

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 25 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/127) - Illicit Drugs and pre-cursor - Chemicals - Internal Product (DIBP)

Senator Xenophon, Nick (L&CA) asked:

"What arrangements does Border Force have in place to liaise and cooperate with other countries?"

Answer:

The Immigration and Border Protection Portfolio operates a global network of officers strategically placed to liaise with foreign partners to support the delivery of the Portfolio's border protection mission and the fostering of lawful trade and travel.

With the establishment of the Australian Border Force (ABF) on 1 July 2015, the overseas network will continue in its role of supporting both the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the ABF in addressing border threats, including illicit drugs and precursors.

The Portfolio shares information with foreign partners for various purposes, including liaising on issues of illicit drugs and precursor chemicals at the border, authorised by the *Migration Act 1958*, the *Australian Border Force Act 2015* (Australian Border Force Act) and in compliance with other related legislation, such as the *Privacy Act 1988*.