

QUESTION ON NOTICE / Written

Hearing Name: Inquiry into the Rights of Women and Children

Hearing Date: 31 August 2023

Topic: QoN 005 - Australia's gender equality and women's empowerment strategy

Senator Maria Vamvakinou

Question

Does the Government intend to revise Australia's gender equality and women's empowerment strategy, given that it was last revised in 2017?

Answer

The Foreign Minister announced that Government will develop a new International Gender Equality Strategy in February 2023.

The new International Strategy will recognise gender equality as a vital national interest, central to Australia's foreign policy, international development, trade and security efforts. It will be developed and implemented by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

This strategy will establish international priorities and commitments. It will also highlight domestic policy priorities, including Australia's forthcoming first National Strategy to Achieve Gender Equality, the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032, and Australia's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2021-31.

In developing this strategy, DFAT is consulting with stakeholders from countries in our region, internationally and in Australia. A call for public submissions was open on the DFAT website from 18 August to 18 September 2023.