

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
20 October 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 2/2.1

Topic: Australian-ASEAN Council

Senator: Wong

Question reference number: F65

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 4 December 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. Is the Australian-ASEAN Council a new body that has been set up under the Governance policy that Finance administers?
2. What is the function of this council?
3. What are the annual costs for this council?

Answer:

1. The Australian-ASEAN Council was included in the October 2015 update of the Australian Government Organisations Register (AGOR) based on information provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). It was established in September 2015. DFAT advises that the Council was not assessed against the Commonwealth Governance Structures Policy, because DFAT considers it “is not an autonomous entity as described in the governance policy”.
2. The function of the Council is described at <http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/foundations-councils-institutes/Pages/the-australia-asean-council.aspx>
3. Annual costs for the Council are a matter for DFAT.