

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Gender Pay Gap

Senator: Moore

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Type of question: Written

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Question:

Senator MOORE: I would think there would be key points beyond that at future G20s, where there would be the expectation that people would report on what had been achieved and they would share that knowledge. The model was that each country would have their own commitment and the overall idea was that all the commitments would be gathered into the G20 commitment. That is right, isn't it? Australia would put forward its own work but it would be expected to share that to help—

Senator Cash: Correct. My understanding is, and correct me if I am wrong, that it is at the employment ministers' meeting that that feedback occurs.

Senator MOORE: I am really keen to know exactly what 25 per cent by 2025 means—25 per cent of what, 25 per cent based on what? Is that going to be clearly identified in the strategy?

Ms McIntyre: Yes. It has been clearly identified in the past. It is closing the gap by 25 per cent, so Australia's gap was 12 per cent. It means—

Senator MOORE: Based on figures for when?

Ms McIntyre: Based on 2014 participation rates of men and women in the workforce. I would have to seek advice from my Employment colleagues, but that workforce is, I think, defined as 15 to 54. Again, they are global numbers. For us, that was closing that gap by three per cent.

Answer:

For Australia, meeting the G20 25 per cent by 2025 target means closing the gap between women's and men's workforce participation rates (aged 15 to 64 years) by three percentage points, i.e. from 12.1 per cent to 9.1 per cent by 2025. The agreed starting point was 2012 data. The Commonwealth Government is on track to meet the 2025 target.