

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 3  
**Output Group:** 3.3 – AEI Group

#### **DEST Question No. E146\_05**

Senator Carr asked on 3 June 2004, EWRE Hansard page 71.

#### **Question:**

Can you provide the committee with any information on the issues reportedly identified at the meeting? They went to: issues of recognition of qualifications, fraudulent documents, equivalence of the quality assurance framework, return of student fees to Australia for courses provided in China, difficulties relating with Chinese exchange students, and issues relating to the legal jurisdiction of the two countries. Are you able to give me a report on those issues?

(This question was asked in relation to consultations involving education stakeholders convened by the China FTA Study Taskforce on 21 May.)

#### **Answer:**

##### *Consultations involving education stakeholders*

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) have advised that they are unable to provide a report of the meeting. The purpose of the meeting held by the DFAT China FTA Study Taskforce on 21 May 2004 was to advise education providers specifically of the public call for submissions to the Australia-China Free Trade Agreement Feasibility Study and to encourage meeting participants to make a submission. A publicly available report of the meeting was not prepared given the expectation that meeting participants would subsequently make a written submission to the study on issues they perceived as relevant.

DEST has been in contact with education peak bodies and other education stakeholders across sectors, including those that attended the DFAT China FTA Study Taskforce consultations in Adelaide and Sydney. DEST encouraged them to be involved in the consultation process and to provide a submission to the study.