity with Dr Alphonse Gelu IPPCC Registrar and DFAT (Post and Canberra).</p> | <p>This activity has two objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Enhance political party management capacity in the areas of internal administration, compliance with OLIPPAC requirements, membership structures and policy development. 2) Continue to build on the strong relationship with the reform oriented Registrar. <p>CDI will seek to monitor the effectiveness of this program through an updated performance framework which will be developed in 2014.</p> | <p>CDI Associates</p> | <p>\$70,000</p> |



centre for **democratic** institutions

INDONESIA

| ACTIVITY | RATIONALE | EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMING AND MONITORING | PERSONNEL/DELIVERY MECHANISM | EST. COST |
|--|---|---|--|------------------|
| Support for the Indonesian Institute for Peace and Democracy | <p>CDI has engaged an Organisational Development Adviser to provide in-house technical and mentoring assistance to IPD in Bali. The assistance has been highly valued by DFAT and Indonesian Government stakeholders as it has contributed significantly to the emergence of IPD as a credible partner for democracy advocacy in the region.</p> <p>CDI will continue to fund and supervise the Organisational Development Adviser in the period of the agreement.</p> | <p>In 2014 CDI will work with the Organisational Development Adviser to improve the monitoring and evaluation of IPD's activities as part of CDI's effectiveness program.</p> | <p>CDI Associate</p> | <p>\$100,000</p> |
| IPD's Asian Political Leadership Program | <p>While political parties in Indonesia are relatively well developed, it seems that CDI can play a niche role to contribute to the strengthening of the party system.</p> <p>CDI is well placed to support various non-partisan forums for discussion and skills development. CDI will work in partnership with the National Democratic Institute and the Institute for Peace and Democracy to deliver two workshops and mentored projects to address party strengthening priorities identified by participants.</p> | <p>CDI will rely on reporting generated from NDI's performance framework.</p> | <p>IPD NDI</p> | <p>\$50,000</p> |
| Political Party Discussion Network | <p>The network provides a politically neutral space to share perspectives on the role of political parties in democratic consolidation.</p> | <p>This is primarily a networking based activity. Feedback will be sought from participants and DFAT</p> | <p>CDI Associate</p> | <p>\$10,000</p> |
| Electoral Politics in | <p>CDI has been supporting mulit-year, mixed-method research on electoral politics in South East Asia. This component which focuses</p> | <p>Analysis will feed into Australian Government</p> | <p>Professor Ed Aspinall in collaboration with staff</p> | <p>\$150,000</p> |



| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| <p>Indonesia Action Research</p> | <p>on Indonesia involves working with the Politics and Government Department at Universitas Gadjah Mada in Yogyakarta to field a team of 60 researchers who will observe electoral dynamics in 30 regions of Indonesia in the weeks leading up to the 2013 legislative election.</p> <p>Researchers will shadow candidates, observe campaign events, map campaign structures, and develop a picture of the mixture of clientelistic, programmatic and personal appeals that candidates make.</p> | <p>programming and policy in relation to democratic governance in Indonesia.</p> <p>Skills transfer from ANU to Yogyakarta University staff will be monitored throughout the research activity.</p> | <p>from Yogyakarta University staff</p> | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|

FIJI

| ACTIVITY | RATIONALE | EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMING AND MONITORING | PERSONNEL/DELIVERY MECHANISM | EST. COST |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|------------------|
| <p>Parliamentary Strengthening</p> | <p>CDI has been approached by a Parliamentary Strengthening Working Group, with the Fijian Ministry of Justice, to offer advice and assistance to support the re-reestablishment of a parliamentary administration in Fiji after the elections scheduled for September 2014.</p> <p>CDI proposes the following two step approach:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Re-establishing the twinning relationship with the Parliament of Victoria, alongside operational support from Australian Parliament 2) Providing direct training and support through CDI's | <p>CDI in cooperation with the Australian parliaments and UNDP will establish a baseline by which to measure performance of the Fijian parliament and the extent to which CDI contributes to its development.</p> | <p>Australian Federal Parliament & Victorian Parliament</p> <p>CDI Direct Support- CDI Associate</p> | <p>\$200,000</p> |



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|----------|--|---|------------------|--|
| | <p>Parliamentary Strengthening experts aligned to the UNDP program.</p> <p>CDI will balance its support depending on the appetite for engagement in Suva.</p> <p>Consultation: Fijian Ministry of Justice, Australian and VIC parliaments, DFAT post and Canberra.</p> | | | |
| Analysis | <p>CDI's co-location with SSGM makes it well positioned to respond to ad-hoc requests for assistance from the Australian Government. Earlier this year CDI coordinated inputs into comments on the draft constitution that was provided to DFAT and AusAID. CDI is well positioned to provide similar input on an as needed basis pertaining to the constitution, electoral, parliament and political parties.</p> | <p>Performance will be assessed based on feedback received from relevant DFAT counterparts.</p> | SSGM Specialists | N/A CDI will utilise in-house expertise through SSGM |

VANUATU

| ACTIVITY | RATIONALE | EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMING AND MONITORING | PERSONNEL/DELIVERY MECHANISM | EST. COST |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|-----------|
| Speakers Retreat and Parliamentary Observation Study Tour | The Vanuatu Parliament has struggled to establish itself as a credible and effective institution. It is commonly criticised for being unable to perform its legislative, accountability and representational functions and frequent motions of no-confidence have encouraged MPs to devote more time to coalition-making than to their parliamentary responsibilities. The appointment of a | M&E of parliamentary activities will be integrated through Australian Federal Parliament program. | Completed | \$37,000 |



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|--|--|--|--|--|
| | <p>new Speaker earlier in 2013 and the recent recruitment of a new Clerk of Parliament have opened the possibility for change in the way the institution operates.</p> <p>Building on successful approaches developed by CDI in support of the PNG Parliament, a private retreat will involve the Speaker and Clerk of the Queensland Parliament, where the Speaker will be joined by a small delegation of reform minded MPs from the Vanuatu Parliament.</p> | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|

SOLOMON ISLANDS

| ACTIVITY | RATIONALE | EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMING AND MONITORING | PERSONNEL/DELIVERY MECHANISM | EST. COST |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|-----------|
| Women Candidate Training | Solomon Islands has been comparatively well serviced from a comprehensive suite of RAMSI and UNDP democratic governance strengthening programs. The niche role for CDI in 2014 will be preparing women's candidates for the upcoming elections. | <p>CDI will work closely with SSGM to develop an evidence based program to ensure candidates are appropriately targeted and trained as per lessons learned in Melanesia.</p> <p>Through this process we expect the quality of the training to improve and will hopefully contribute to improved partner country outcomes.</p> | CDI Associates in collaboration with UNDP | \$125,000 |



REGIONAL

| ACTIVITY | RATIONALE | EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMING AND MONITORING | PERSONNEL/DELIVERY MECHANISM | EST. COST |
|---|---|--|------------------------------|-----------|
| Effective Parliamentary Committee Inquires Course (EPCIC) | This is a five day course based in Sydney with the NSW Parliament for staff from Pacific parliaments. EPCIC 2014 will be the 7 th edition of a course that is in high demand. It focuses on the processes and practical skills involved in conducting committee investigations, including drafting inquiry terms of reference, providing administrative research and analytical support to a committee inquiry, and presenting a committee report. | This is the only Australia based activity reflecting the shift to more partner government based programming in line with the independent review recommendation. | NSW Parliament | \$100,000 |
| Ad-hoc Rapid Reaction Programming Contingency funds | To be effective in the political governance space CDI needs to be responsive to context and opportunity. This workplan is therefore designed in the expectation that a high degree of flexibility will be retained, to respond to changing political and operational dynamics. In 2014 we expect significant demand on CDI resources to respond to changes in the Fijian political landscape, in addition to elections in Solomon Islands and Indonesia. | Measurement of success will be the extent CDI can (within its means) assist the Australian Government to rapidly meet needs in new programming spaces effectively. | TBA | \$150,000 |

REDESIGN, M&E, ANALYSIS

| ACTIVITY | RATIONALE | EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMING AND MONITORING | PERSONNEL/DELIVERY MECHANISM | EST. COST |
|----------|-----------|--|------------------------------|-----------|
|----------|-----------|--|------------------------------|-----------|



| | | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|-------|
| | | | | |
| Program Effectiveness Support | CDI will engage an M&E Specialist to work with CDI staff to collect and analyse data pertaining to program effectiveness to assist with the ongoing improvement of the program. | Development of an M&E framework for CDI | Chris Roche- Praxis Consulting | TBA |
| Planning and Design Validation | CDI staff will conduct site visits to focus countries to consult with partners and DFAT regarding proposed and ongoing programs. This is in line with the independent review recommendation to ensure programs are designed and delivered in country, and that sufficient monitoring is carried out. | Monitoring reports are submitted. Forward programs are fully consulted prior to commencement. | CDI Management Team | TBA |
| CDI Redesign | During this period the DFAT secondee will work with the design team to develop a new design for the future CDI, undertake consultations with domestic and international stakeholders, and ensure lessons learned and recommendations from the independent review are finalised. This funding profile reflects costs for M&E and design expertise and travel. | N/A | DFAT Secondee | TBA |
| Analytical program in collaboration with SSGM | The 2014 CDI research program seeks to: 1) develop a body of policy relevant and empirically grounded research to inform policy maker understanding of democracy and democratic processes in the region; and 2) inform the targeting of focused programming to support democracy building through CDI's training program. The future research themes have been chosen to deepen the understanding of different aspects of democracy in the region. The aim is for them to contribute to the development of a broad analytical/policy framework around the operation of democracy in focus countries in the Asia-Pacific to benefit policy makers and researchers. | Analytical work under CDI will move from ad-hoc to strategic with the main purpose to improve the quality of developmental and political engagement in the region. CDI will ensure relevance through close collaboration with stakeholders such as DFAT, Australian Parliament, International IDEA and | CDI & SSGM Collaboration | \$TBA |



| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | <p>Theme 1: Democracy and corruption</p> <p>Cross country scoping study on democracy and corruption – nature of the problem and how it impacts/manifests across Melanesian electoral systems.</p> <p>Theme 2: Political leadership and democracy</p> <p>This research theme is interests in deepening our understanding of democratic stakeholders in the region. It seeks to deepen our understanding of how leadership is expressed within/influenced by the electoral process in the region, and the identification of democratic proponents/opponents. Better understanding of democratic stakeholders will inform the development of emerging CDI activities to contribute to the strengthening of democratic norms in the region.</p> <p>Theme 3: Women in Politics</p> <p>This research theme seeks to deepen our understanding of women’s democratic participation in the region. This will include an initial focus on electoral participation but will broaden to encompass civic engagement and other forms of democratic activism. The aim is to inform the targeting of more effective electoral support activities for women candidates.</p> <p>Theme 4: Democracy, Public Policy and Development</p> <p>This research them will investigate the relationship between democracy, good governance and development outcomes. To what</p> | partner governments and institutions in the Asia-Pacific region. | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|



| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| | <p>degree does formal democracy support or hinder development in the region? How can democratic systems be supported to enhance developmental forms of policy development? The aim of this research theme is to look beyond formal institutions which frame the democratic process and to consider how democratic governance can reinforce positive and inclusive development outcomes.</p> | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|

WORKING VERSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 296

Program: DFAT

Topic: Bougainville

Question on Notice

Page: 114

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- A. How much has been paid to the ABG adviser, Anthony Regan, to draft and redraft the new mining legislation for Bougainville?***
- B. How much has been paid to Professor Ciaran O'Faircheallaigh to advise the ABG and landowners on mining policy practice?***

Answer

Since June 2011, at the request of the President of the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG), John Momis, Australia has paid Mr Regan approximately \$271,905 in fees and reimbursable travel costs related to his advisory work. Mr Regan's advisory work on mining legislation was only a part of his role during this time, as he also advised the ABG on issues relating to the draw-down of powers, on legislative drafting and on the Bougainville Constitution and the *Bougainville Peace Agreement*.

Professor O'Faircheallaigh, through Griffith University, is directly engaged by the ABG to provide advice on the establishment of landowner associations and work on other issues surrounding possible negotiations of a mining agreement to govern the Panguna mine. Australia, at the request of President Momis, has provided support of up to \$215,000 to the ABG over 2011 and 2012 to cover the fees and reimbursable travel costs of Professor O'Faircheallaigh. This assistance aims to ensure ABG's policy decisions on mining are transparent, consultative, and acceptable to Bougainvilleans, as well as conducted in a way to minimise the risk of conflict.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 297

Program: DFAT

Topic: Bougainville

Question on Notice

Page: 115

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Details of what meetings have occurred this year between AusAID and Rio Tinto, and who was present at those meetings.

Answer

The Mining for Development Advisory Committee meets regularly to advise on the Mining for Development Initiative (M4D) and includes Mr Bruce Harvey (Global Practice Leader Communities & Social Performance, Rio Tinto) as a member. In connection with the establishment of the Australia Mongolia M4D Program, development staff on the Mongolia Program meet as required with a range of mining sector stakeholders, including Rio Tinto. In addition to this ongoing engagement, the following specific meetings between aid program officials and Rio Tinto representatives have taken place.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Date & Location | Event/purpose | Rio Tinto staff | Aid official |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
| 21 Jan 2013 Port Moresby | Australia PNG Business and Officials Committee meeting | Peter Taylor (Chairman, Chief Executive and Managing Director, Bougainville Copper Ltd (BCL), as chair of the Australia PNG Business Council (APNGBC)) | Stuart Schaefer (Minister Development Cooperation, Port Moresby) |
| 23 Jan 2013 Melbourne | Meeting to discuss M4D | David Peever (Managing Director, Rio Tinto Australia) | Rebecca Bryant (Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Economic Development Branch), Andrew Schloeffel (former Director, M4D Taskforce) and Russell Harwood (Program Manager, Mongolia) |
| 4 Mar 2013 Ulaanbaatar | Meeting to discuss Australia Mongolia M4D Program | Janet Reark (General Manager, Regional Development and Social Performance) and other Rio Tinto staff | Rod Brazier (First Assistant Secretary, East Asia Division), Bronwyn Robbins (Director, North Asia Bilateral Programs and Donor Partnerships) and Geoff Bowan (Counsellor, Beijing) |
| 12 Mar 2013 Canberra | Meeting of the Australia Pacific Islands Business Councils, APNGBC and Australia Fiji Business Council AusAID Working | Peter Taylor (as chair of the APNGBC) | Rob Tranter (First Assistant Secretary, Pacific Division); Zoe Mander-Jones (Assistant Secretary, Pacific Regional Branch); Jodie McAlister (Director, Economic Growth Section, Pacific Regional |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Date & Location | Event/purpose | Rio Tinto staff | Aid official |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---|
| | Group and AusAID | | Branch); Karyn Murray (Director, PNG Policy & Coordination Section); Sally MacKenzie (Manager Economic Growth Section, Pacific Regional Branch) and Timothy Kendell (Director, Business Engagement Section) |
| 12 Mar 2013 Canberra | Meeting to discuss collaboration in Mongolia, Africa and PNG | David Peever | Peter Baxter (former Director General of AusAID) |
| Mar 2013 Mongolia | Meetings to discuss Mongolia Australia M4D Program design | Various Rio Tinto staff in Mongolia | Mongolia Australia M4D Program design team |
| 5 Apr 2013 Geelong | Deakin University's Australia-PNG Roundtable | Peter Taylor | James Batley (Deputy Secretary) |
| 12 Apr 2013 Port Moresby | Discussion at Australia Week launch by Rev. Tim Costello | Peter Taylor (as chair of the APNGBC) | James Batley (Deputy Secretary) and Stuart Schaefer (Minister Development Cooperation) |
| 12 Apr 2013 Port Moresby | Australia PNG Business and Officials Working Group | Peter Taylor (as chair of the APNGBC) | Stuart Schaefer (Minister Development Cooperation, Port Moresby) |
| 13 Apr 2013 | Australian Government - | Peter Taylor | James Batley (Deputy Secretary, as co- |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Date & Location | Event/purpose | Rio Tinto staff | Aid official |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Port Moresby | Business Round Table on development assistance cooperation | (as co-chair) | chair); Stuart Schaefer (Minister Development Cooperation, Port Moresby) |
| 20 to 21 May 2013 Sydney | International Mining for Development Conference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • panel on 'Frameworks for negotiation and agreement making' • meeting on planning for the 2014 G20 • update on the Mongolia Australia M4D Program design | Bruce Harvey (Global Practice Leader Communities & Social Performance, Rio Tinto) | Peter Baxter (former Director General of AusAID) Bronwyn Robbins (Director, North Asia Bilateral Programs & Donor Partnerships Section) and Russell Harwood (Program Manager, Mongolia) |
| 23 to 24 May 2013 Sydney | Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Conference to discuss EITI | Debra Valentine (Legal, External & Regulatory Affairs, Rio Tinto Group) | Peter Baxter (former Director General of AusAID) |
| 30 May 2013 Port Moresby | Meeting to discuss BCL's radio project and Order of | Paul Coleman (Secretary of BCL) | Simon King (Second Secretary, Development Policy & Coordination, Port |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Date & Location | Event/purpose | Rio Tinto staff | Aid official |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Magnitude Study for Panguna | | Moresby) and Lisa Clutterham (Second Secretary, Political, Port Moresby) |
| 18 Jun 2013 Port Moresby | Presentation at the Rio Tinto office on the Magnitude Study for Panguna | Paul Coleman (Secretary of BCL) | Lisa Clutterham (Second Secretary, Political, Port Moresby) |
| 25 Jun 2013 Port Moresby | Australia PNG Business and Officials Working Group | Peter Taylor (as chair of the APNGBC) | Robert Brink (Counsellor Development Cooperation, Governance) |
| 26 Jun 2013 Port Moresby | Australian Government - Business Engagement Working Group on the Aid Program | Peter Taylor (as co-chair) | Stuart Schaefer (Minister Development Cooperation, Port Moresby) |
| 29 Oct 2013 Port Moresby | Australia PNG Business and Officials Working Group | Peter Taylor (as chair of the APNGBC) | James Hall (Minister Counsellor Development Cooperation, Port Moresby) |
| 29 Oct 2013 Port Moresby | Australian Government - Business Engagement Working Group on the Aid Program | Peter Taylor (as co-chair) | Stuart Schaefer (Minister Development Cooperation, Port Moresby) |
| 6 Nov 2013 Port Moresby | Meeting following visit to Bougainville | Peter Taylor | Deborah Stokes (High Commissioner, Port Moresby); Stuart Schaefer (Minister Development |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Date & Location | Event/purpose | Rio Tinto staff | Aid official |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| | | | Cooperation, Port Moresby) and Margaret Adams (Deputy High Commissioner, Port Moresby) |
| 20 Nov 2013 | APNGBC annual general meeting | Peter Taylor (as chair of the APNGBC) | Sally McKenzie (Manager Economic Growth Section, Pacific Regional Branch) |
| 10 Dec 2013 Canberra | Business engagement meeting associated with Australia and PNG Ministerial Forum | Peter Taylor | Stuart Schaefer (Minister Development Cooperation, Port Moresby) |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 298

Program: DFAT

Topic: Bougainville

Question on Notice

Page: 115

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Is AusAID aware that some of its subcontractors and advisers on Bougainville have direct links to Rio Tinto? For example, Coffey International, which is subcontracted to run the aid program on Bougainville, calls Rio Tinto 'one of its major clients', while Professor Ciaran O'Faircheallaigh has obtained significant research funding from Rio Tinto? Are you aware of that?

...Are you aware that some of your subcontractors and advisers on Bougainville have direct links to Rio Tinto?

Answer

DFAT is aware of the allegations that some individuals or organisations it has engaged in Bougainville have 'direct links' to Rio Tinto. However, DFAT does not accept that any of the alleged links to Rio Tinto give rise to a conflict of interest. DFAT take allegations of conflicts of interest seriously and require full disclosure of any potential conflicts of interest as a part of the standard contractual obligations for advisers engaged through the Australian aid program.

DFAT has been informed that in 2005, Mr Regan and Helga Griffin edited a volume entitled 'Bougainville before the Conflict', which collected a range of chapters on the history of Bougainville. As a part of its corporate social responsibility, Rio Tinto Minerals (PNG) Ltd provided limited funds to Pandanus Books, an ANU publisher, to make the volume available to a wider audience in Bougainville. This was publically acknowledged in the volume itself. Mr Regan has confirmed that Rio Tinto did not provide him with any funds for that book or any other project.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

DFAT has been informed that in 2009, Professor O'Faircheallaigh and a team of other researchers, were awarded an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant of \$480,000 for a study on poverty and economic empowerment in indigenous Australian communities. This scheme requires researchers to work with partners including the private sector. Partners in the study included Rio Tinto Ltd, former Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Woodside Energy Ltd, Santos Ltd and Marnda Mia Central Negotiating Committee Pty Ltd, an indigenous organisation.

The role of Coffey International Development Pty Ltd in delivery of some aid program activities in Bougainville is to provide project management, human resources support (including recruitment); logistics and accounting services for the delivery of PGLP. Coffey does not provide advice to the ABG directly. The contracts for PGLP advisers are made through Coffey under this arrangement, but at the direction of DFAT officials.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 299

Program: DFAT

Topic: Bougainville

Question on Notice

Page: 115

Senator Rhiannon

Question

How many advisers is AusAID currently funding on Bougainville, what are their roles and what is the annual cost, please?

Answer

Australia currently supports 22 adviser positions in Bougainville in a combination of full time and part time roles (details set out in table below). The majority of advisers are engaged through PLGP, with others supported under the PNG Australia Law and Justice Program (PALJP); and the Bougainville Governance and Implementation Fund (GIF). Some adviser roles are part time, with the duration and frequency of work determined by the tasking required by the ABG. The annual costs of these contracts can vary depending on number of days the adviser is engaged and the reimbursable travel costs incurred by the adviser in a particular year. In 2012-13, the cost of advisers in Bougainville was approximately \$2.9 million. Some of the supported positions are currently vacant or have been recently filled, so costs for some of the current 22 positions were not incurred in the 2012-13 financial year.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Task | Program | Basis | Costs 2012/13 AUD |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mining Negotiations | GIF | Short-term/ input based | \$ 133,000.00 |
| 2. Health & HIV Program | Health | Long-term/ full time | \$ 248,591.00 |
| 3. Legislative Drafting* | PGLP | Long-term/ full time | \$ - |
| 4. Organisation Development and Change Management* | PGLP | Long-term/ full time | \$ - |
| 5. Policy Development and Analysis | PLGP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 233,290.41 |
| 6. Procurement and Contract | PLGP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 232,665.28 |
| 7. Conflict Resolution and Weapons Disposal | PLGP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 240,305.25 |
| 8. Public Financial Management (Budget & Planning) | PLGP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 207,925.09 |
| 9. Program Management | PLGP | Short-term/ input based | \$ 151,287.45 |
| 10. Legislative Drafting | PLGP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 217,332.57 |
| 11. Strategic and Legal | PLGP | Short-term/ input based | \$ 205,234.00 |
| 12. Financial Management (Finance & Expenditure) | PLGP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 120,757.09 |
| 13. Strategic Management | PLGP | Short-term/ input based | \$ 120,860.92 |
| 14. Personnel Management | PLGP | Short-term/ input based | \$ 84,740.50 |
| 15. BPS Finance and Budget | PALJP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 104,230.50 |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| Task | Program | Basis | Costs 2012/13 AUD |
|--|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 16. BPS Prosecutions | PALJP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 104,230.50 |
| 17. Regional and District Coordination | PALJP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 5,972.60 |
| 18. Regional and District Coordination | PALJP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 96,853.02 |
| 19. BPS Training and Human Resources | PALJP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 183,044.07 |
| 20. ABG Planning and Budgeting | PALJP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 26,280.59 |
| 21. ABG Law & Justice Service Delivery Facilitation | PALJP | Long-term/ full time | \$ 88,781.94 |
| 22. Bougainville Treasury | PcAB | Long-term/ full time | \$ 51,757.89 |
| TOTAL | | | \$ 2,857,140.67 |

* Not yet recruited

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 300

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mae Tao Clinic

Question on Notice

Page: 117

Senator Dastyari and Senator Fawcett

Questions

- A. It would be helpful if you could on notice produce a detailed breakdown on the history of the support that we have provided for the clinic and dates, times, decisions and correspondence.***
- B. What steps are possible moving forward and for the possibility of future support and funding?***
- C. You said there was a panel and there were a number of applications received and that this one just was not as good as the others. Were there any specific areas where this one was deficient compared to the others?***
- D. What were the qualifications to be on that panel?***

Answers

A. The following table outlines the key decisions, correspondence and dates relating to funding of the Mae Tao Clinic.

| Decisions and Correspondence | Date |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Provided 20 skilled volunteers to the Mae Tao Clinic | 1997 - 2013 |
| Funding of approximately \$165,400 for the Burma Children's Medical Fund within the Mae Tao Clinic | 2012 - 2014 |
| Agreement with Union Aid Abroad (APHEDA) for the Mae Tao Clinic Health Services Project (\$1.5 million) | 6 January 2011 – 31 December 2013 |
| Independent evaluation of Australia's support to refugees on the Thai-Burma border undertaken | 21 July – 3 August 2012 |
| Independent evaluation of Australia's support to refugees on the Thai-Burma border published | 30 October 2012 |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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|--|------------------------------|
| NGOs active on the Thai-Burma border (13) are invited to submit concept notes for Australia's new program of support for refugees (2013-2015) | 19 December 2012 |
| Concept note submission deadline | 18 January 2013 |
| Assessment of concept notes | January-April 2013 |
| Shortlisted NGOs (7), including APHEDA representing the Mae Tao Clinic, are invited to submit full proposals | 5 April 2013 |
| Information session held in Bangkok. Partners, including APHEDA, are provided with feedback on their concept notes and areas for improvement | 8 April 2013 |
| Full proposal deadline | 8 May 2013 |
| APHEDA submits a proposal representing the Mae Tao Clinic and the Back Pack Health Worker Team | |
| Assessment of full proposals | May-June 2013 |
| Applicants notified of the outcome in writing | 16 July 2013 |
| Australian Government Official visits Mae Tao Clinic to discuss the outcome with clinic representatives | 17 July 2013 |
| Verbal debrief/feedback provided to APHEDA on the funding outcome with additional detail on APHEDA's scores against the selection criteria | 22 July 2013 |
| Information on alternate Australian aid program funding mechanisms provided to APHEDA | 25 July 2013 |
| APHEDA Executive Officer, Kate Lee, meets with the Hon Melissa Parke, former Minister for International Development to discuss the funding outcome | 29 July 2013 |
| Australian government caretaker period | 5 August – 18 September 2013 |
| New government sworn in | 18 September 2013 |
| The Hon Julie Bishop, Minister for Foreign Affairs, approves Australia's new program (\$8 million, 2013-2015) | 30 October 2013 |
| Mae Tao Clinic submits a funding proposal to Bangkok Post under the DFAT Direct Aid Program 2013-14 allocation | 7 November 2013 |
| Contracts with successful partners under Australia's new program are signed | 11 November 2013 |
| DFAT officials meet APHEDA and Dr Cynthia Maung of the Mae Tao Clinic in Canberra to further discuss the outcome and exchange information on the situation on the border | 12 November 2013 |

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Senator the Hon Brett Mason, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs receives a letter from APHEDA Executive Officer, Kate Lee, resubmitting APHEDA's original proposal and requesting a reconsideration of funding | 27 November 2013 |
| Bangkok Post approves funding of \$9,900 to the Mae Tao Clinic under DFAT's Direct Aid Program 2013-14 allocation for the delivery of training in community child protection | 2 December 2013 |
| DFAT issues a letter on behalf of Senator the Hon Brett Mason, responding to APHEDA's 27 November 2013 request for a reconsideration of their proposal | 16 December 2013 |

B. Implementation of Australia's new program of support for refugees on the Thai-Burma border (2013-2015) has begun and services are being delivered in all nine refugee camps along the border. There is no scope for further activities under this program as funding is fully committed. Capacity to allocate new funding is contingent on the government's decision on the aid budget. Should the new program be continued beyond the current agreed term, a competitive selection process would be conducted. Organisations working on the border, including APHEDA, would again be invited to apply.

Australian support for the placement of specialist volunteers at the Mae Tao Clinic will continue.

C. The activities proposed by APHEDA would not have reached as many refugees within the Thai-Burma border camps as those of the successful tenderers. APHEDA's proposal was assessed by the selection panel as not being as strong as the successful proposals, and represented less value for money than alternative partners. APHEDA has been provided with a debrief outlining its scores and strengths and weaknesses for each criterion. The selection process was in accordance with Commonwealth Grant Guidelines and value for money principles. The selection criteria by which applications were assessed are listed below:

- Criterion 1: Meets the needs of and is accountable to the displaced population and the different groups within that population.
- Criterion 2: Clearly demonstrates how it enhances preparedness for a potential refugee return
- Criterion 3: Explicitly addresses how the program will build in flexibility to respond to changes in the situation over the length of the

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program, including the potential for refugee and IDP return and reintegration

- Criterion 4: Aligns with the *Australia-Myanmar Aid Program Strategy 2012-2014* objectives.
- Criterion 5: Demonstrates how the organisation will engage in coordination, collaboration and information sharing.

D. The assessment panel comprised Australian aid program staff from DFAT's Fragility and Conflict Branch, the Myanmar Section and Bangkok Post. Collectively the panel had qualifications and experience in aid program management, international development, peace and conflict, and in-depth knowledge of the Thai-Burma border context. Sector specific advice was also provided by Canberra and field-based specialists in the areas of education, disability, gender and health.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 301

Program: DFAT

Topic: The Development Assistance Facility for Afghanistan Phase III

Question on Notice

Page: 119

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Can you provide details about where it is up to, how much of the budget has been spent and any evaluation that has been undertaken?

Answer

DAFA Phase III is managed by International Relief and Development (IRD); in partnership with UniQuest. Operations commenced on 1 October 2012 with a scheduled completion date of 30 September 2015.

Since the commencement of Phase III of DAFA approximately \$13.5 million has been expensed. There has been no evaluation of DAFA Phase III.

The DAFA Concept and design are provided on the DFAT website:

<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/countries/southasia/afghanistan/Pages/initiative-development-assistance-facility.aspx>.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 302

Program: DFAT

Topic: Afghanistan: Response to the report on Aid to Afghanistan

Question on Notice

Page: 119

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Thank you. This may be for the minister. The Senate had the committee report on aid to Afghanistan. When will the government response on that be released?

Senator Brandis: I do not know. I will take it on notice.

Answer

The Government's response is being finalised and will be tabled when approved.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 303

Program: DFAT

Topic: Israeli settlements

Question on Notice

Page: 121

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Does the government position on Israeli settlements remain consistent with the previous government's adherence to the United Nation's Security Council Resolution 446, that states that 'the policy and practices of Israel in establishing settlements in the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967 have no legal validity and constitute a serious obstruction to achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East'?

Answer

The Government's position is that the issue of Israeli settlements is being discussed as part of final status negotiations, of which Australia will not pre-empt outcomes.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 304

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mekong River Commission's PNPCA process

Question on Notice

Page: 121

Senator Rhiannon

Question

I want to ask about the Mekong River Commission's PNPCA process. I understand that in 2012 AusAID commissioned a review of this process. Can you provide an update on the status of that review, considering AusAID money went into it? I am interested in where it is up to, when it will be finished and if it will be made public.

Answer

The review has not been completed as the contractor sought to be released from the contract. Australia has agreed to provide a summary of the consultations to date to two civil society organisations. Australia is not planning to recommission the review.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 305

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mekong River Commission's PNPCA process

Question on Notice

Page: 121-122

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. How does the Australian government plan to address the conflict with the Mekong River Commission over the status of this dam and over this dam's prior consultation process?

B. Following the request to the Lao government to disclose the project design for the Xayaburi Dam, have the designs now been disclosed?

Answer

A. It is not a matter for the Australia Government to address conflicts between the members of the Mekong River Commission (MRC). Australia is not a member of the MRC and there are no Australian officials working for the MRC.

Australia supports the MRC's notification and prior consultation processes through funding and advice, and through direct engagement with MRC member countries.

B. Extensive Xayaburi Dam design documents are publicly available on the MRC website. Feedback on that design documentation, resulting from the MRC's prior consultation process, has led to some redesign. The Laos Government has agreed to provide details of this redesign to the MRC by mid-2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 306

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia's Humanitarian Funding (2013/14)

Question on Notice

Page: 123

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. What is the total funding figure for all of Australia's humanitarian funding to date this financial year (including break down between NGO, UN and Red Cross)

Answer

A. Australia responded to 5 natural and man-made humanitarian emergencies in 4 countries since the beginning of FY 2013-14.

| Region | # of responses | Funding (\$ million) | Breakdown (country/event/agency) | % 2013-14 |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|---|---------------|
| Africa | 1 | 0.5m | - Guinea Bissau (WFP) | 0.95% |
| Middle East | 1 | 21.5m | - \$21.5m Syria Civil Conflict* | 41% |
| East Asia | 3 | 40.52m | - \$0.3m Laos Dengue (WHO); - \$0.22m Philippines TS Trami (UNFPA/PRC) - \$40m Philippines Typhoon Haiyan** | 58% |
| South and West Asia | 0 | - | - | - |
| Pacific | 0 | - | - | - |
| Latin America and Caribbean | 0 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 5 | 62.52m | | 100.0% |

*\$17m to UN Agencies (\$5m WFP, \$3m WHO, \$3m UNICEF, \$1m UNFPA, \$5m UNHCR) and \$4.5m to Australian NGOs through Humanitarian Partnership Agreement.

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**\$19m to UN Agencies (\$7m to UNICEF, \$5m to WFP, \$5m to WHO, \$1m to UNOCHA, \$1m UN Population Fund), \$7m to Red Cross/Red Crescent, \$5m to Australian NGOs through Humanitarian Partnership Agreement, \$4m to local Philippine NGOs, \$1m in emergency stores, \$1m for logistics and \$3m for the deployment of two Australian Medical Assistance Teams (AUSMAT).

In responding to crises, Australia has used a range of Agencies:

| Allocation of 2012-13 Humanitarian Spending, by Agency Type | | | | | |
|---|---------|--------|-------------|-----------|----------|
| Total (Million) | | NGO | UN Agencies | Red Cross | Other*** |
| YTD 2013-14 | Sub | 13.07m | 36.9m | 7.05m | 5.5m |
| | Total\$ | | | | |
| | % | 20% | 59% | 11.2% | 9.8% |

*** Other includes; transfer to partner governments, support to technical specialists, direct procurement from commercial suppliers, and deployment of USAR/AUSMAT teams etc.

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

Question No. 307

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget

Question on Notice

Page: 124

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Thanks. Minister, prior to the election your now Foreign Minister stated in an interview on Sky News with David Lipson:

David, the overseas development budget is for overseas development. We will not be using the foreign aid budget to prop up the detention network budget. There is a budget for that and we intend to stick to it.

David Lipson asks: 'Is that from the first year?' Julie Bishop responds, 'We will not be raiding the overseas development assistance to do onshore processing.' Does that remain your position?

Senator Brandis: That is what the minister said at the time.

Senator RHIANNON: So does that mean that the policy of the current government is that the aid budget should not be used to assist the work of what is now called the Department of Immigration and Border Protection?

Senator Brandis: Senator, I will take the question on notice. I am certainly not aware of any change in that position.

Senator RHIANNON: But money is currently going to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection that is classified as ODA funding?

Senator Brandis: As I say, I will take the question on notice, Senator.

Answer

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QUESTIONS IN WRITING

A. This is still subject to consideration by Government.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No. 308

Program: DFAT

Topic: Aid Budget – Climate Finance

Question on Notice

Page: 124

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- A. How much climate finance for climate change adaption and low-carbon development overseas comes from our aid budget? I was specifically interested in the REDD scheme.***
- B. I was going to ask if there was any ODA funding involved in the REDD scheme, and I was interested in the International Forest Carbon Initiative. Can you help us there? And the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership?***

Answer

- A. The Government is currently considering its strategic, budget and funding priorities, and further information on Australia's aid program will be provided by the Government in due course.
- B. Answered in Question 85 e) and 89.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 309

Program: DFAT

Topic: Afghanistan: Local Infrastructure Programs in Uruzgan

Question on notice

Page: 118

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Apart from the Children of Uruzgan project, which I understand is being funded through Save the Children, what other projects are currently being implemented in Uruzgan?

Mr Dawson: Currently, my understanding is that we have three projects under implementation in Uruzgan province in addition to the Children of Uruzgan project. One is a road infrastructure project and the other two are small local infrastructure projects. One, I think, is water supply and the other local economic infrastructure.

Senator RHIANNON: What does 'local economic infrastructure' mean?

Mr Dawson: I think it is small markets or small roadworks. Those sorts of things.

Senator RHIANNON: Could you take on notice to provide details, please?

Answer

In addition to the Children of Uruzgan and road infrastructure programs, DFAT currently supports two small local infrastructure programs in Uruzgan.

The first of these local infrastructure programs is the National Area-Based Development Program (NABDP) implemented across Afghanistan by the United Nations Development Programme in partnership with the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development. Australian funding to NABDP in Uruzgan (\$6.5 million from December 2011 to June 2014) is earmarked for

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

local rural infrastructure projects in the districts of Gizab, Khas Uruzgan and Shahidi Hassas. These projects include wells, retaining walls, irrigation canals and small bridges.

The second local infrastructure program is a water and sanitation program (\$2.2 million from January 2012 to June 2014) implemented by Dutch NGO, ZOA. This program improves water supply and hygiene facilities and practices in targeted villages through rehabilitation of existing wells, construction of new wells, training of local hygiene promoters, distribution of hygiene kits, radio messages about sanitation, and establishment and training of water user committees.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No. 310

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia's Humanitarian Funding (2013/14)

Question on Notice

Page: 124

Senator Rhiannon

Question

A. Can you please outline the total humanitarian emergency and refugee program funding that has been allocated to each country to reach the total expenditure for this financial year?

Answer

A. This question has been answered in Question No. 306.