



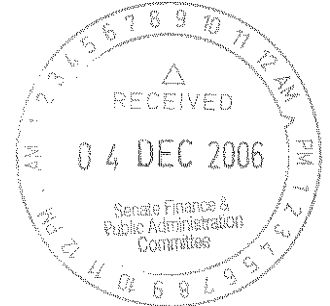
Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

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3-5 NATIONAL CIRCUIT
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

Mr Alistair Sands
Committee Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Mr Sands

The Department of the Prime Minister (PM&C) wishes to correct its response to question PM 31 from the May 2006 hearings of the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee. The response was lodged with the Committee in October 2006.

Question PM 31 related to PM&C's involvement in taskforces, interdepartmental committees and interdepartmental working groups. The original response did not include a small number of committees that PM&C either chairs or attends as a member. The attached response includes those committees and also clarifies the membership and roles of a number of other committees.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Greg Williams".

Greg Williams
First Assistant Secretary
People, Resources and Communications Division

30 November 2006

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

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Question: PM 31

Outcomes: Across all outputs

Topic: Taskforces, Interdepartmental Committees or Interdepartmental Working Groups

Hansard Page: Direct on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

- 1. What are the current taskforces, interdepartmental committees or interdepartmental working groups for which PM&C is the lead agency? For each of these can you provide the following:**
 - a) the date it was established**
 - b) the objectives of these body**
 - c) agencies or organisation represented on the body**
 - d) who the body reports to; and**
 - e) an indication of any end date for their work or if they are ongoing.**

1. Answer:

As at 23 May 2006, PM&C led the following taskforces, interdepartmental committees or interdepartmental working groups:

- 1) APEC Taskforce
 - a) The APEC 2007 Taskforce was established by the Australian Government.
 - b) The APEC 2007 Taskforce's aim is to deliver a safe and successful APEC year in 2007. Its operational remit is to coordinate and manage the logistics of the APEC year.
 - c) Membership of these groups is drawn from officials from the Commonwealth, and in relation to planning for the leaders' week, New South Wales Government officials.
 - d) The senior governing body is the APEC Executive, comprising the Secretary and deputy secretaries of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C), the Secretaries of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Attorney General's Department (AGD) and the Department of Defence (Defence), the Chief of the Defence Force and the APEC Ambassador.
 - e) The deadlines for the Taskforce are the APEC meetings to be held throughout 2007. APEC Leaders' Week is the final event in the APEC 2007 year. The Leaders' Meeting will be held on 8-9 September 2007.

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Some core staff from the Taskforce would remain to finalise outstanding logistics issues.

- 2) NSST Unit International Consultative Group cooperation in science and technology (S&T) for domestic security
 - a) The group was established in March 2005
 - b) To discuss the nature and objectives of the proposed international arrangements and address issues surrounding any negotiation.
 - c) Departments involved are Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), DFAT, Department of Transport and Regional Services (DoTARS), AGD, Department of Health and Ageing (Health), Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) and Defence.
 - d) Reports to PM&C.
 - e) The work of the Consultative Group is on-going and an end date is yet to be determined.

- 3) Pacific Engagement: High-level Interdepartmental Committee (IDC)
 - a) IDC first met on 2 March 2005.
 - b) Its objective is to oversee a coordinated approach by Commonwealth agencies to good governance activities in the Pacific.
 - c) Those represented on the IDC include: PM&C, The Treasury, DFAT, Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Department of Finance and Administration (Finance), Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA), Australian Federal Police (AFP), Defence, Australian Public Service Commission (APSC), Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), Customs, AGD and DoTARS.
 - d) There are no formal reporting requirements.
 - e) An end date for the IDC is yet to be determined.

- 4) International Economic Policy Group (IEPG)
 - a) IEPG was established in 1998.
 - b) The IEPG Serves as a coordinating group on international economic, trade, aid and financial policy issues. It is a consultative forum.
 - c) IEPG members are: PM&C (Chair), DFAT, Office of National Assessments (ONA), Treasury, Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), AusAID. Other agencies relevant to agenda items on an ad hoc basis.
 - d) The IEPG is a forum for discussion; there are no formal reporting requirements. However, the discussions feed into ongoing work across the agencies represented.
 - e) The work of the group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.

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- 5) Strategic Policy Coordination Group
- a) Strategic Policy Coordination Group was established by Ministers in 1990.
 - b) The role of the Strategic Policy Coordination Group is to enhance interaction and exchange on strategic and security issues and to come together in a crisis to ensure the necessary arrangements for supporting ministers are in place.
 - c) Membership includes: PM&C (Chair), AGD, DFAT and Defence.
 - d) Reports to PM&C.
 - e) The work of the Group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.
- 6) Australian Government Counter-Terrorism Policy Committee (AGCTPC)
- a) The AGCTPC was established 18 March 2003.
 - b) The AGCTPC is the peak interdepartmental strategic policy coordination and information-sharing forum in the Australian Government on counter-terrorism issues and developments.
 - c) The AGCTPC is chaired by a senior Australian Government official and has senior membership from the following departments and agencies: PM&C, AGD, Protective Security Coordination Centre (PSCC), Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), ONA, AFP, Defence, DFAT, DoTARS, Emergency Management Australia (EMA), DIMA, Customs, Health, Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources (DITR), Finance, DEST, Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (DCITA), Centrelink and Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA).
 - d) There are no formal reporting requirements.
 - e) The work of the group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.
- 7) COAG Harmful Biological Material Working Group
- a) The COAG Harmful Biological Material Working Group was established in August 2003.
 - b) The role of the COAG Harmful Biological Material Working Group is to undertake the review of harmful biological material.
 - c) Membership includes: PM&C, DFAT, Health and DAFF.
 - d) Reports to Council of Australian Governments Hazardous Materials Review Steering Committee.
 - e) Work of the Group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.

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- 8) COAG Other Hazardous Substances (Chemicals) Working Group
 - a) The COAG Hazardous Chemicals Working Group was established in August 2003.
 - b) The role of the COAG Hazardous Chemicals Working Group is to undertake the review of Hazardous Chemicals.
 - c) Membership includes: DAFF, Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, Defence and Health.
 - d) Reports to Council of Australian Governments Hazardous Materials Review Steering Committee.
 - e) Work of the group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.

- 9) Offshore Maritime Security Implementation Group (OMSIG)
 - a) The OMSIG was established 20 December 2004.
 - b) The role of the OMSIG is to coordinate the implementation of government decisions arising from the report of the PM&C Taskforce on Offshore Maritime Security.
 - c) Membership includes: PM&C (Chair), Defence, Customs, Joint Offshore Protection Command (JOPC), AFP, DFAT, DoTARS, AGD, DIMA and DITR.
 - d) Reports to PM&C.
 - e) The work of the group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.

- 10) National Security, Science and Technology (NSST) Unit Steering Committee
 - a) NSST Unit Steering Committee was established in August 2003.
 - b) The NSST Unit Steering Committee oversees the operations of the NSST Unit. The unit coordinates and focuses science, engineering and technology to support Australia's counter-terrorism needs.
 - c) Membership includes PM&C (Chair), AGD, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), ASIO, AFP and Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO).
 - d) Reports to PM&C.
 - e) The work of the group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.

- 11) National Security, Science and Technology (NSST) Unit, Publicly-funded Agencies' Collaborative Counter-Terrorism (PACCT) Steering Committee
 - a) The PACCT Steering Committee was established 6 May 2005.
 - b) The PACCT Steering Committee oversees the operation of the PACCT research programme. The programme brings together the DSTO, CSIRO, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation

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(ANSTO) and Geoscience Australia to further their work on counter-terrorism related projects within their existing resources.

c) Membership includes: PM&C (Chair), AGD, CSIRO, AFP, DEST, ASIO, Defence, ANSTO, DSTO and Geoscience Australia.

d) Reports to PM&C.

e) The work of the group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.

12) IDC on the Defence Capability Plan

a) The IDC on the Defence Capability Plan was established 15 April 2003.

b) The aim of the IDC on the Defence Capability Plan (and 14 below) is to consider the Defence Capability Plan, specifically, the affordability over the ten years of the plan, risks to the delivery of the plan and its ongoing management.

c) Membership includes: PM&C (Chair), Defence, Treasury and Finance.

d) Reports to PM&C.

e) The Work of the Group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.

13) Working Group on the Defence Capability Plan

a) The working group of the IDC on the Defence Capability Plan was established 15 April 2003.

b) As per 13 (b).

c) Membership includes: PM&C (Chair), Defence, Treasury, Finance and DFAT.

d) Reports to the IDC on Defence Capability Plan.

e) The work of the group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.

14) IDC on Review of the Australian Government's High – Level Emergency/ Crisis Management Frameworks

a) The IDC was established 19 April 2006.

b) The role of the IDC Review of the Australian Government's High – Level Emergency/ Crisis Management Framework is to review the appropriateness of the Australian Government's Emergency/Crisis management framework.

c) Membership includes: PM&C (Co Chair), DFAT, DoTARS, Defence, Health, Finance, AFP, AGD (Co Chair) DoFA, FaCSIA, EMA, Treasury, Centrelink, DIMA, ACS, AusAID, Geoscience Australia.

d) Reports to Secretary's Committee on National Security (SCNS).

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- e) The Work of this group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.
- 15) National Security, Science and Technology Unit International Consultative Group Cooperation in Science and Technology (S&T) for Domestic Security
- a) The Consultative Group was established in March 2005
 - b) The Consultative Group was established to discuss the nature and objectives of the proposed international arrangements and address issues surrounding any negotiation.
 - c) The membership of the Group is DAFF, DFAT, DoTARS, AGD, Health, DEST, and Defence.
 - d) Reports to NSST Unit.
 - e) The work of the group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.
- 16) Secretaries' Group on Indigenous Affairs
- a) The group was established 15 April 2004.
 - b) To support the Ministerial Taskforce on Indigenous Affairs.
 - c) Members of the Secretaries' Group on Indigenous Affairs are Secretaries from the departments of: PM&C, Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH), Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), DEST, AGD, Health, FaCSIA, DoTARS, DCITA, the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) and APSC.
 - d) Reports to the Ministerial Taskforce on Indigenous Affairs.
 - e) The work of the Secretaries' Group is ongoing.
- 17) Humanitarian Resettlement IDC
- a) The IDC was established in April 2006.
 - b) The purpose of the IDC is to improve ongoing whole-of-government coordination of the delivery of government services to humanitarian entrants.
 - c) PM&C, Health, DEST, AFP, AGD, FaCSIA, DEWR, Human Services and Centrelink.
 - d) Reports to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.
 - e) The work of the IDC is ongoing.
- 18) COAG Skills Recognition Taskforce
- a) The Taskforce was established in February 2006.
 - b) The purpose of the Taskforce is to support implementation of the COAG skills recognition decision of 10 February 2006.
 - c) PM&C and DEST.

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- d) Reports to Council of Australian Governments Senior Officials.
 - e) December 2008.
- 19) COAG Health Workforce IDC
- a) The IDC was established 17 February 2006.
 - b) The purpose of the IDC is to provide advice to the Australian Government in relation to its discussions with States and Territories on health workforce issues.
 - c) PM&C, Treasury, Finance, Health, DEST.
 - d) Reports to the Australian Government.
 - e) The IDC ended in June 2006.
- 20) COAG Mental Health in Australia IDC
- a) The IDC was established in December 2005.
 - b) The IDC was originally established to consider the Not for Service report and other available material and provide government with advice in December 2005. Following the 10 February 2006 COAG meeting, the IDC was extended in order to provide advice to the Australian Government on strategies and options for intervention in the mental health system within principles agreed by COAG.
 - c) The IDC includes representatives from the Departments of: PM&C, Finance, Treasury, Health, FaCSIA, AGD, Human Services, DIMA, DEST, DEWR and AFP.
 - d) Reports to the Australian Government.
 - e) The IDC ended in June 2006.

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- 21) Deputy Secretaries' Interdepartmental Committee on Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness
- a) The IDC was established in 29 September 2005.
 - b) The purpose of the IDC is to draw together the work of Australian Government agencies on pandemic preparedness to ensure complementarity and consistency of effort;
To develop a whole-of-government Commonwealth Government Action Plan for Pandemic Influenza and review, update and further develop the Commonwealth Plan as required; and
To develop the Commonwealth's contribution to the COAG Working Group in its development of the National Action Plan on Human Influenza Pandemic.
 - c) PM&C, DFAT, Health, FaCSIA, Human Services, DAFF, AGD, DCITA, DIMA, DoTARS, Defence, Treasury, Finance, DEST, DEWR, Centrelink, APSC, AusAID; Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service; and Australian Customs Service.
 - d) Reports to the Australian Government.
 - e) The work of the IDC is ongoing.
- 22) COAG Human Capital IDC
- a) The IDC was established in 6 March 2006.
 - b) The purpose of the IDC is to provide advice to the Australian Government in relation to its discussions with States and Territories on the human capital stream of the COAG National Reform Agenda.
 - c) The IDC comprises representatives from the departments of: PM&C, Treasury, Finance, DEST, DEWR, FaCSIA, Health, and Human Services.
 - d) Reports to the Australian Government.
 - e) The IDC is ongoing.
- 23) Australian Public Service Honours Committee
- a) The committee was established in 1984.
 - b) The purpose of the committee is to coordinate honours nominations for members of the Australian Public Service.
 - c) PM&C, APSC and one other department, currently the DEH.
 - d) There are no formal reporting requirements.
 - e) The work of the committee is ongoing.

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- 24) National Medal Advisory Committee
- a) The committee was established in 1999.
 - b) The purpose of the committee is to provide advice on the department's assessment of organisations applying to be eligible for the National Medal.
 - c) PM&C, Government House Honours Secretariat, AFP, EMA.
 - d) There are no formal reporting requirements.
 - e) The work of the committee is ongoing.
- 25) Interdepartmental Committee on Defence Honours and Awards
- a) The committee was established in 1994
 - b) The purpose of the IDC is to develop and co-ordinate policy advice on honours and awards for members of the Australian Defence Force
 - c) PM&C, Government House Honours Secretariat, Defence, AFP
 - d) There are no formal reporting requirements.
 - e) The work of the committee is ongoing
- 26) Cabinet Implementation Unit (CIU) Reference Group
- a) The Reference Group was established in 2005.
 - b) The objective of the group is to provide advice and guidance to the CIU. It is chaired by PM&C and made up of senior officers from 14 agencies.
 - c) The agencies are: DITR, FaCSIA, DAFF, Human Services, Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), DCITA, DoTARS, Health, Finance, DEH, DEWR, Defence, DFAT, and Treasury.
 - d) Members of the Reference Group report to other officers of their agencies on the work of the CIU Reference Group as required.
 - e) The work of the Reference Group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.
- 27) The Commonwealth Competition and Regulation IDC
- a) The IDC was established in March 2006.
 - b) To coordinate a consistent Commonwealth approach in relation to its discussions with the states and territories on developing and implementing the competition and regulation streams of the National Reform Agenda, following on from the decisions of the 10 February 2006 meeting of the Council of Australian Governments. It is chaired by a Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and is an information sharing group.
 - c) The IDC consists of representatives from: PM&C, Treasury, DITR, and DoTARS.

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- d) There are no formal reporting requirements.
 - e) The work of the IDC is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.
- 28) Response to the Report of the Taskforce on Reducing Regulatory Burdens on Business IDC
- a) The IDC was established in February 2006.
 - b) The IDC's objective is to develop the government's response to 178 recommendations in the Taskforce's report.
 - c) The IDC includes representatives from Treasury, DITR, DEH, AGD, Health, Finance, DAFF, FaCSIA, DIMA, Customs, DCITA, DEWR, Human Services, and DEST.
 - d) There are no formal reporting arrangements.
 - e) The end date for the IDC will be with the release of the government's final response to the Taskforce's report.
- 29) COAG Commonwealth Climate Change IDC
- a) The IDC was established 4 July 2005.
 - b) The IDC's objective is to provide a whole of government process for progressing work through the COAG Climate Change Group.
 - c) Agencies represented are PM&C, DITR, DEH, and Treasury.
 - d) There are no formal reporting arrangements.
 - e) The group is ongoing with no end date agreed.
- 30) Tasmanian Forests Package Implementation IDC
- a) The IDC was established 4 August 2005.
 - b) The aims of the IDC are to oversee the implementation of the programme elements of the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement. The IDC meets as operationally required or deadlines.
 - c) Membership of the IDC is comprised of representatives from PM&C, DEH, DAFF, and DEST.
 - d) The IDC has no specific reporting requirements or deadlines
 - e) The work of this IDC is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.
- 31) The Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate IDC
- a) The IDC was established 10 August 2005.
 - b) The IDC was formed to develop an Australian Government position in relation to the Partnership's work programme and outcomes for the inaugural Ministerial meeting.
 - c) Membership of the IDC includes officials from PM&C, DEH, Treasury, DITR, DFAT.

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- d) There are no formal reporting arrangements but relevant Ministerial clearance is sought on positions developed.
 - e) The IDC is ongoing and there is no time limit to the IDC's operation.
- 32) The Water Policy Group
- a) The group was established 1 November 2004
 - b) The group was established to coordinate and support the Australian Government's implementation of the National Water Initiative and to coordinate and oversight related water policy issues.
 - c) The Group is comprised of officials from PM&C, National Water Commission (NWC), DEH, DAFF, Treasury, DITR, DoTARS.
 - d) There are no specific reporting requirements or deadlines.
 - e) The group is ongoing and an end date is yet to be determined.
- 33) The Biofuels IDC
- a) The IDC was established 30 May 2005
 - b) The purpose of the IDC is to implement the government's response to the Biofuels Taskforce Report.
 - c) The IDC is comprised of representatives from PM&C, DEH, Treasury, DITR, Finance, and DoTARS.
 - d) There are no formal reporting requirements.
 - e) The IDC is ongoing and there are no specific deadlines.
- 34) The Secretaries Committee on National Security (SCNS)
- a) The committee was established 8 May 1996.
 - b) SCNS provides coordinated advice to the National Security Committee of Cabinet (NSC) on national security policy, coordinates implementation of policies and programs relevant to national security and gives guidance to department and agencies involved in intelligence and security.
 - c) The committee is comprised of representatives from PM&C, DFAT, Defence, Treasury, AGD, the Chief of the Defence Force, ONA and ASIO.
 - d) The National Security Committee of Cabinet.
 - e) The committee is ongoing.
- 35) The People Smuggling Task Force
- a) The Task Force was established in August 2001.
 - b) The PSTF's role is to examine the latest intelligence regarding possible targeting of Australia by people smugglers, to discuss possible options and strategies to combat this, and to coordinate and implement

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government policies encompassing the interception, reception, processing and return of unauthorised boat arrivals.

- c) The PSTF comprises representatives from departments with responsibility for national security and border protection including PM&C, AFP, AGD, AMSA, Customs, Defence, DFAT, DIMA and ONA.
- d) There are no specific reporting requirements.
- e) The work of the PSTF is ongoing. This IDC is chaired by DIMA on an ongoing basis but from 5 April Chair was temporarily transferred to PM&C where it remained as at 23 May.

36) The Strategic Maritime Management Committee

- a) The Committee was established on 18 May 2006.
- b) The SMMC provides high level whole-of-government policy and strategic direction with regard to Australia's civil maritime security, including considering threats to Australia's maritime security and advising on appropriate response arrangements.
- c) SMMC membership includes PM&C, AFMA, AFP, AGD, AQIS, ASIO, Customs, DAFF, Defence, DEH, DFAT, DIMA, DoFA, DoTARS, ONA and the Treasury.
- d) The Secretaries' Committee on National Security.
- e) The SMMC's work is ongoing but it will review the effectiveness of fisheries compliance and civil maritime enforcement programmes by September 2007.

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- 2. What are the current taskforces, IDCs or interdepartmental working groups on which PM&C is represented, but for which it is not the lead agency? For each of these can you provide the following:**
- **the date it was established**
 - **the objectives of these body**
 - **agencies or organisations represented on the body**
 - **who the body reports to; and**
 - **an indication of any end date for their work or if they are ongoing.**

Answer:

A list of the taskforces, IDCs or interdepartmental working groups as at 23 May 2006 on which PM&C is represented but for which it is not the lead agency is provided below. Details sought for each body are a matter for the chairing department or agency - this is indicated in brackets.

1. Information Management Strategy Committee (Finance)
2. Chief Information Officer Committee (Finance)
3. Protective Security Coordination Committee (AGD)
4. Personnel Security Working Group (ASIO)
5. Physical and Administration Security Working Group (ASIO)
6. Budget Coordination Committee (Treasury)
7. Budget Coordination Committee Working Group (Treasury)
8. Review of Comcover IDC (Finance)
9. Code Monitoring Group (DEWR)
10. Medical Indemnity Policy Review Panel (Health)
11. Joint Economic Forecasting Group (Treasury)
12. Public Sector Joint Economic Forecasting Group Sub-Committee (Treasury)
13. International Joint Economic Forecasting Group Sub-Committee (Treasury)
14. Papua New Guinea Enhanced Cooperation Program (ECP) implementation (DFAT)
15. Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) (DFAT)
16. Nauru, RAMSI Security Working Group (DFAT)
17. Asia- Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) policy (DFAT)
18. Anzac cooperation issues (DVA);
19. Interdepartmental working group on the AE2 Submarine (Defence).
20. Shaping and Influencing Working Group (Defence)
21. Strategic Planning Group (Defence)
22. Strategic Targeting Policy Committee (Defence)
23. Iraq Task Force (DFAT)
24. Standing Inter-Departmental Committee on Defence Exports (Defence)
25. Defence Estate Inter-departmental Committee (Defence/Finance)
26. Secure Network Owners Committee (Finance)
27. Australian Government Counter-Terrorism Committee (PSCC)
28. Foreign Intelligence Coordination Committee (ONA)

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29. IT Coordination Group (ONA)
30. Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Industry Strategy Group (Defence)
31. Identity Security Steering Committee (AGD)
32. Commonwealth Reference Group on Identity Security (AGD)
33. Security Co-ordination Subcommittee (AGD)
34. Interdepartmental Committee on the Christmas Island Immigration Reception and Processing Centre (Finance)
35. International Counter-Terrorism Coordination Group (DFAT)
36. Non-Proliferation Coordination Group (DFAT)
37. Counter-Proliferation Intelligence Coordination Group (ONA)
38. National Disclosure Policy Working Group (ONA)
39. Information Infrastructure Protection Group (AGD)
40. E-Security Coordination Group (DCITA)
41. Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council (AGD)
42. National Committee for Critical Infrastructure Protection (AGD)
43. Australian Government Senior Officers Group (AGD)
44. Air Security Officer Working Group (AFP)
45. Maritime Security IDC (DFAT)
46. Australian Government Transport Security Policy Committee (DoTARS)
47. International Outreach IDC (DFAT)
48. Rapid Response Deployment Teams IDC (AFP)
49. Civil Maritime Surveillance 2004 Steering Committee (Customs)
50. WMD Proliferation Financing Interdepartmental Committee (DFAT)
51. Global Nuclear Energy Partnership Interdepartmental Committee (DFAT)
52. Interdepartmental Working Group – Afghanistan (DFAT)
53. Framework for Future Action in Indigenous Affairs: the SES Taskforce (OIPC)
54. Repatriation of Human Remains IDC (OIPC)
55. The Secretaries Group on Indigenous Affairs Subgroup on Land Issues (AGD)
56. Cape York Digital Network IDC (OIPC)
57. War Crimes IDC (DIMA)
58. Villawood Greenfields Feasibility Study (DIMA)
59. Inter-Departmental Committee on International Education (DEST)
60. New Apprenticeships Incentive Programme Review Steering Committee (DEST)
61. Interdepartmental Committee on Housing (FaCSIA)
62. Interdepartmental Committee on the Commonwealth, State and Territory Disability Agreement (FaCSIA)
63. Government Response to Overseas Adoption in Australia Report (IDC) (AGD)
64. Interdepartmental SES Group on Indigenous Early Childhood (FaCSIA)
65. Child Support Scheme Reform Steering Committee (IDC) (FaCSIA)
66. Family Law Reform Inter-agency Steering Committee (IDC) (AGD)
67. Australian Government Task Force on Child Development, Health and Wellbeing (FaCSIA)

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68. Australia's appearance before the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Committee in January 2006 (IDC) (FaCSIA)
69. Australia's reservation to CEDAW regarding paid maternity leave (IDC) (FaCSIA)
70. Trafficking in Persons (IDC) (AGD)
71. Welfare to Work Steering Committee (DEWR)
72. Welfare to Work Strategic Project Management Group (DEWR)
73. Welfare to Work Project Management Group (DEWR)
74. Secretaries Advisory Group on Youth (FaCSIA)
75. Working Group on Indicators for the Participation, Health and Wellbeing of Young Australians (FaCSIA)
76. Youth Development Working Group (FaCSIA)
77. Cape York Institute Welfare Reform Project – Australian Government Reference Group (OIPC)
78. Halls Creek 'Engaging Families' Inter-agency Working Group (DEWR)
79. Strategic Directions in Community Care, including a Review of the Home and Community Care Specific Purpose Payment IDC (Health)
80. The Standing Interdepartmental Committee on International Narcotics Issues (Health)
81. Food from Clones and their Progeny IDC (Health)
82. Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy IDC (DAFF)
83. IDC to Review the Legislative and Regulatory Framework Underpinning Australia's Preparedness and Response to Significant Public Health Emergencies (Health)
84. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response (Health)
85. Public Service Medal Committee – The information will need to be sourced from the charring agency (Public Service Commission)
86. Orchestras Review 2005 Implementation Cross-portfolio Working Group (DCITA)
87. Aboriginal tent embassy IDC (DoTARS)
88. Privacy and related secrecy issues IDC (AGD)
89. Implementation of the Machinery of Government Working Group (APSC)
90. Internal Red Tape IDC (Finance)
91. Passenger Facilitation Taskforce (Customs)
92. Review of the Administrative Arrangements for Tourist Shopping in Australia (Treasury)
93. Inter-departmental Committee preparing a response to the National Tourism Investment Strategy and the Emerging Markets Strategy (DITR)
94. Tourism White Paper Implementation Group (DITR)
95. Review of Internal Red Tape (Finance)
96. New to Business IDC (DITR)
97. National Nanotechnology Strategy Taskforce IDC (DITR)
98. India-Australia Coal and Mining Forum IDC (DITR)
99. Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (AusAID)

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100. Uranium Industry Framework IDC (DITR)
101. High Level Steering Committee on the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility (DEST)
102. Co-ordination Committee on Science and Technology (DEST)
103. IDC to consider the Government Response to the Productivity Commission's Review of Part X of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Treasury)
104. Backing Indigenous Ability Reference Group (DCITA)
105. The Australian Government response to the report of the Agriculture and Food Policy Reference Group, "Creating our Future: Agriculture and Food Policy for the Next Generation" (the Corish Report) (DAFF)
106. Aquaculture in Commonwealth waters IDC (DAFF)
107. Development of National Biosecurity Strategy IDC (DAFF)
108. International Forestry Policy IDC (DAFF)
109. ECD Environment Performance Review Steering Group (DEH)
110. Sustainable Cities (DEH)
111. Southern Blue Fin Tuna (DAFF)
112. Commonwealth Marine Protected Areas Committee (DAFF)
113. Operations and Program Advisory Committee (Customs)
114. Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate IDC (DITR)
115. Interdepartmental Committee on Carbon Dioxide Capture and Storage (DITR)
116. Australian Public Service (APS) Round Table (DEWR)
117. The Secretaries' Aviation Security Working Group (DOTARS)
118. The Standing IDC on Commercial Satellites (DIGO/ Geoscience Australia).
119. Irregular Immigration Intelligence Oversight Committee (ONA).
120. Illegal Fishing Information Oversight Committee (ONA).
121. Counter-Terrorism Legal Working Group (AGD).

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3. **Are there any additional current taskforces, IDCs or interdepartmental working groups for which PM&C is providing secretariat support? For each of these can you provide the following:**
- a) **the date it was established**
 - b) **the objectives of these body**
 - c) **agencies or organisation represented on the body**
 - d) **who the body reports to; and**
 - e) **an indication of any end date for their work or if they are ongoing.**

Answer:

As at 23 May 2006, PM&C provided secretariat support to the following additional taskforces, interdepartmental committees or interdepartmental working groups:

1. Commonwealth Standing Committee on Treaties (SCOT):
- a) SCOT was established in May 1996.
 - b) The aims of the committee are to identify and consult on treaties and other international instruments of sensitivity and importance to States and Territories, and if required;
 - c) SCOT members are DFAT, AGD, PM&C, all State and Territory Governments;
 - d) Reports to COAG Senior Official's Meeting;
 - e) There are no formal reporting requirements or deadlines and work is ongoing.

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4. How many PM&C staff are currently assigned to Taskforce, IDC or interdepartmental working group activities, and what are their classifications?

Answer:

For the APEC Taskforce, as at 31 May 2006 the breakdown of PM&C Taskforce staff is shown below. Most of these staff work full-time on APEC Taskforce duties.

Classification	Staff numbers	Ongoing PM&C ¹	Non-ongoing	Others ²
SES Band 2	1	0	0	1
SES Band 1	8	5	1	2
EL2	22	8	8	6
EL1	37	5	26	6
APS 6	17	5	11	1
APS 5	12	1	10	1
APS 4	11	1	10	0
APS 3	2	0	2	0
TOTAL	110	25	68	17

The Taskforce also includes staff from the Attorney-General's Department and NSW Police. Information about those employees should be sought from those agencies.

For the work of all other taskforces, IDCs and working groups, staff numbers as at 23 May 2006 are provided below. However, this is the number of staff involved, and most staff work on IDCs and working groups on an occasional or part-time basis only.

Classification	Staff Numbers
SES (Bands 1, 2 and 3)	21
EL2	28
EL1	28
APS (3 – 6)	22

¹ Represents ongoing employees, some of whom have been selected for temporary movement to a higher classification level.

² Includes secondments and temporary transfers from other APS and state agencies.

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- 5. How many non-PM&C staff are currently on secondment to PM&C for Taskforce, IDC or interdepartmental working group activity and what are their classifications?**

Answer:

For the APEC Taskforce see response to Question 4 above.

Details for other taskforces, IDCs or working groups as at 23 May 2006 are shown below:

Classification	Staff Numbers
SES (1, 2 and 3)	6
EL2	15
EL1	23
APS (3 – 6)	7

- 6. How much accommodation within the department is assigned for Taskforce, IDC or interdepartmental working group staff? How much of that is in use and how much is currently vacant.**

Answer:

As at 23 May 2006, an estimated 980 square metres has been made available for taskforce accommodation. All of this space is in use.

- 7. Is the department planning for an increase in its taskforces, IDC or interdepartmental working group staff in the remainder of this and the next financial year? If so, please provide details or expected staffing changes and the bodies to which those staff are to be assigned.**

Answer:

As at 23 May 2006, the APEC Taskforce planning for event time staffing is still in progress and specific event roles are still to be finalised. The estimated PM&C staffing included in the budget for the APEC Taskforce is 246.

PM&C cannot predict the change in demand for taskforces/IDCs etc over the coming year, as they are often formed in response to emerging issues of the day.

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8. **On July 15 last year the Prime Minister announced the establishment of a taskforce to communicate its workplace changes, Headed by Andrew Robb MP. Did or does PM&C provide secretariat support to that group?**

Answer:

No

9. **If so, what was the nature of that support, how many staff were assigned and were any expenses incurred by the Taskforce that were met by PM&C?**

Answer:

Not applicable