

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 MAY 2009**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(86) Program 5.1: Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees**

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Settlement Grants Program – Auditor General Report

Following the Auditor-General's Report number 36 2008-09 on the Settlement Grants Program and the finding that DIAC did not adequately document conversations with the Parliamentary Secretary during the decision making process, can you provide the assurance that such an oversight has not occurred in with the allocation of other funding programs administered by the Department?

*Answer:*

Since this issue was brought to the Department's attention by the Australian National Audit Office, the Department has revised its processes to ensure that all conversations with the Parliamentary Secretary during the decision making process for all funding programs administered by the Department are fully documented.