

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Estimates Hearings 2002-2003, 10-11 February 2003

Question: PM61

Outcome 1, Output 2.2

Topic: CEDAW

Hansard Page: F&PA 222.

Senator Crossin asked:

‘.....going back to 1997, the recommendations presented by the UN CEDAW committee in response to our country’s report in 1995 stated that the government design a long-term strategy aimed at full implementation of the convention. Has the OSW ever produced guidelines for the government to implement, which comply with this request from the CEDAW?’

‘..... In 1997, the UN CEDAW committee suggested that guidelines or a long-term strategy be developed to implement the convention. Have guidelines or a strategy ever been devised by this government?’

Answer: OSW has not developed guidelines or a long term strategy on the implementation of CEDAW. OSW, in consultation with the relevant government agencies, from time to time examines Australia’s reservations (see also responses to Question on Notice 58 and 60). Australia’s 4th/5th report on CEDAW has been prepared in accordance with United Nations’ guidelines for reporting on conventions.