

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 11**

**Program No. Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Hansard Ref: Page 70 (28/5/2014)**

**Topic: Australia Network**

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

**Senator URQUHART:** My final question is: as a consequence of the decision by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to cancel the Australia Network contract, what will Australia's per capita expenditure become?

**Mr Scott:** I will have to take that on notice.

**Answer:**

The 2010 Lowy Institute Report '*International Broadcasting and its Contribution to Public Diplomacy*' cited an approximate annual expenditure of \$34m and a per capita expenditure \$1.56 per annum on international broadcasting by the Australian government.

Based on 2014 ABS data, the per capita expenditure with an annual budget of \$34m would be \$1.44 per annum.

As consequence of the government's decision to cancel the Australia Network contract, Australian expenditure on international broadcasting is \$15m per annum. The ABC estimates that this equates to an approximate per capita expenditure of \$0.64 per annum.

Population data is available here:

**<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs%40.nsf/94713ad445ff1425ca25682000192af2/1647509ef7e25faaca2568a900154b63?OpenDocument>**