Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO OUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Department/Agency: Treasury

Question: BET172-178

Topic: Multinational profit shifting

Reference: Written - 6 May 2016

Senator: Chris Ketter

Question:

- 172. Australia's anti-avoidance law is modelled on a similar law adopted in the UK. How many successful cases have the UK tax authorities prosecuted under that law to date?
- 173. Both the Budget papers and MYEFO update listed asterisk instead of revenue estimates against the government's anti-tax avoidance plan. Do you have updated revenue estimates now that the plan has taken effect?
- 174. Were any estimates related to this included in the upcoming Budget?
- 175. Please provide these estimates.
- 176. One very large multinational technology corporation has recently reached tax settlement agreements with the governments of the UK and Italy worth hundreds of millions of dollars. Is Treasury pursuing a similar settlement deal with any very large multinational technology firms?
- 177. A bill to implement the Common Reporting Standard on automatic exchange of financial account information is set to pass the Parliament shortly; how many countries will start exchanging information on company accounts in 2017 and 2018?
- 178. What is the reason behind the decision that Australia will not exchanging information on company accounts until 2019 at the earliest?

Answer:

- 172. The UK Diverted Profits Tax came into effect from 1 April 2015. To date the UK tax authorities have not prosecuted any cases under the Diverted Profits Tax Law.
- 173. Treasury does not generally re-cost previous budget measures. Previous budget measures are folded into the relevant revenue forecasts.
- 174. Please refer to the answer to question 173.
- 175. Please refer to the answer to question 173.
- 176. Treasury does not administer the tax law and is not involved in the pursuit of any tax settlements.
- 177. There will be a total of 54 jurisdictions exchanging information for the first time under the Common Reporting Standard in 2017. There is no central database of which jurisdictions will include company account information but we expect most of these jurisdictions will exchange company account information in 2017. Similarly, there will be an additional 47 jurisdictions exchanging information for the first time under the Common Reporting Standard in 2018.

178. Australia will be exchanging company account information for the first time under the Common Reporting Standard in 2018.