

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.4 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Asian century white paper - consultation dates

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 18

Type of Question: FPA, p 74, 17 October

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Dr de Brouwer: I do not have the dates in front of me. The nature of the consultation was to talk about what would be in the Australia in the Asian Century white paper and to seek those departments' views on that material.

Senator RYAN: Can you take on notice when the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and who at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade? Whether or not that happened to be the minister and/or the secretary of the department? Was consulted prior to this announcement? Obviously it makes a big difference if they were consulted in August versus being consulted in late September.

Dr de Brouwer: I will take that on notice. The consultation did occur with the Secretary to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. This is from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Answer:

Dr Ian Watt discussed the possible Australia in the Asian Century White Paper with the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Dennis Richardson on 26 September 2011.