

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Office for Women – IDCs

Senator: Senator Claire Moore

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Question:

Senator MOORE: It is possibly not a security issue. How many IDCs are there operational at the moment on which the Office of Women sits? You may want to take that on notice.

Ms Steele: I think I should take that on notice.

...

Senator MOORE: On notice, can we get a list of the IDCs that are currently working? At a previous estimates I asked that question and the response was that they were being reformed as a result of the machinery of government so I did not ask it last time. If we could find out who those interdepartmental committees are, who is on them and what their focus is. At least 12 months ago there was a large number.

Answer:

The Office for Women is a member of the following inter departmental committees, all of which are currently working.

Inter-Departmental Groups	Purpose
Paid Parental Leave (PPL) Scheme Inter Departmental Committee	This IDC is co-chaired by the Department of Social Services and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet to provide strategic direction and coordination to develop and implement the Government's PPL scheme. The IDC members include: DSS; PM&C; Department of Employment; Department of Human Services; Department of Finance; Attorney General's Department; Treasury, Australian Tax Office and the Australian Public Service Commission.
Gender in the G20 Inter Departmental Committee	An IDC led by PM&C to ensure that gender equality is a underlying and core consideration throughout the G20 and its various formal and informal for a.
APEC Inter Departmental	The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) runs

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Committee	quarterly APEC IDCs for all agencies working on APEC.
Women, Peace and Security Inter Departmental Working Group	The Office for Women chairs and is also the secretariat for this working group which include all agencies responsible for the Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2012–2018 participate in the Women, Peace and Security Interdepartmental Working Group, which is the primary government mechanism responsible for Australia’s implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.
Inter Departmental Committee on Women’s Safety	The Office for Women is secretariat for this group and DSS chairs. It includes all agencies responsible for implementing actions from the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children, 2010-2022.

The Department does not maintain a full list of inter-departmental groups operating across agencies.