

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(SE15/011) - Risk assessments, free trade agreements - Illicit substances -
Programme 1.1: Border Enforcement**

Senator Xenophon, Nick (L&CA 50) asked:

Senator XENOPHON: Finally, I will put this on notice—I will put a number of questions on notice. What risk assessment has been done with these free trade agreements in terms of the risk of illicit substances coming in, particularly precursors to crystal methamphetamine, which, of course, is a huge community concern because of its impact. Effectively, what risk assessment has been done by the Australian Border Force? I will put that on notice.

Mr Quaedvlieg: We have been consulted on those, and I will take that on notice.

Answer:

1. The Department has assessed the threat to Australia from methamphetamine production and developed an enforcement plan to disrupt trafficking of the illicit drug.
2. An FTA does not change the requirements to provide detailed information on the goods to enable full risk assessment to be undertaken, which would include an assessment of the risk that the goods may or may not be illicit substances.