

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 February 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(110) Output 2.4: Promoting the Benefits of Cultural Diversity

Senator Hurley asked:

What specific activities was Council for Multicultural Australia (CMA) involved in to promote Harmony Day for 2004-2005.

- How much is funding from DIMA to CMA?
- Is CMA funded activities monitored by DIMA? If yes, can you provide a detailed report of how funding is dispensed?
- How many ethnic groups are represented in the CMA composition?

Answer:

During 2004-05, CMA members promoted Harmony Day through their own networks and speaking engagements. Members had a role in the events such as the Harmony Day launch at the Australian Open Tennis Championships on 24 January 2005, the AFL Harmony Game on 18 March 2005, and the *Variety, The Children's Charity's* Harmony Day Dinner on 21 March 2005.

- CMA does not receive funding from DIMA per se. Members are paid sitting fees for meetings and for any other formal council or representative activities they may undertake.
- In 2004-05, the total direct cost associated with the CMA was \$120,016 (hire of venue for quarterly meetings, cost of travel and accommodation, and sitting fees for members).
- CMA members are not selected on the basis of constituent representation. There is no formal representation of any group, including ethnic, on the Council. The current Council does however include members from Anglo-Saxon, Chinese, Greek, Italian, Jewish, Swedish, Egyptian and Lebanese backgrounds.