

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 19-23 October 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous

Topic: Cooperative, mutual and member-owned firms

Senator: Senator Nick Xenophon

Question reference number: 158

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

How many Co-ops would be potentially lost from the Cooperative Community of organizations if Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Coops were to abandon the Coop structure to comply with Commonwealth Indigenous Advancement Strategy Guideline ('CIASG') 2.8.2?

Answer:

As at 10 November 2015:

- one cooperative meeting the definition of an Indigenous organisation under the Strengthening Organisational Governance policy has incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (CATSI Act) since the policy commenced.
- the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet had identified a further five cooperatives that meet the definition of Indigenous organisation under the Strengthening Organisational Governance policy which will be required to incorporate in order to comply with the policy.

These numbers are subject to change, including as a result of variations to funding arrangements. Further information on the exemption policy and applying for an exemption is provided in the response to PM160.