

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016**

**Communications Portfolio**

**nbn**

**Question No: 122**

**nbn**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 22/02/2016**

**Topic: International travel cost**

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

Please set out all costs incurred by NBN Co, for the period 8 September 2013 to present, for international travel conducted by NBN Co employees, contractors, directors and officers. Please include details of:

- (a) Each international trip, including dates travelled, and details of stopovers and/or legs travelled;
- (b) Number of NBN Co staff travelling for each trip, including names of NBN Co personnel;
- (c) Reason for trip; and
- (d) All flight, accommodation and incidental costs incurred by NBN Co.

**Answer:**

- (a) – (b) nbn has a formal Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy, and approval process which requires travellers to seek approval prior to booking hotels, cars & air travel. The reason for the travel is required to be provided to the travel approver. To provide a breakdown of each individual trip is an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- (c) The reasons for international travel are varied and include meeting with overseas suppliers and investigating technology developments. Additionally, a significant proportion of international travel has also been related to the long term satellite program, which involved the launch of Sky Muster from French Guiana and ongoing collaboration with a number of international partners.
- (d) International flight costs for the period 8 September 2013 to 29 January 2016 have amounted to \$1,540,016.