

QUESTION ON NOTICE / Spoken

008 – Public Hearing – 13 May 2021

Topic: Briefings on additional sanctions

Mr Julian Hill MP

Question

Mr HILL: Just so I can understand, sometimes there are two voices in these discussions; is that DFAT's view, or is that the government's position because the minister signed a brief?

Ms Worthaisong: We keep in very close contact with the minister's office, as you'd expect.

Mr HILL: Of course, but you've provided written advice to the minister on these matters?

Ms Worthaisong: Yes, of course.

Mr HILL: Can you take on notice to give us the dates and the subjects of those briefings?

Ms Worthaisong: Of course.

Mr HILL: Is that a decision that the government has made that the minister has agreed to at this time? Is it a conscious decision?

CHAIR: Is this about the additional sanctions?

Mr HILL: Yes.

Answer

Since 1 February, the Minister for Foreign Affairs has requested, on multiple occasions, advice from DFAT on options for Myanmar targeted sanctions. DFAT has provided multiple submissions on Myanmar, three of which also refer to sanctions-related issues.