



Submission No. 1

Review of Portfolio Annual Reports

Organisation: Australian Trade Commission (Austrade)

Address: GPO Box 5301
SYDNEY NSW 2001



27 May 2002

Mr Cliff Lawson *28/5*
Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA 2600

Dear Mr Lawson

PUBLIC HEARING - REVIEW OF PORTFOLIO ANNUAL REPORTS, 21 MAY 2002

I represented Austrade at the Committee's public hearing, Review of Portfolio Annual Reports, 21 May 2002.

As noted in the draft Hansard report on page 20, in reply to a question from Hon Dr Martin MP, I noted that the number of staff in Austrade's Detroit office is being reduced from three people to one person. I would like to clarify this response by advising that I have become aware that we are considering options for the office, which could include having up to two people located in Detroit.

Yours sincerely

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE
(FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE)**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio – review of annual reports

Tuesday 21 May 2002

Question 1

Outcome 1

Topic: Australian Overseas Projects Corporation

Hansard page: FADT 7

Mr Baird asked:

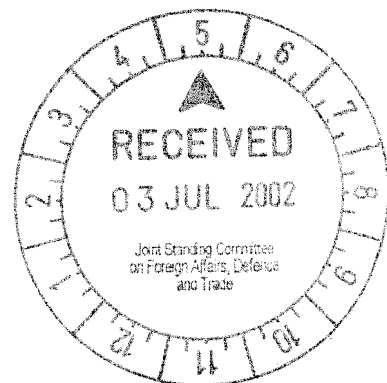
What would be the overall size of the consulting projects that we won in the Middle East last year? [in terms of numbers of projects]

Answer:

Austrade directly assisted Australian companies to win 8 consulting projects in the Middle East last year (2001), with a combined value of \$283 million. These included:

- Project design and feasibility studies for mineral reserves projects
- Engineering and construction services for tourism projects
- Front-end engineering and design work (FEED) for oil & gas projects
- Feasibility studies and other consulting projects associated with agricultural developments
- Education and vocational training services.

We do not have detailed information on other consultancy projects that Australian companies might have won in the region.



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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Tuesday 21 May 2002

Question 2

Outcome 1

Topic: Beijing Olympics Contracts

Hansard page: FADT 24

Mr Baird asked:

Have you got any estimate on how much it (Beijing Olympics 2008) is worth to Australia so far in terms of contracts that have been written specifically Olympic related?

Answer:

To Austrade's knowledge there have as yet been no specifically Olympic related contracts written in terms of the Beijing Games 2008. However, the Beijing authorities are still in the preliminary phase of planning the roll-out of the various projects relating to the Beijing Olympics. No contracts have been awarded yet but two design competitions have recently been announced.

- The two competitions are for the overall design (master-planning) of both major sports venue sites (the Olympic Green and the Wukesong Sports and Cultural Centre in the west of Beijing) and were open for registration from 2-15 April.
- 177 design firms have made submissions, several of these being Australian.
- Design submissions are due in early July with the decision on the winning designs expected in late July/early August. A cash prize will be awarded for the winning designs.

Austrade is working with many companies from a broad range of sectors to help position them to win Olympic business as specific Olympic tenders and related business opportunities arise.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio – review of annual reports

Tuesday 21 May 2002

Question 3

Outcome 1

Topic: Bollywood Visa Numbers

Hansard page: FADT 44

Senator Schacht asked:

Could you take on notice how many people have been issued a visa specifically for the Bollywood producers and film-makers to come to Australia over the last three years?

Answer:

DIMIA have advised that 990 visas were issued by New Delhi and Mumbai over the last three years, under subclass 420 (“persons involved in the entertainment industry”).