

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### Treasury Portfolio

#### Budget Estimates

31 May – 2 June 2011

**Question No:** BET 42

**Topic:** Change Program Steering Committee

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Xenophon asked:**

Regarding the Change Program Steering Committee minutes dated 22 December 2009, which stated that there would be delays of 50 days for the first 6 months, the ATO stated during the Budget Estimates hearing this year that this was just one opinion and there were other reports that negated that opinion. Can you please provide details of these reports?

**Answer:**

As outlined in response to BET 48, the reference to delays of 50 days is sourced from a submission considered at the Change Program Steering Committee meeting held on 22 December 2009. The submission was titled *Business Readiness Assessment for Change Program Release 3 Income Tax*.

An attachment to this submission was titled *Attachment 5: Estimated Impacts of 'Going Live' With Current System Defects*. The reference to returns processing in more than 50 days was an impact assessment commentary if deployment were to proceed with system defects known as at 22 December 2009.

The assessment at the time of the 21 January 2010 'go-live' decision was different, as the overall situation (including the number and nature of defects), altered significantly from the situation as at 22 December 2009.

Key reports confirming this significant change were in 21 January 2010 correspondence from Accenture and both independent assurers – Aquitaine Consulting and Capgemini as well as our internal assessment. All of these documents were made available to the Inspector-General of Taxation during his review of the ATO's Change Program.