Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 26 May - 27 May 2008



Question: PM96

Outcome 1, Output 5.7

Topic: 2020 Summit Scribes

Hansard Page: F&PA 131-132

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked: -In relation to each of the groups, could you provide the following for me: were there draft agendas; who took the minutes; who drafted the documents in relation to each of the groups; and could you also advise if there were formal complaints received? We have seen complaints through the press about delegates who are concerned that not all their views were incorporated. Could you provide me with any formal complaints that were received in relation to that process.

Mr Mrdak-We have not received formal complaints as such. I have received submissions and comments from people. We have been encouraging people to comment on the initial report, which we have been feeding in to the finalisation of the main report. In relation to the scribes, there were scribes for each stream who took detailed notes, which are what we have used to now draft the final report.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS-Could I get the details as to who those scribes were. Thank you.

Answer: a) In his opening speech, the Prime Minister indicated to participants that he was anticipating the Summit discussions to develop actionable policy ideas, including ideas that could be implemented at no cost, but there was no formal agenda.

- b) 95 volunteer scribes from the Australian Public Service (APS) were responsible for recording the Summit discussions.
- c) The Summit stream co-chairs, working with the Summit co-convenor, Professor Glyn Davis, settled the content of the Initial Report.
- d) The Department has not received any formal complaints about the Initial Report.