

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 OCTOBER 2008

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

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

Senator Barnett (L&CA 45) asked:

What ministerial overseas travel has been undertaken since the May budget estimates hearings? Provide the total cost of (1) the travel, (2) accommodation and (3) any other expenses. How many ministerial staff and/or family attended with the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary? Likewise for the staff member, could you itemise the travel cost, accommodation and any other expenses, and the total cost for all those involved in that travel?

*Answer:*

The Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary have each made one overseas visit since the May budget estimates hearings.

#### **Minister's Overseas Visit**

The Minister visited Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore from 5 to 12 August. On this occasion, the Minister was accompanied by his Chief of Staff. No family member accompanied the Minister.

The costs for the Minister and Chief of Staff are set out below:

<b>Minister</b>	
Travel	\$6,110.90
Accommodation	\$1,450
<b>Chief of Staff</b>	
Travel	\$6,763.10
Accommodation	\$1,350
<b>Other expenses</b>	\$18,100
(These expenses cover security, ground transport, travelling allowance, charter flight to refugee camp, gifts and miscellaneous expenses).	

#### **Total Costs**

The total costs for the Minister and the Chief of Staff including other expenses, are in the order of \$33,750.

Notes:

- Costs are based on information provided by Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance) as at 3 December 2008; and reconciliation of costs processed by Posts as at 3 December 2008.
- Extracts of the Finance report on costs provide exact amounts of expenditure.

Otherwise, costs are rounded to the nearest \$50.

- The Secretary of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship also accompanied the Minister on this visit.

### **Parliamentary Secretary's Overseas Visit**

The Parliamentary Secretary made one overseas visit to Malaysia from 8 to 11 June 2008. The Parliamentary Secretary was accompanied by his spouse and his adviser.

The costs advised by Department of Finance and Deregulation, as at 22 October 2008, are set out below:

#### **Parliamentary Secretary**

Travel	\$4,562.93
Travelling Allowance	\$189

#### **Adviser**

Travel	\$4,562.93
Travelling Allowance	\$458.16

#### **Spouse**

Travel	\$4,562.93
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#### **Total Cost**

The total cost for the Parliamentary Secretary, his adviser and his spouse, as at 22 October 2008, is \$14,335.95.