

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21-22 MAY 2012**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(BE12/0323) Program 3.1: Border Management**

Senator Xenophon asked:

Mr Allen stated that the broad criteria for the SPV arrangements for aircraft operating crew are as follows: “that it should have a reasonable connection, meaning it should be a contiguous sector of the international-coded flight and that the work that the crew undertake on those contiguous sectors should be the normal work that they would undertake on board the aircraft” (Committee Hansard, 22 May 2012, p. 49). Definitions of “contiguous” in terms of sequences typically refer to “next or near in time or sequence”, “next or together in sequence” or “touching or connected throughout in an unbroken sequence” – each of which raise critical distinctions in the context of ‘tag’ flight. How does DIAC define “contiguous sectors” in this context?

*Answer:*

The term articulates the Department's expectations around the purpose and use of SPVs, that is, that they be used in relation to sectors which are part of a flight which has been classified as international.