

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Output 1.1**

**Question No. 15**

**Senator Stott-Despoja asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2005:**

The Government has stated that competency standards are currently being developed for family dispute resolution practitioners and family counsellors. When will these standards be complete and when will they become a legal requirement to comply with?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

The expected completion date for the competency standards is June 2006, subject to their endorsement by the Vocational Education and Training Ministerial Council.

While the Government is currently considering how the competency standards will be implemented within the family law system, it is expected that meeting minimum competency standards will be a compulsory requirement for family counsellors and family dispute resolution practitioners.