Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation

Outcome/Program: 1/1.1

Topic: Pre-election economic and fiscal outlook

Senator: Cormann

Question reference number: F5

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, page 12, 23 May 2012 **Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

a) **Senator CORMANN:** It makes them non comparable. I have seen the fiscal balance numbers. Can I please on notice get the revenue and expenditure—the equivalent numbers that were used in order to get to the \$10.4 billion projected deficit for 2011-12?

Senator Wong: A cash basis.

Mr Tune: Do you want the cash basis? **Senator CORMANN:** On a cash basis.

Mr Tune: That is fine. We can take that on notice. The Treasurer will have to provide the revenue numbers but I am sure I can provide the expenditure. It is probably in here somewhere, but I just cannot find it at the moment.

Senator CORMANN: I have looked and I cannot find it either. The economic update, which of course was released by the government in, I think, the month before the pre-election economic and fiscal outlook, was when the government first said the deficit for this financial year was expected to go down from \$44.5 billion to \$10 billion before going back to \$44.4 billion in this budget. Can you tell us what the revenue and expenditure figures are in the economic update comparable with—

Senator Wong: We have not come armed with the last four years of every economic forecast, but we can take that on notice.

Senator CORMANN: The Senate estimates are about scrutinising performance against the budget.

Senator Wong: I am not critical. If you had given us notice, we obviously would have made sure that we had these documents available. We will take that on notice.

Senator CORMANN: That is okay. Can you also take on notice the same revenue expenditure figures for the economic update 2010, it would be very much appreciated.

Answer:

The payment and receipt estimates for the 2011-12 financial year were/are as follows:

	Receipts	Payments	Future Fund	Underlying
Estimate for the 2011-12			Earnings	Cash Balance
year in:	\$ bn	\$ bn	\$ bn	\$ bn
2010-11 Economic	350.8	358.0	2.9	-10.0
Statement				
2010 PEFO	350.6	358.1	2.9	-10.4