

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15
23 October 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation

TOPIC: CEO Recruitment

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: SI-93

In relation to the process for appointing the new CSIRO Chief Executive, Dr Larry Marshall:

- a) How many of the 70 candidates considered in the selection process were not resident in Australia at the time (whether Australian citizens or otherwise)?
- b) When did the Board take the decision to appoint Dr Marshall or to recommend Dr Marshall to the Minister for appointment?
- c) What was the process for approving Dr Marshall's appointment?
- d) Was Dr Marshall informed that he was the preferred candidate before or after the Minister and/or Prime Minister and/or Cabinet consideration process was finalised?

ANSWER

- a) Of the 151 candidates considered in this process, 51 were not resident in Australia at the time.
- b) • The Board resolved on 24 September 2014 to appoint Dr Larry Marshall as the CSIRO Chief Executive commencing 1 January 2015.
- c) On 25 August 2014, following consultation with the Minister as required under section 10B(2) of the Science and Industry Research Act 1949, the CSIRO Board resolved that the Chairman recommend Dr Larry Marshall as the preferred candidate for CSIRO Chief Executive to the Minister. As is required under the process articulated in the Cabinet Handbook, the Minister then sought approval of this appointment from the Prime Minister.
- d) Dr Marshall was informed that he was the preferred candidate before CSIRO made its recommendation to the Minister.