

**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:** IAS

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

**Question reference number:** 295

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

How many of the funding agreements were signed by the required date? How many of the contracts not executed by the start of the financial year are still not signed?

**Answer:**

996 organisations were approved for funding under the 2014 IAS Grant Round and 15 organisations declined funding. Of the remaining 981 organisations, 923 had projects with an expected start date of 1 July 2015. Of these, 642 funding agreements were signed by 1 July 2015 and 267 were signed subsequently. There are a number of reasons funding agreements took longer than anticipated to be executed, including:

- Some organisations require funding agreements to be signed by their Board, which meet infrequently throughout the year.
- Some funding agreements are with State/Territory departments and require Minister or Cabinet sign off.
- Some funding agreements required protracted negotiations.

PM&C Regional staff were in constant contact with organisations during the negotiations and ensured there was no impact to frontline service delivery as a result of the later than expected execution date.

The 14 funding agreements that remain to be executed are still being negotiated or are with organisations for sign off.

<b>2014 IAS GRANT ROUND CONTRACTS EXEPECTED START DATE 1 JULY 2015 SUMMARY</b>	
<b>Date as at 5/11/2015</b>	
<b>Organisations Offered Contracts</b>	<b>996</b>
<b>Organisations Declined</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Total Contracts – being actioned (given declines)</b>	<b>981</b>
<b>Expected Start date 1 July 2014 Contracts</b>	<b>923</b>
Agreement signed < 1 July 2015	642
Agreements signed > 1 July 2015	267
Remaining Contracts	14