

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Agency - Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency**

**Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000210**

**Senator McKenzie provided in writing.**

#### **Question**

#### **ASEA - Lodgment of Annual Report**

Lodgment of the ASEA annual report

- a) When was the Annual Report of ASEA submitted?
- b) When was the report due under the requirements of the Public Governance, Performance & Accountability Act?
- c) If it was late, could you explain why?
- d) Can you outline what the issues were that the National Audit Office identified relating to administration of the International Conference on Asbestos Awareness and Management?
- e) On what date were the financial statements endorsed by the ASEA audit committee and signed off by the National Audit Office?

#### **Answer**

- a) The *ASEA Annual Report 2014–15* was formally tabled to the office of the President of the Senate on 16 December 2015. The report was approved to table in Parliament by the Minister for Employment on 1 December 2015.
- b) As per section 46(2) of the *PGPA Act 2013*, the annual report was due by 15 October 2015.
- c) The annual report was late because of the delay in finalising the financial statements which occurred on 4 November 2015 then the time needed for printing and delivery of reports for tabling.
- d) The issues the ANAO identified relating to the administration of the conference were ensuring the agency was able to reconcile the amount of incoming funding to the number of registrants for the conference and the sponsorship or exhibition commitments made. Following investigations the ANAO were satisfied that adequate procurement procedures were in place to ensure the reconciliation of incoming funds and that the ASEA financial statements for 2014–15 fully complied with all relevant requirements.
- e) 4 November 2015.