



Australian Government
Director of National Parks

Senator Anne Ruston
Chair
Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Ruston

On 20 October 2014 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Environment and communications Legislation Committee Estimates Hearing.

During the hearing Senator Singh asked about the status of the Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review (refer page 39 of the Hansard).

In my response to the above question I indicated that the call for submissions had already started. I would like to clarify my answer to this question. The public have begun submitting correspondence to the process, although the official public call for submissions for the Review had not commenced at 20 October 2014. It is expected the Chairs of the Independent Review panels will call for public submissions before the end of the year.

During the hearing you asked how we had gone in terms of reaching our targets for registrations, volunteers et cetera in relation to the World Parks Congress (refer page 43 of the Hansard).

In my response to the above question I indicated that we had nearly 1,700 program events and that about a third of the people coming are Indigenous people. I would like to clarify my answer to this question. There are nearly 1,700 program presentations, e-posters and events and about a third of the people coming are from a developing country or Indigenous people.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify these matters for the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Sally Barnes'.

Sally Barnes
Director of National Parks
25 November 2014