

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2016-17

Finance Portfolio
18 October 2016

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 2/2.5

Topic: Purchasing of copy paper

Senator: Carr

Question reference number: F56

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2016

Number of pages: 6

Question:

In the 2014-15 and the 2015-16 financial years, did any Australian Government Departments and/or government agencies purchase A4 copy paper from a country or mill that was subject to a dumping or countervailing investigation by the Australian Anti-dumping Commission? If so, please provide a breakdown of the Department and/or agency, the country or origin of the paper, the status of the investigation when the purchasing decision was made, the supplier, and the value of the contract.

Answer:

During 2014-15 there was one copy paper related dumping or countervailing investigation by the Australian Anti-dumping Commission. It concerned copy paper from China and commenced on 10 October 2013 and terminated on 7 August 2014. In summary, the Commissioner determined that there had been no dumping, or that the dumping had been, or may be, negligible and therefore terminated the investigation. Refer Anti-Dumping Notice 2014/69¹. Attachment A provides details of relevant purchases from the Stationery and Office Supplies (SOS) Whole of Australian Government arrangement for the period 1 July 2014 to August 2014 during which time the investigation was ongoing.

During 2015-16 there was one copy paper related dumping or countervailing investigation by the Australian Anti-dumping Commission. It concerned copy paper from China, Brazil, Indonesia and Thailand, and commenced on 12 April 2016 and is currently underway.

¹ <http://www.adcommission.gov.au/notices/Documents/2014/2014-69-ADN-copypaper.pdf>

On 28 September and 4 November 2016, the Anti-Dumping Commissioner issued Preliminary Affirmative Determinations (PAD). The PADs imposed some limited securities. A final recommendation to the Parliamentary Secretary is due no later than 23 January 2017, refer Public Record ADC 341². Attachment B provides details of relevant purchases from the SOS arrangement for the period April 2016 to 30 June 2016 during which time the investigation was ongoing but no PADs had been issued.

The Anti-dumping Commission investigates alleged dumping and subsidisation of goods imported into Australia and imposes duties to address material injury to the Australian Industry that manufactures similar or the same goods. The work of the Commission complies with rules of the World Trade Organization and Australian legislation³. In the above two matters the Commission has not advised purchasers to avoid purchasing paper from the relevant countries.

The SOS arrangement is mandatory for non-corporate Commonwealth entities subject to the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act). Entities are required to purchase their stationery needs, including paper, through the SOS panellists and must not procure products directly from other suppliers. The Department of Finance manages the SOS panellists' Product Lists, requiring that products proposed by panellists meet the relevant requirements. For example, for general use copy paper, the product must have recognised environmental chain of custody certifications, such as Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), and the Australian Forestry Standard (AFS).

² <http://www.adcommission.gov.au/cases/Pages/CurrentCases/ADC-341.aspx>

³ Refer: <http://www.adcommission.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx#>

Attachment A - Relevant Purchases from the SOS Arrangement - July to August 2014

Entity	SOS Panellist	Country of Origin	Purchase Value
Australian Film, Television and Radio School	Complete Office Supplies (COS)	China	\$1,012.50
Australian Taxation Office	COS	China	\$337.50
Bureau of Meteorology	COS	China	\$225.70
Department of Human Services	COS	China	\$1,800.00
Department of Immigration and Border Protection	COS	China	\$631.96
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science	COS	China	\$225.70
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	COS	China	\$2,706.02
Department of the Treasury	COS	China	\$1,444.20
Fair Work Commission	COS	China	\$857.66
Total			\$9,241.24

Percentage of Total Paper Spend under SOS - Financial Year 2014-15

0.11%

Attachment B - Relevant Purchases from the SOS Arrangement - April to June 2016

Entity	SOS Panellist	Country of Origin	Purchase Value
Australian Aged Care Quality Agency	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$810.90
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$313.95
Australian Bureau of Statistics	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$454.25
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$603.75
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$399.00
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$238.50
Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$72.45
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$193.68
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$48.30
Australian Crime Commission (Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission)	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$197.50
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$418.95
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$121.05
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$4,245.30
Australian Federal Police	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$17,056.10
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$910.90
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$555.45
Australian Film, Television and Radio School	Complete Office Supplies (COS)	Brazil	\$1,497.60
Australian Financial Security Authority	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$724.50
Australian Fisheries Management Authority	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$1,476.81
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$238.50
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$241.50
Australian Hearing Services (Australian Hearing)	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$493.75
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$2,647.35
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$386.40
	OfficeMax	Thailand	\$140.65
Australian National University	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$24,791.60
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$11,452.60
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$5,916.75
Australian Office of Financial Management (AOFM)	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$39.90
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$190.80
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA)	COS	Brazil	\$399.36
	COS	Thailand	\$758.10
Australian Research Council	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$1,016.82
Australian Skills Quality Authority (National Vocational Education and Training Regulator)	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$829.50
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$71.55
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$120.75
Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA)	COS	Brazil	\$624.00
Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC)	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$1,621.80

Entity	SOS Panellist	Country of Origin	Purchase Value
Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB)	COS	Brazil	\$149.76
	COS	Brazil	\$81.54
Bureau of Meteorology	COS	Thailand	\$19.95
Clean Energy Regulator	COS	Thailand	\$658.35
Comcare	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$7,989.75
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$990.15
Defence Housing Australia	COS	Brazil	\$998.40
	COS	Brazil	\$597.96
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$24.21
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$19,947.90
Department of Communications and the Arts	COS	Brazil	\$474.24
Department of Education and Training	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$17,839.80
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$6,617.10
	OfficeMax	Thailand	\$112.52
Department of Employment	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$266.31
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$10,040.85
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$9,949.80
	OfficeMax	Thailand	\$337.56
Department of Finance	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$5,509.35
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$4,033.05
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$834.75
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$30,553.20
Department of Health	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$2,814.30
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$5,747.70
Department of Immigration and Border Protection	COS	Brazil	\$22,314.24
	COS	Thailand	\$13,426.45
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science	COS	Brazil	\$973.44
	COS	Brazil	\$108.72
	COS	Thailand	\$738.15
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$338.10
Department of the Environment and Energy	COS	Brazil	\$174.72
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$572.40
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$11,857.65
	COS	Thailand	\$119.70
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	COS	Brazil	\$549.12
	COS	Thailand	\$598.50
Department of the Treasury	COS	Brazil	\$5,940.48
Digital Transformation Office	COS	Brazil	\$249.60
Fair Work Commission	COS	Brazil	\$599.04
	COS	Thailand	\$837.90
Food Standards Australia New Zealand	COS	Brazil	\$798.72
Geoscience Australia	COS	Brazil	\$54.36
Ministerial and Parliamentary Services	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$12,332.42
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$72.64
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$917.55

Entity	SOS Panellist	Country of Origin	Purchase Value
National Capital Authority	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$47.70
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$627.90
National Health Performance Authority	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$166.95
National Library of Australia	COS	Brazil	\$1,331.82
	COS	Thailand	\$299.25
National Mental Health Commission	COS	Brazil	\$174.72
	COS	Thailand	\$79.80
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$359.10
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$17,458.20
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$11,833.50
Office of the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$493.75
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$262.35
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$217.35
Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$1,955.25
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$2,003.40
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$990.15
Organ and Tissue Authority	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$238.50
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$483.00
Professional Services Review Scheme	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$676.20
Safe Work Australia	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$375.25
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$429.30
	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$144.90
Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	COS	Brazil	\$1,123.20
Workplace Gender Equality Agency	OfficeMax	Indonesia	\$493.75
Total			\$324,748.31

Percentage of Total Paper Spend under SOS - Financial Year 2015-16

4%

*No Paper was purchased from China in April - June 2016 period.