

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

**Department/Agency:** Treasury

**Question:** AET 25

**Topic:** Council of Federal Financial Relations request for GST modelling

**Reference:** Hansard page no. 20 - 10 February 2016

**Senator:** Wong, Penny

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** It is alright. I said: did the COAG agree that Treasury would undertake modelling of a range of tax options, including changes to the GST?

**Mr Fraser:** It was more CFFR.

**Senator WONG:** CFFR. That is—

**Mr Fraser:** COAG made a broad request, but the CFFR meetings, as the minister has indicated, at the behest of the states, asked us to look at some broad options, all of which with the view to seeing what the impact on growth would be.

**Senator WONG:** Can I first get the acronym, CFFR, for the purposes—

**Mr Fraser:** Council on Federal Financial Relations.

**Senator WONG:** They made a broad request and then Treasury undertook—can you give me the dates?

**Senator Cormann:** We might have to take that on notice.

**Senator WONG:** Approximately? Ahead of the December COAG?

**Mr Brennan:** There were two relevant CFFR meetings in the course of last year. I will take the exact dates on notice, but my recollection is there was one meeting in October 2015 and then the December meeting, which more or less aligned with the COAG meeting.

**Senator Cormann:** It was the day before, I think.

**Answer:**

The Council on Federal Financial Relations held a tax reform workshop on 21 August 2015. Subsequent meetings were held on 16 October 2015 and 10 December 2015.

Also see response to AET 24.