

F  
S  
T  
S

aring

Submission No.	4.
Date Received	11-5-05.
Secretary	

**Importance:** High

Ms Swieringa

Attached is DFAT's response to the questions on notice arising from the Committee's hearing of 2 May.

Kind regards

Marnie Wright  
Counter Terrorism Policy Section  
International Security Division  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Tel: 02 6261 2705  
Fax: 02 6261 2378

## **PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON ASIO, ASIS AND DSD**

Following the hearing of the Parliamentary Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD on 2 May 2005 the Committee Secretariat contacted the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) seeking a response to four questions relating to the Criminal Code listing of the al-Zarqawi network (Tanzim Qa'idat al Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn).

The questions and DFAT responses are as follows:

1. Grateful DFAT provide a breakdown of the amount of departmental time and officer time taken in assessing the al-Zarqawi network.

The Attorney General's Department (AGD) contacted DFAT on 20 January providing the Statement of Reasons for the listing of the al-Zarqawi network and sought our response. DFAT responded to AGD on 25 January 2005.

It is not possible accurately to quantify the amount of time spent by relevant DFAT officers in considering and preparing a response to the AGD request for comment on the proposed listing of the al-Zarqawi network. DFAT estimates that the combined amount of time so spent by officers of the various areas of DFAT involved would not have exceeded a few person-hours.

2. Grateful DFAT's advice on whether Australia has reported on the al-Zarqawi network and/or members of the al-Zarqawi network in any of its reports pursuant to the UN Security Council resolutions 1267 and 1373.

It has not.

3. Grateful DFAT provide to the Committee a copy of DFAT's foreign policy implication assessment of the listing of the al-Zarqawi network.

The product of DFAT's consideration of the AGD request for comment was written advice to AGD that DFAT supported the listing. No additional comment was prepared or provided.

4. Grateful DFAT please advise whether it checked if the al-Zarqawi network was proscribed by the United Kingdom or Canada.

It did not.