

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 February 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE15/174) - Southern Ocean Patrols - Programme 1.2 Border Enforcement (ACBPS)

Senator Whish-Wilson, Peter (L&CA) written:

a. Has the Government conducted two forty-day surveillance patrols of illegal fishing in the Southern Ocean using Ocean Shield over the 2014/15 summer?

b. Does the Government still intend to conduct two forty-day surveillance patrols of illegal fishing in the Southern Ocean using Ocean Shield over the 2015/16 summer?

c. What cooperation has Australia had with the French and/or New Zealand Governments in relation to Southern Ocean surveillance patrols of illegal fishing?

Answer:

a. No.

b. Yes.

c. Fifty-two cooperative patrols have been conducted with the French in the Southern Ocean from financial year 2005-06 to financial year 2014-15 pursuant to the Australia-France Cooperative Enforcement Agreement. Australian officials have been embarked on three Southern Ocean patrols by French vessels in financial year 2014-15.