

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

**Question No. AE16/041**

**Senator Ludlam asked the following question at the hearing on 9 February 2016:**

**Senator LUDLAM:** Are you able to engage in any kind of vetting process for members of the Indonesian police, or specifically Det 88, given that they are in receipt of Australian public funding, or is that out of scope?

**Mr Colvin:** To the extent that we can, yes, we are tailoring our efforts and our capacity building to those members and those areas we feel are operating in Australia's interest.

**Senator LUDLAM:** Is there anybody, for example, that we have simply refused to train, on the basis of their record?

**Mr Colvin:** I might take that on notice, because I want to give the committee a proper answer to these questions. They are very serious allegations and they are proper questions for us. I need to be very careful about the way we answer them. I want to try and give the committee the confidence that the AFP is not acting rashly in the way that we cooperate with these units.

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

The AFP will continue to provide capacity building assistance to INP, including Detachment 88, in support of mutual law enforcement and security objectives. Detachment 88 is the leading force in counter terrorism in Indonesia.

It is in Australia's best interests to be engaged with Detachment 88. Without the ability to cooperate with all of its international partners, the AFP would be limited in its ability to investigate and disrupt transnational organised crime entities, and address counter terrorism threats. This cooperation supports regional security and aids the protection of Australians and Australian interests from transnational crime and national security threats.

The AFP does not undertake formal vetting for individual participation in capacity building. The selection of INP members for participation in training programs is a matter for INP. The AFP delivers these training programs in a manner that reflects and supports Australia's strong support of human rights.