

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 27  
**Hearing:** Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Policy and Communications Division  
**Topic:** INTERNATIONAL WHALING  
**Hansard Page:** 78  
**Question Date:** 27 May 2014  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Whish-Wilson asked:**

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Then could I put this question, on notice: Senator Cormann, could you ask Minister Hunt whether he would write a letter on behalf of the concerned Australians to the Japanese government around the dolphin hunt and slaughter at Taiji?

It is a very significant matter of public interest.

Senator Cormann: I am happy to take that inquiry.

**Answer:**

The Australian Government is committed to the protection of whales and dolphins.

Australia strongly advocates for the protection of cetaceans in the International Whaling Commission, including small cetaceans.

Australia will continue to raise the issue of dolphin hunts in Taiji with Japan through the International Whaling Commission.