

Department of Defence

Senate Economics References Committee - Inquiry into the Future Sustainability of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Industry - 22 July 2015

Question on Notice No. 6 - Delegation Members ASC Visit

Senator Conroy asked on 22 July, Hansard page 50:

Senator CONROY: We know you have been dobbed in already, Admiral Sammut. You were definitely there; I think they said.

Rear Adm. Sammut: I was there.

Senator CONROY: The one in August last year: that was the one where I think the Japanese delegation were chased through the airport by a camera crew, from recollection. I saw it on television. You will remember that, Senator Edwards!

Senator EDWARDS: If you saw it on television, it would assume a camera crew.

Senator CONROY: So who else was part of that delegation?

Rear Adm. Sammut: Which delegation are we talking about?

Senator CONROY: This is the August one. The one that had the television crews chasing the Japanese delegation through airports.

Rear Adm. Sammut: I would have to take that on notice, so I could try and give you a definitive list of who was present for that.

Senator CONROY: It sounds like it must be a long list!

Rear Adm. Sammut: It included—I am not saying this is the complete list—David Gould; it included Mr Peter Baxter. I will just need to consult others to find out who else was involved in that. I had a member of the SEA 1000 program with me. I would be relying on memory about—

Senator CONROY: I am happy for you to take the rest on notice. You were present in May?

Response:

The Commonwealth attendees that accompanied the Japanese delegation that visited ASC in August 2014 comprised representatives from:

- Strategy Group, including International Policy Division;
- the Defence Science and Technology Group (the then Defence Science and Technology Organisation);
- the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group (including representatives from the then Capability Development Group and Defence Materiel Organisation);
- the Australian Embassy Tokyo; and
- the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The total number of Commonwealth members who accompanied the delegation for some or all of the visit, was 16.