

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Program 1.1

Question No. 55

Senator Trood asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2010:

With regard to active inquiries in Ethiopia through the DFAT consular official acting on your behalf, what have been the responses to them?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

On 21 July 2010, the Attorney-General's Department tasked the Australian Embassy in Nairobi to visit potential partner orphanages in Addis Ababa, as identified by the Australian Representatives in Ethiopia. The Principal Migration Officer from the Australian Embassy has identified a potential viable partner orphanage.

The Attorney-General's Department has made further enquiries with the Addis Ababa Regional Government, through the Australian Representatives, about working with this orphanage, but is yet to receive a response. A delegation from the Attorney-General's Department will travel to Ethiopia in December and will raise the matter with the newly appointed Ethiopian Government officials.