

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(AE12/0104) Program : Internal Product**

Senator Humphries asked:

Commissioned Reports: How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

*Answer:*

See Attachment A.

## ATTACHMENT A

The following report was commissioned in this Financial Year to Date.

|                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Name of the Report</b>               | Access and Equity Inquiry Final Report (title TBC)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Date Commissioned</b>                | Panel established 18 November 2011.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Date report handed to Government</b> | By 30 June 2012.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Date of public release</b>           | Expected to be released early in the next financial year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Terms of Reference</b>               | <p>1. Inquiry into the Australian Government's current approach to Access and Equity and its implementation.</p> <p>2. Provide prioritised recommendations to the Government for improving the responsiveness for Australian Government services to a culturally and linguistically diverse population.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Committee Members</b>                | <p>* Mr Peter Hughes PSM, Chair, former Department of Immigration and Citizenship Deputy Secretary, from Canberra;</p> <p>* Ms Maria Dimopoulos, member of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights and International Commission of Jurists and recipient of an Amnesty International Human Rights Award, from Victoria;</p> <p>* Ms Jatinder Kaur, a cultural diversity consultant, from Queensland;</p> <p>* Mr Pino Migliorino, Chair of the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia, from New South Wales; and</p> <p>* Judge Rauf Soulio, Chair of the Australian Multicultural Council, <i>ex officio</i> member, from South Australia.</p> |
| <b>Cost of each report</b>              | The costs associated with the Inquiry Panel are being absorbed within existing departmental resources.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Departmental staff and level</b>     | The secretariat is located in the Multicultural Policy Section of the Multicultural Affairs Branch and includes one A/g EL1, one part time EL1 and one A/g APS5.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Current status of report</b>         | Commenced.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Government response</b>              | Before end 2012.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |