

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: 062: Candidacy for the Secretary-General of the UN

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question reference number: 62

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Question:

Senator WONG: Okay. I am asking you as the Minister representing the Prime Minister. When Mr Turnbull was asked in the parliament on 2 May whether he would support the nomination of an Australian candidate for the UNSG, he responded:

In the event of this matter becoming a live one, certainly the cabinet will consider it and give it due attention.

At the time that the Prime Minister said that to the parliament, did he know that Mr Rudd had written to him in April formally requesting nomination?

Senator Brandis: I do not know. I would have to ask him.

Senator WONG: Well, please do. I am asking you to take that on notice, because it does seem somewhat odd that the Prime Minister would say that to the parliament when—

Answer:

The Prime Minister stands by his remarks in Parliament.