

**Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Department of the Senate**

**Budget Estimates**

**26-30 May 2014**

**Question: 85**

**Topic: Attendance at meetings of the House**

**Written: 12 June 2014**

**Senator WONG asked:**

1. Can the process for inviting Senators to attend meetings of the House of Representatives to hear addresses from foreign Heads of State and Heads of Government be outlined?
2. Has the Department of the Senate received any advice of proposed invitations to attend the House in the remainder of 2014? If so, can details be provided?

**Answer:**

1. Standing Orders numbers 152-155 deal with communication between the two houses and the most common method of communication is by message.

On 24 June 2014, a message from the House of Representatives was reported to the Senate informing the Senate of a resolution of that House which invited Senators to attend a meeting of the House of Representatives for an address by the Honourable Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan.

2. To date, the Department of the Senate has not received any advice of further invitations to attend the House in the remainder of 2014.