

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

Question: PM97

Topic: Global and Regional Architecture section - Prime Minister and Cabinet

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of pages: 2

- a) In an interview on the ABC on November 2, 2009 the Prime Minister discussed “a new global and regional architecture section within PM and C.”**
- b) Has this “new” section been created?**
- c) What is the cost of creating this “new” section?**
- d) Why was this section created?**
- e) How many people work within this section?**
- f) What is the gender breakdown of this section?**
- g) How many people employed within this section were previously employed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade?**
- h) What are the responsibilities of the section?**

Answer:

- b) Yes (the section was established on 19 October 2009).
- c) The section has been established in the department’s International Division. To establish the section, costs have been absorbed within the International Division’s budget.
- d) The section was created to bring together issues on which the department was already actively engaged, with a strengthened focus on advocacy and engagement, including global and regional architecture.
- e) Four people currently work in this section.
- f) There are currently three females and one male working in this section.
- g) One.

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h) The Global and Regional Architecture Section coordinates advice to the Prime Minister on global and regional architecture issues, including international advocacy and engagement with key decision makers in relevant countries on key foreign policy priorities. The establishment of the section thus represents an enhanced focus rather than a new function.