

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 FEBRUARY 2009

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(46) Output: Internal Product**

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Mr Metcalfe advised on Tuesday 24 February 2009 during the Additional Estimates hearing that as at 1 January 2009 there were 985 locally engaged staff at overseas posts.

(a) In those overseas posts which the Department regards as sensitive could you provide the exact numbers of local staff in comparison to Australian Department staff?

(b) Is the Minister aware of any issues associated with corruption of locally engaged staff at overseas posts, and has the Department received any complaints?

(c) Are there any plans to review staffing arrangements at overseas posts?

*Answer:*

(a) DIAC regards all posts as important. Some posts have greater risks and these risks are different depending on the environment in each country.

A list of all posts with A-based and Locally Engaged Staff numbers is attached.

(b) The Department does receive complaints from time to time alleging corruption of locally engaged staff. Allegations are forwarded to the Values and Conduct Section within the Department which investigates whether there has been a breach of the APS Code of Conduct. There were 57 allegations of corruption relating to staff in overseas posts during the 12 month period from January 2008 to December 2008. None of the allegations against locally engaged staff were found to be substantiated.

(c) The Department continuously monitors the overseas network and staffing levels at posts to ensure that changing risks and demands are quickly addressed.

## DIAC Staff at Overseas Posts at 1 January 2009

| Post             | A-based Staff | LES Staff Numbers Provided by DFAT |
|------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Amman            | 5             | 21                                 |
| Ankara           | 2             | 9                                  |
| Apia             |               | 2                                  |
| Athens           |               | 6                                  |
| Auckland         | 1             | 10                                 |
| Bali             |               | 3                                  |
| Bangkok          | 5             | 31                                 |
| Beijing          | 6             | 42                                 |
| Beirut           | 2             | 16                                 |
| Belgrade         | 2             | 16                                 |
| Berlin           | 4             | 36                                 |
| Brasilia         | 2             | 10                                 |
| Brunei           |               | 2                                  |
| Budapest         |               | 3                                  |
| Buenos Aires     |               | 4                                  |
| Cairo            | 2             | 15                                 |
| Colombo          | 3             | 17                                 |
| Dhaka            | 2             | 13                                 |
| Dili             | 1             | 2                                  |
| Dubai            | 3             | 14                                 |
| Geneva           |               | 1                                  |
| Guangzhou        | 4             | 52                                 |
| Hanoi            | 2             | 17                                 |
| Harare           |               | 2                                  |
| Ho Chi Minh City | 4             | 32                                 |
| Hong Kong        | 2             | 35                                 |
| Honiara          |               | 1                                  |
| Islamabad **     | 3             | 19                                 |
| Jakarta          | 7             | 33                                 |
| Kuala Lumpur     | 3             | 15                                 |
| London           | 4             | 42                                 |
| Madrid           |               | 2                                  |
| Malta            |               | 1                                  |
| Manila           | 7             | 33                                 |
| Mexico City      |               | 3                                  |
| Moscow           | 4             | 18                                 |
| Nairobi          | 5             | 17                                 |
| Nauru            |               | 1                                  |
| New Delhi        | 8             | 95                                 |
| Nicosia          |               | 1                                  |
| Noumea           |               | 2                                  |
| Nuku'alofa       |               | 2                                  |
| Ottawa           | 2             | 24                                 |
| Paris            |               | 3                                  |
| Phnom Penh       | 2             | 9                                  |
| Port Louis       |               | 2                                  |
| Port Moresby     | 2             | 6                                  |
| Port Vila        |               | 2                                  |
| Pretoria         | 4             | 26                                 |
| Rangoon          |               | 3                                  |

|              |            |            |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| Rome         |            | 2          |
| Santiago     | 2          | 13         |
| Seoul        | 1          | 11         |
| Shanghai     | 6          | 96         |
| Singapore    | 1          | 11         |
| Suva         | 4          | 16         |
| Taipei       | 2          | 9          |
| Tarawa       |            | 1          |
| Tehran       | 2          | 11         |
| Tel Aviv     |            | 5          |
| Tokyo        |            | 7          |
| Vienna       |            | 6          |
| Vientiane    |            | 2          |
| Warsaw       |            | 4          |
| Washington   | 2          | 16         |
| Zagreb       |            | 4          |
|              |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>123</b> | <b>985</b> |

\*\*One position in Islamabad was unfilled as at 1 January 2009