

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE—ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES, 26 FEBRUARY 2015
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Q No.	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad topic	Question	Proof Hansard, page & hearing date or Written Q	Date rec'd	Date tabled
1.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ebola	<p>Senator WONG: I have quite a lot of questions about patient numbers, dates of arrival and those sorts of things. Would it help if we came back to this. Would someone be able to put it together? What I would like to see is, over the period of the contract, how many admissions to the centre there were, when people left and a sense of the patient population.</p> <p>Mr Exell: I can give you much of that information. The total numbers—</p> <p>Senator WONG: But I want it longitudinally.</p> <p>Mr Exell: I won't be able to give you it week by week. Maybe I could put that together, if you like—a week by week detail of the up and downs. There is quite a flow of people in and out as far as confirmed and suspected cases go. So it changes quite regularly. I could put that together for you.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I would appreciate that. Why don't you give me what you can now and then if you can add to it, I would appreciate it.</p>	Page 10, AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
2.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ebola	<p>Senator WONG: Under both contracts, can you tell me what has been billed and what has been paid?</p> <p>Mr Dawson: I can tell you that under the first contract the amount paid was approximately \$700,000. I can get more detail if you require.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Sorry, this is a little frustrating. This has obviously been a point of controversy and it is been in the media. And you have not got details of how much you have paid under this contract. Surely someone has that?</p> <p>Mr Dawson: We can get the details.</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We will get that for you quickly.</p> <p>CHAIR: It is of the \$2.2 million, for the first contract, is it? \$700,000 of the \$2.2 million has been—</p> <p>Mr Dawson: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Can we just stop there? Is it expensed and billed?</p> <p>Mr Dawson: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Is there any billed and not paid as yet under the first contract?</p>	Page 12-13 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<p>Mr Dawson: Not that I am aware of.</p> <p>Senator WONG: What about the second contract?</p> <p>Mr Dawson: Again, we will get the details of the expense for you since you ask. But to give you an order of magnitude, I think the first monthly billing was approximately \$2.6 million. We expect that there will be a similar level of billing for the second bill. We obviously are a month further on from that, so during that period of time a further months' worth of costs would have been expensed.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Do you get itemised billing? Do they tell you what they have done or do they just send you in a bill for \$2.6 million?</p> <p>Mr Dawson: It is against a detailed set of costings in the contract.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Excellent! I would like that documentation provided, please.</p> <p>Mr Exell: Which document?</p> <p>Senator WONG: The documentation associated with the billing.</p> <p>Mr Exell: The payments?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Correct. What I am interested in is what they have to show you when they send you a bill for \$2.6 million, in terms of what they have done.</p> <p>Mr Dawson: A breakdown?</p> <p>Senator WONG: A breakdown. How do you want me to describe it?</p> <p>Mr Dawson: We can give you the breakdown, yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I want what they have to give you.</p> <p>Mr Dawson: Yes. We can give you what is specified in the contract.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: The structure of the contract and what the different items are?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Correct. Thank you.</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We will do that.</p>			
3.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ebola	<p>Senator WONG: Can you also tell me, in the contract—and I assume we will be able to ascertain this when we get the documentation—is there a number of beds that is identified or a number of patients?</p> <p>Mr Exell: The contract sets out a potential for what we call a scale-up rate. It is mapped over per month where we wanted to at least set out a structure of payment against an increase in the number of beds.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Tell me what those were, month by month.</p> <p>Mr Exell: From memory, and I will get you the specifics—</p> <p>Senator WONG: All of this is with the caveat that you are being very helpful in giving me an order of magnitude and you will confirm subsequently.</p> <p>Mr Exell: On a monthly basis it was structured from an increase from 20 beds</p>	Page 13 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				to 40 beds, 60 beds and then it went to 100 beds. For contracting purposes, equally from May to June 30 which was the rough date that we expected to finish our role with the ETC, it actually had a downward trajectory. I think it was 80 then 60 for the last two months. But I will confirm that.			
4.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ebola	<p>Senator WONG: If you could get those. Can I also have a copy of the full contract?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: The only thing I would mention is that—</p> <p>Senator WONG: You may need to redact some bits of the commercial in confidence. Just remember what the chair read out at the beginning of estimates. And let's not have an argument about that, okay?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We will give you as much as we possibly can.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Chair, you have been very generous. I appreciate that.</p>	Page 13 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
5.	DFAT	Senator Di Natale	Ebola - Australia Awards	<p>Senator DI NATALE: One of the things I learnt through my trip was that we had an ongoing relationship with Liberia and Sierra Leone in terms of providing a number of scholarships for students, many of whom now are in public health ministries and areas of government and so on. All have benefited from postgraduate education here in Australia from a number of different universities. What is the status of that program?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I'll just give you some background. In relation to the Australia Awards, we do have a masters course and a short course for those countries. There were 11 master degree awardees from Liberia and Sierra Leone.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: What period are we talking about?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: That is for 2015.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: How does that compare with previous years?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 20 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
6.	DFAT	Senator Di Natale	Ebola – Australia Awards	<p>Mr McDonald: They are not all government. I just gave you an example. Some of them are from government.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Some are, but many of them are not. Many of them are private sector and so on.</p> <p>Mr McDonald: There are six from Liberia and five from Sierra Leone. That is the number I am talking about. That is the master's degree. Maybe I'll take it on notice.</p>	Page 20 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
7.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Ebola	<p>Senator SINGH: Has DFAT received any complaints in relation to the Department of Health or the Department of Immigration and Border Protection regarding the handling of these re-entry issues?</p> <p>Mr Varghese: I am not aware of any complaints. Do you mean complaints about the Department of Health and the department of immigration?</p> <p>Senator SINGH: I said from the Department of Health or the department of</p>	Page 24 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<p>immigration.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: I am not aware of it. My colleagues may have some information.</p> <p>Mr Exell: I am aware that our post in Accra relayed some advice through to the Department of Health and immigration about some of the protocols. But I am not aware of the specific details.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: The post where, sorry?</p> <p>Mr Exell: It is our post in Ghana. They received some questions around those measures that were introduced. I think they relayed those through to the department of immigration and the Department of Health.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: Can you provide the committee with some detail as to what those complaints were?</p> <p>Mr Exell: I would have to take that on notice. I do not have the specifics of the questions that they asked.</p>			
8.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Ebola	<p>Senator SINGH: Are you aware of how humanitarian workers are welcomed home? Are they thanked for their service?</p> <p>Mr Exell: Are you referring to Aspen workers or are you referring to broader NGO workers?</p> <p>Senator SINGH: We are talking about Ebola, so I am actually focused on particularly Aspen workers. But humanitarian workers that have been working in Ebola affected countries.</p> <p>Mr Exell: I can refer to Aspen Medical, who are supported on their return back into Australia. They actually remain employed by Aspen for a period of three weeks after they return. They are recognised by Aspen in the work that they do.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: How specifically are they welcomed home?</p> <p>Mr Exell: Do you mean if they are met at the airport? What do you mean?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We would have to take that on notice. We would need to talk to them about how that actually works.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: Okay. If you are taking it on notice, can you take on notice other NGO workers who have been working with Ebola?</p>	Page 24 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
9.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Performance of Australian Aid	<p>Senator RHIANNON: The performance of Australian aid 2013–14 report on page 12 spells out that private contractors get more and more of the aid budget than NGOs. There is a pie chart in there. It shows 21 per cent versus 15 per cent. Is this a change from previous years?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I will ask Mr Dawson to answer that.</p> <p>Mr Dawson: It may be a slight change. I do not have the previous year's figures with me. But it is a consistent pattern year on year that the three largest</p>	Page 27 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<p>implementing partners for the Australian aid program usually are, firstly multilateral organisation, secondly private commercial contractors and thirdly non-government organisations. Between those three groups they usually account for approximately 75 per cent or thereabouts of delivery year by year. But of course there are different programs conducted in different years. Some programs start and some programs end. So the figures will fluctuate year-on-year.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Could you take it on notice for the previous three years, please?</p> <p>Mr Dawson: We will do our best, yes.</p>			
10.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Medical research	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Will the details of other medical research spending that is committed thought 2014–15 be announced then as well?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: In terms of the net expenditure on medical research, that would be aggregated at the end of the financial year, as we do for the total program. So medical research will be part of that. The minister announced, I think, last year \$30 million for research. That was her speech with the release of the policy. But I will confirm that for you and ensure that that is correct.</p>	Page 28 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
11.	DFAT	Senator Gallacher	Innovation Hub	<p>Senator GALLACHER: There is \$140 million put into this innovation hub. What level of that will be spent on the normal things that the department needs, such as wages, people and all the trappings of office, so to speak?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I would have to take on notice whether anything is spent on the department. I would need to check that.</p>	Page 32 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
12.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Innovation Hub	<p>Senator SINGH: I think that you said that you are going to take the breakdown of the \$140 million on notice.</p> <p>Mr McDonald: Yes, I'm happy to do that.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: Can you also provide how much will go on not just staff salaries but staff travel?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: Yes, sure. I will say that there is very little of that. The focus of the team is working across the organisation and working with our partners and the like. But I will take that on notice.</p>	Page 32 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
13.	DFAT	Senator Gallacher	Innovation Hub	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Well, I am happy with that. I think after 14 hours you might be weary of it yourself. But I would be very happy with that. Can we have a little more detail on the one project that we have under way?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: That is the global innovation fund that I referred to earlier. Yes, we can.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Yes. So that is how you tie in internationally?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: That is a partnership with the US, the UK, Sweden and</p>	Page 37-38 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<p>Australia. That is generating, as I said, new ideas. It is not a body that is up and running already. It is just commencing.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Has there been any expenditure?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I do not think so, no. It has been announced, but I do not think that there has been any expenditure. But I would take that on notice and provide you with that detail.</p>			
14.	DFAT	Senator Gallacher	Aid investment plans	<p>Senator GALLACHER: I would just like to know how many aid investment plans the committee expects to have completed by July 2015. If you could take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr McDonald: Happy to.</p>	Page 38 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
15.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Innovation Hub	<p>Senator SINGH: I wanted to go back to Senator Gallacher's questions relating to the Innovation Hub before we move on, Mr McDonald. I think you said there was a very small team. Can you tell the committee the full-time equivalent of the team?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I took that on notice.</p>	Page 42 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
16.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Innovation Hub	<p>Senator SINGH: Have any external consultants or new hires been brought in to work on this hub?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I would like to take that on notice, but we have had someone from USAID come in for a short time who had expertise on financial instruments. That is all I can recall. I would like to take that on notice so that I give you the correct information.</p>	Page 42 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
17.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Innovation Hub	<p>Senator SINGH: You also told Senator Gallacher that there was one innovation project currently announced?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: Announced, yes.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: How many are in the pipeline?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I would have to take that on notice. There are lots of things going on in the hub. There are lots of ideas coming in.</p>	Page 42 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
18.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Innovation Hub	<p>Senator SINGH: If there are any projects that are near completion, could you take that on notice, too?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: Yes, I am happy to take that on notice.</p>	Page 42 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
19.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Economic diplomacy	<p>Senator SINGH: I am aware that Minister Bishop referenced 2,000 ideas which were submitted to the department during her speech at the Lowy Institute on 18 August last year. Do you have a copy of those submissions?</p> <p>Mr Varghese: I am not quite sure which speech you are referring to. Is this in</p>	Page 42-43 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15

				<p>the context of economic diplomacy, when we launched the economic diplomacy at Lowy?</p> <p>Senator SINGH: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: I think that was—</p> <p>Senator SINGH: She waved it around during her speech.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: If you take all of the Economic Diplomacy Plans that our 95 posts and our divisions in Canberra and our state offices have produced and if you add up the objectives that they have set for themselves, I think that was the number the minister was referring to.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: She was quite proudly saying 2,000 ideas. I am trying to see how many of these ideas have been implemented.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: These are not necessarily ideas that would be implemented in the space of several months or even a year. A lot of economic diplomacy also takes time to achieve your objectives. As to whether those economic diplomacy plans can be shared with the committee, can I just take that on notice, if you do not mind?</p>			
20.	DFAT	Senator Waters	Great Barrier Reef	<p>Senator WATERS: Can you take on notice for me precisely who has been instructed to have discussions with financial institutions about investment in developments around the Great Barrier Reef?</p> <p>Mr Varghese: I am happy to do that.</p>	Page 52 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
21.	DFAT	Senator Waters	Great Barrier Reef	<p>Senator WATERS: Coming back to those financial institutions that former Minister Minchin met with.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: The discussions that the consul-general had with financial institutions are discussions that I think should be treated as in-confidence. I do not think the parties to those discussions would necessarily appreciate being publicly identified and I do not think it is appropriate to publicly identify them.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I beg to differ with your assessment and I believe that under the standing orders I am entitled to ask for and to be provided with that information.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: I will take that on notice.</p>	Page 52 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
22.	DFAT	Senator Waters	Great Barrier Reef	<p>Senator WATERS: I have two follow-ups on that. Firstly, can you supply for me any information that was not in the State Party Report, which is clearly a public document that I have read and I am sure many others have also read. Is there anything that was not just in the State Party Report? Can you supply a list of those documents and the documents themselves? Secondly, you say the information was about how Australia is looking to meet the recommendations. Is that simply information that was on the public record in the State Party</p>	Page 53 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				Report or is there additional information that Mr Minchin was able to tell those bankers that perhaps the Australian public would like to hear as well? Mr Woolcott: I would need to take that on notice to see exactly what Mr Minchin said in his report.			
23.	DFAT	Senator Waters	Great Barrier Reef	Senator WATERS: Do we have any documentary trail to hand to establish who else was present at those meetings? Mr Woolcott: I am not aware if Mr Minchin was accompanied by any other officers but, again, we can take that on notice.	Page 54 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
24.	DFAT	Senator Waters	Great Barrier Reef	Senator WATERS: I am particularly interested, of course, if any of the actual companies that have an interest in this regard were present either at the meetings or indeed were informed of the meetings either before or after the meeting actually occurred. So, if you could take that on notice as well? That is all the questions I have.	Page 54 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
25.	DFAT	Senator Singh	HOM/HO P Appointments	Senator SINGH: Perhaps you could provide the committee with a list of posts that are up for renewal this year. Do you have that list with you? Would it be a fairly standard list? Mr Varghese: I will take that on notice.	Page 54 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
26.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Minister Robb visit to China	Senator SINGH: That is fair enough. On the week of 5 December 2014 the Trade and Investment Minister, Andrew Robb, visited China for a high-level dialogue in Beijing. Who were the members of the Australian delegation? Mr Varghese: This is the meeting in December last year? Senator SINGH: Yes. Mr Varghese: I would have to take on notice the full details. I participated in it and I am just trying to think who the other members of the delegation were. It was a delegation that comprised not just people in government but people in academia and in civil society and former political leaders. Peter Costello led it for Australia. It included some journalists—for example, Rowan Callick and Tony Walker were there. It included people from think-tanks such as Michael Fullilove and Jenny McGregor, the head of Asialink. It included some academics such as Peter Hoj, the Vice-Chancellor of Queensland University. I do not know if Mr Meehan has the full list, but I am just going on my memory. Senator SINGH: That is a fairly good memory, so perhaps we will take it on notice to have the full list.	Page 55 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15

				Mr Varghese: Yes.			
27.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Minister Robb visit to China	Senator SINGH: What is the cost associated with each delegate's participation? How is that cost covered? Mr Varghese: I would have to take on notice what the cost arrangements were. I think they paid their own way to and from. I would need to take advice on whether we picked up any costs. I am happy to do that.	Page 55 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
28.	DFAT	Senator Singh	Aid – East Asia	Senator SINGH: Let us look at the 2013-14 federal budget cuts. Which programs have been already impacted by that budget? Mr McDonald: In relation to the 2013-14 reductions— Senator SINGH: I am only talking in relation to the East Asian region. Mr McDonald: I do not think we would have that information handy, but we certainly put it on the website at the time and we provided it to the committee. There was a discussion here about it. We can certainly provide it to you on notice, but we would not have it here.	Page 56 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
29.	DFAT	Senator Ludlam	Burma – elections	Senator LUDLAM: Can you give any detail around what kind of assistance we are providing and whom it is being provided through? Mr Chittick: I might have to take some of the detail of that on notice. The two key elements, as I mentioned earlier, of our support for the preparation for the elections are to provide support to improve voter registration and to build the capacity of the Union Election Commission. Both of those elements are designed to help Burma deliver inclusive and credible parliamentary elections this year.	Page 57-58 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
30.	DFAT	Senator Ludlam	Burma – elections	Senator LUDLAM: Just finally on this topic, have we been invited or have we proposed to send anybody into the country as election observers or to assist in conducting the election itself? Mr Chittick: I am not aware of that. I can take that on notice. Senator LUDLAM: Yes, if you can, with either side as to whether we have made that proposition to Burmese authorities or whether it has come back the other way and, if so, the scope of what that might look like. I know there is a reasonably solid tradition here of MPs or other people travelling into parts of the world like that. I will leave it at that. If there is any more definition that you are happy to provide us with on notice on the kind of assistance that we are offering, that would be useful.	Page 58 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				Mr Chittick: I would be very happy to provide some detailed information in terms of the support for the electoral sector and which of our other partners and Burma's other partners are supporting them in that area.			
31.	DFAT	Senator Ludlam	Russia-Uranium	Senator LUDLAM: Could you provide us, on notice, with a list of countries whose uranium fuel comes to us through Russian enrichment facilities? Dr Floyd: I would be happy to take that on notice.	Page 60 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
32.	DFAT	Senator Whish-Wilson	Japan whaling	Senator WHISH-WILSON: I would like to ask the Attorney-General a couple of simple questions on whaling. Are you taking any action in the IWC or in Japan's proposal to return to the Southern Ocean this summer? Senator Brandis: This is a bipartisan position, as you know. Australia has been very active in this area. I do not believe there are any current proceedings and I do not have a brief on the matter here, but I will take that on notice. Senator WHISH-WILSON: Could you take on notice where you sought any legal advice? Senator Brandis: When you say 'sought any legal advice', there is, within the Attorney-General's Department a unit called the Office of International Law which frequently advises, as you would expect, on international legal matters. This issue of whaling has been on the agenda of governments of both political persuasions for some years so there is regular advice, certainly, from OIL. I have also seen advice from the Solicitor-General some time ago. Whether any other external legal advice has lately been taken, I will come back to you. Senator WHISH-WILSON: I would appreciate that, and specifically whether you are preparing to lodge a case in the International Court of Justice.	Page 66 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
33.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministerial visit to South America	<i>[referring to 20 May letter from Foreign Minister to Prime Minister]</i> Senator WONG: Can I have a copy of that letter of 20 May?	Page 67 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
34.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministerial visit to South America	<i>[referring to response to Foreign Minister's 20 May letter]</i> Senator WONG: So, Lima was not supported. Was there a reason given? Mr Varghese: I would have to check. I do not think there was, but I will check before I confirm that. Senator WONG: I assume that you will take on notice so I ask for a copy of that letter, too. Mr Varghese: I will certainly take it on notice. As you would appreciate, a letter from the minister to the Prime Minister, I would at the very least need to check with the principals.	Page 68 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

35.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	<p>Senator WONG: I agree with her. When was the response provided to the 9 September letter?</p> <p>Mr Varghese: We have a response on 28 November, office to office, approving the travel.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I also request a copy of that letter. I can ask in Trade estimates if you would like, but for ease, given I assume you will be—</p>	Page 68 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
36.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	<p><i>[referring to phone call from Minister Robb's office to EXB on 28 November]</i></p> <p>Senator WONG: What documents were generated as a result of that phone call?</p> <p>Mr Roach: I would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I will request those as well.</p>	Page 69 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
37.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	<p><i>[referring to the invoice for Minister Robb's accommodation]</i></p> <p>Senator WONG: Can you tell me on this occasion how it was paid? Was it paid by credit card of the minister or was it paid by the credit card of the head of mission? Are you the head of mission, Mr Woolcott?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Mr Woolcott is the ambassador.</p> <p>Mr Woolcott: I am the Ambassador for the Environment.</p> <p>Senator WONG: You mean the head of the mission?</p> <p>Mr Roach: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: It is our resident ambassador.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Do you know?</p> <p>Mr Roach: No, I do not. I will have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 71 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
38.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	<p>Senator WONG: So you prepared the letter that sought approval of the minister's travel and submitted it to the Prime Minister's office?</p> <p>Mr Roach: With the approximate costs.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Tell me what that was.</p> <p>Mr Roach: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>***</p> <p>Senator WONG: I would like the estimated cost of travel including the cost of accommodation, which I assume was in the letter. Is that right?</p>	Page 71-72 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
39.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	<p>Senator WONG: That is what I am asking for. On notice can I have a list of the persons on the delegation?</p> <p>Mr Woolcott: Absolutely.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Including their APS level.</p>	Page 72 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
40.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Andrew Shearer –	<p>Senator WONG: I would request that you refer to the Prime Minister the question of the details around Mr Shearer's public comments which were</p>	Page 74-75 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

			<p>travel and public comments</p> <p>reported in the press, the circumstances of them and how he was authorised to make them. It may be, as Senator Sinodinos rightly says, that he has made them in the context of the Brookings Institution event. That is one thing. I would make the point that I have also asked whether he was travelling abroad at public expense and, if so, what exemption was granted by the Prime Minister, as is required, because the guidelines do not permit a staff member to travel independently. I look forward to that response as well.</p> <p>Senator Brandis: Senator Wong, as you know, I am a bit fussy about precision. Let me put the questions that I understand you are asking me to take on notice. First of all, it is whether Mr Shearer was travelling at public expense. Secondly, if he was, whether an appropriate exemption had been given to him.</p> <p>Senator WONG: And the basis of that.</p> <p>Senator Brandis: And the basis of any such exemption. Thirdly, the circumstances in which the remarks from which you have quoted, attributed to Mr Shearer by the journalist, John Kehoe, were made and, fourthly, how—by which I assume you mean by whom—they were authorised. Are those the matters that you want me to take on notice?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes. I will add to that there was another article on 23 January 2015 in which Mr Shearer may not be directly reported. Yes, he is. He is directly quoted as saying, 'The main thing that keeps me awake at night is domestic terrorism and the new manifestation'—</p> <p>Senator Brandis: I have said that myself.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes, but you are elected and you are a cabinet minister.</p> <p>Senator Brandis: I will take the same questions on notice in relation to that second attribution as well.</p> <p>***</p> <p>Senator WONG: Perhaps I can clarify the third point. We had two articles. The third point is Mr Shearer is reported in the media as 'speaking alongside PM Tony Abbott's national security adviser in Washington, Mr Medeiros', who is the US administration's representative. Then there is a further discussion, so I would like to know the circumstances of that discussion. Is that reported in the media as a press conference or is it, as Senator Sinodinos said, simply that someone attended the meeting?</p> <p>Dr Hammer: I do not have—</p> <p>Senator WONG: You will not. You do not know this. I am asking the Attorney.</p> <p>Senator Brandis: I will take that on notice.</p>			
--	--	--	---	--	--	--

				Senator WONG: He is taking that on notice. If you could add that to the list, thank you.			
41.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Sri Lanka	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I would like to start with Sri Lanka. Have there been any discussions with the former or the current Sri Lankan government on James Packer's Crown Resort interest in establishing a casino in Sri Lanka?</p> <p>Ms Klugman: I would need to take the detail on notice. The Australian representatives in our High Commission in Colombo characteristically, as they are in embassies around the world, are active in support of Australia's broader interests including our trade, commercial and investment interests, but the interaction on that particular project I will have to take on notice.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: The question in the first instance was: have there been any discussions? I suggest it would come down to a yes or no answer. Mr Varghese, in response to some issues asked by Senator Waters, gave emphasis to the assistance that our overseas embassies and high commissions give, so it is just a straight answer that I need to get this going.</p> <p>Mr Varghese: I think the point Ms Klugman is trying to make is we do not know whether there have been any actual discussions. We will take that on notice. If there had been it would be completely unsurprising, given the brief that our heads of mission have to promote Australia's economic trade and investment interests.</p>	Page 75 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
42.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Sri Lanka	<p>Senator RHIANNON: In taking it on notice could you also include: was the Sri Lankan government's decision to grant Mr Packer's company the five per cent tax rate discussed?</p> <p>Mr Varghese: We will take that on notice.</p>	Page 75 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
43.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Sri Lanka	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Was this issue about the tax rate discussed before it was granted by the previous government?</p> <p>Mr Varghese: I am happy to take that on notice as well.</p>	Page 75 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
44.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Sri Lanka	<p>Senator RHIANNON: It is also linked to DFAT. We know that the AFP obviously do not operate on their own. I am always told, when I ask these questions, about the role of DFAT and how integrated it is, so I am asking DFAT if there has been any interaction with the AFP or anybody at the high commission about investigating this further. Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Klugman: Yes, I can take that on notice.</p>	Page 77 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
45.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Australian aid programs in Gaza	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I will move onto Palestine. How many projects funded by Australian aid were destroyed by the Israeli army during the 2014 war in Gaza?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We will need Mr Innes-Brown for that?</p>	Page 77 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<p>CHAIR: Did you hear the question?</p> <p>Mr Innes-Brown: I think I heard the question. It was about how many Australian projects were destroyed. I think we went through this in the last estimates hearing. There was some damage to Australian funded projects. I can give you the amounts of that.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: While you are looking for that, I am also interested to understand what the process is for Australia responding to this, as well as understanding what the projects are and what the amount is. I am happy for you to table that because I do not have that much time. I am interested in what is the process for Australia responding when Australian projects funded by public money from this country are destroyed.</p> <p>Mr Innes-Brown: I will take that on notice. As I said, there was damage. In Gaza, through our AMENCA program, we fund two NGOs, World Vision and Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA. World Vision estimated that the value of the assets that were lost in the communities that it works with was around \$1.8 million and Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA's estimate was about \$1.4 million.</p>			
46.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Australian aid programs in Gaza	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Recognising Australia's contribution to the Gaza Reconstruction Fund, what is the projection for when the 96,000 homes that were demolished when Israel invaded Gaza will be rebuilt?</p> <p>Mr Innes-Brown: I do not have that information before me.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Innes-Brown: Yes.</p>	Page 77 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
47.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Australian aid programs in Gaza	<p>Mr Innes-Brown: There was a conference that established this particular fund after the conflict. Australia did not make a pledge at that particular conference. In the aftermath of the conflict we provided \$15 million in humanitarian assistance as well as reprioritising some funding for the NGO partners who were at Gaza. That money was devoted to relief activities. We gave \$120,000 to a new initiative which was a materials monitoring unit which was set up to try to address the issue that you are alluding to in terms of the entry of materials and making sure that they went to the right purposes. That is what we have done. We think that is a particularly good initiative, to give donors confidence that materials that are funded are being used for the right purposes. We thought we would play a constructive role to try to address that issue.</p> <p>Senator FAWCETT: Who runs that monitoring unit?</p> <p>Mr Innes-Brown: I will have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 78 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
48.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministerial visit to South	<p>Senator WONG: Can you advise on notice what the tentative itinerary was or the itinerary that was planned prior to the Prime Minister's request to attend Peru? I think you said you would need to take that on notice.</p>	Page 80 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

			America	Dr Hammer: Yes, I would.			
49.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	Mr Roach: Mr Robb's travel was approved on 1 December from the Prime Minister's office. In terms of the date in which that letter was dispatched to the PM, I need to take that on notice.	Page 80 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
50.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	Senator WONG: So, when was the forward travel bid for Mr Robb sent to the PMO. Mr Roach: I would have to take that on notice. We were doing that around about May, to give you a sense of the month.	Page 80 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
51.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	Senator WONG: No. We know Lima was not. You have already given that evidence. We have established that. I am asking whether the Brazil, Colombia, Chile proposal was on the forward travel bid in May? Mr Roach: I will need to take that on notice.	Page 81 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
52.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministeria 1 visit to South America	Senator WONG: When was the post advised that the Colombia component would be cancelled? Dr Hammer: I am not sure. We would have to take that on notice.	Page 81 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

53.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ministerial visit to South America	<p>Senator WONG: Can you tell me who else had the post arranged to meet, with the understanding that this is obviously subject to people's availability? What was the planned itinerary for the Colombia portion of the trip?</p> <p>Dr Hammer: From memory, we would have been seeking meetings for Mr Robb with his counterpart and also probably with any of the ministers involved with mining and possibly agriculture, but also the Minister for Foreign Affairs. He probably would have been involved in some additional activities to do with food, water and energy, which proceeded anyway. There were activities taking place in Colombia that he would have been involved in which proceeded anyway.</p> <p>Senator WONG: That is fine. You have answered a lot with 'would have', so on notice you can clarify what did or did not happen rather than what might or might not have happened. Can you also take on notice the itinerary request?</p> <p>Dr Hammer: To clarify, you would like to know what happened in Colombia even though the minister was not able to visit?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Perhaps we can clarify what events you were referencing when you say 'would have proceeded anyway'. Do you see what I am saying?</p> <p>Mr Varghese: Would you like to see the draft program?</p> <p>Senator WONG: I would like to see the draft program. You were referencing that some events would have proceeded anyway. I assume, for example, there is an Australia-Colombia something or other?</p>	Page 81 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
54.	DFAT	Senator Gallacher	New Colombo Plan	<p>Senator GALLACHER: I am being called to order by the chair. I would appreciate if you could take on notice the performance against the performance indicators. If it is ongoing that is fine, or if it is completed that is fine.</p> <p>Ms Duff: Yes. The pilot, itself, is still ongoing. In terms of the 2013-14 elements, certainly I can get the elements of that as set out in the annual report in terms of our performance against those KPIs for that financial year, but the pilot phase evaluation itself is still ongoing.</p>	Page 87 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
55.	DFAT	Senator Gallacher	New Colombo Plan	<p>Senator GALLACHER: On notice, how are the findings of the pilot evaluation being applied to the wider roll out of the New Colombo Plan and what are the key performance indicators for 2015?</p> <p>Ms Duff: I am certainly happy to take that on notice.</p>	Page 87 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
56.	DFAT	Senator Xenophon	Malaysia - Anwar Ibrahim	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Is it within the purview of the government to raise it with the Commonwealth Secretariat?</p> <p>Mr Cox: I will take that on notice.</p>	Page 88 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
57.	DFAT	Senator Xenophon	Malaysia - Anwar Ibrahim	<p>Senator XENOPHON: The Inter-Parliamentary Union? That is really for MPs. If you could let me know on notice whether there are any other international bodies that the government may consider to make representations.</p>	Page 88 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				Mr Cox: I am aware that certain UN bodies, rapporteurs and others, have made comments about the conviction, or the upholding of the conviction, of Anwar Ibrahim by the Federal Court of Malaysia. They have made statements.			
58.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Bougainville	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Do you also have the funding that has been provided to experts other than advisers to the Autonomous Bougainville Government? I wanted to separate out the funding that you have provided to individuals, institutions and other organisations other than those advising the ABG.</p> <p>Mr Sloper: Just to confirm, do you mean funding we provide to others who are providing services within Bougainville for the aid program?</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Sloper: We would need to take the detail on notice but I can tell you that in terms of Bougainville as a whole we provided \$37.7 million last year through a range of providers and services. In terms of the breakdown it is not only directly to advisers but, as we provided to you on notice, which was part 7 of question No 82, we broke down a range of groups we also provided funding to largely around human rights, peacemaking, women's rights, agriculture and so on. We provided some information on the purposes, outcomes and the amount expended as well.</p>	Page 89 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
59.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Bougainville	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I would like to understand some of the programs that are being run on Bougainville. You would obviously be aware of the emphasis given to small-scale farmers improving agricultural productivity.</p> <p>Mr Sloper: Yes.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: How is this aim being achieved through aid expenditure on Bougainville? If you could give the amount of money and the proportion of the money that goes on such projects.</p> <p>Mr Sloper: I would need to take that on notice. I am happy to do that in terms of the breakdown by sector. You are right. We have a range of projects relating to agriculture, service delivery, law and justice and health education. Some of them are delivered through PNG-wide programs that also have an impact in Bougainville and others are directly delivered on the ground with the Autonomous Bougainville Government.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: I am interested in the total expenditure and the expenditure on small-scale agricultural projects, and if you could give us that percentage.</p> <p>Mr Sloper: We would be happy to do so.</p>	Page 89 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
60.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Bougainville	Senator RHIANNON: In the same period what specific mining related advice, consultation events or other assistance has been provided on Bougainville by the Australian government?	Page 89-90 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<p>Mr Sloper: I think we have provided you with a breakdown in the questions on notice on the range of mining activities funded directly through the Autonomous Bougainville Government and also through the Mining for Development Initiative. We can provide them again if you wish, or are there specific advices?</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Is that up to date?</p> <p>Mr Sloper: That was as of October last year. I do not have more recent information available here.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: I was asking for the 2014-15 period, to the end of this financial year.</p> <p>Mr Sloper: We do not have to the end of this financial year yet.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: You do not have what is projected?</p> <p>Mr Sloper: Not in terms of final expenditure, no. We can check if since October there have been any further contracting out of services, but that covers all activity until now and it includes current advisers.</p>			
61.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Bougainville	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Can you update us on your meetings with the land-owning communities in the Panguna mine area?</p> <p>Mr Sloper: I would need to take that on notice in terms of the most recent meetings. There are ongoing consultations with that group and others.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Do you have some information there for the past year?</p> <p>Mr Sloper: Not in terms of specifics for that community, but I can take that on notice.</p>	Page 90 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
62.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Mekong – Don Sahong project	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I would like to move on to the Mekong. The Mekong River Commission Council, held in January this year, issued a statement that was relevant to the Don Sahong project, one of the latest dam projects there. This is obviously very relevant because of the large amounts of aid money that we spend in the Mekong area. Emphasis was given to the need to strengthen the prior consultation process. I understand that Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam have all requested an extension of the prior consultation process, whereas Laos wishes to continue to push ahead with this dam project. Has the department requested that the Laos government carry out a trans boundary impact assessment of the project, as I understand has been requested by those other South East Asian countries?</p> <p>Mr Chittick: I do not have any specific briefing in my papers on that issue. I know that there is some difference of opinion in terms of the prior consultation process. Australia's focus is very much on building the capacity of the Mekong River Commission to ensure that the prior consultation process is undertaken effectively. The decisions about the commencement of building work on dams</p>	Page 90-91 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15

				is a sovereign decision of the countries involved and, from media articles this week, there is a significant number of dams being built on the main river and the tributaries of the Mekong by a large number of countries. The specifics about that January release I will have to take on notice.			
63.	DFAT	Senator Gallacher	Passports	<p>Senator GALLACHER: What is the total cost of the development of the P series passport?</p> <p>Mr Nash: It is very difficult to give an exact response to that question.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: You can take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Nash: I am not sure I could do much better. It was developed internally using existing staff.</p>	Page 92 AE 26 Feb	17/04/15	14/05/15
64.	DFAT	Senator Wong	China Free Trade Agreement	<p>Senator WONG: How many meetings have been held since the announced conclusion of negotiations?</p> <p>Ms Adams: We have had two face-to-face meetings—one just before Christmas and one about two weeks ago—and, of course, a lot of other ongoing emails and interaction.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Where were those two meetings?</p> <p>Ms Adams: They were both in Beijing.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Can you provide on notice the attendees and the departmental costs in relation to each of those meetings.</p>	Page 93 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
65.	DFAT	Senator Wong	China Free Trade Agreement	<p><i>[referring to the phrase “contractual services supplier”</i></p> <p>Senator WONG: What I am trying to ascertain is: what, in addition to the existing GATTs definition, has been agreed? Or, as I said, if you want to table an answer which includes it—and the minister lets you—I am also happy to get that.</p> <p>Ms Adams: I think the definitions would be really quite similar, although there are sometimes slightly different terms used: like sometimes, in GATS there is a category called 'specialists' which we do not always include in the FTA commitments.</p> <p>Senator Brandis: Senator, can I suggest a way forward: why do we not take your question on notice?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Sure.</p> <p>Senator Brandis: And then the officer can consider the extent to which she is able to tabulate for you a response, in consultation with the minister's office.</p>	Page 95 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
66.	DFAT	Senator Wong	China Free Trade Agreement	<p>Senator WONG: I would appreciate that. Could you do the same in relation to the installers and servicers? Sorry, I did not write down the four categories.</p> <p>Ms Adams: We can start again on the categories, or we can just agree to provide, on notice, the definitions of the four categories.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes, that is good, thanks.</p>	Page 95-96 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15

				<p>...</p> <p>Senator WONG: Why do we use 'installers and servicers' and their reference is to 'installers and maintainers'?</p> <p>Ms Adams: I am not really sure. I expect it is just a reflection of terminology that is used.</p> <p>Senator WONG: But they are a different category under the GATS—is that not right? How about, on notice, can someone explain why the difference terminology is used and what the effect of that is?</p> <p>Ms Adams: Sure.</p>			
67.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Labour market testing obligations in trade agreements	<p>Senator WONG: Can we do it on notice then, so I can get a table? I would like a comparison of the labour market testing obligations relating to the category of contractual services supplier under the Korean free trade agreement, Japan, Malaysia, AANZFTA—sorry, CAFTA is Chile—and GATS.</p> <p>Ms Adams: Sure.</p>	Page 97 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
68.	DFAT	Senator Wong	China Free Trade Agreement	<p><i>[referring to the investment facilitation arrangement MOU]</i></p> <p>Senator WONG: Okay. I will ask for a copy of the MOU, which you can take on notice and tell me I probably cannot have it yet; but I will do that.</p>	Page 98 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
69.	DFAT	Senator Wong	China Free Trade Agreement	<p>Senator WONG: You talk about a labour market analysis in one of the fact sheets. Is the reference to it included in the MOU?</p> <p>Ms Adams: I cannot recall but I would have to double-check if that terminology is in the MOU as such or whether that reference goes back to the fact that we are implementing this in the context of our existing temporary entry skilled labour regime. When a domestic company negotiates a labour market agreement—or in the former EMA's, there were labour market analyses. That concept is around—whether it is specified in the MOU or not, I cannot recall.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I am trying to understand whether a labour market analysis—whilst being included in it—is described, defined or bound by any provision in the MOU or the ChAFTA. That is my question, if you want to take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Adams: We will take it on notice.</p>	Page 99 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
70.	DFAT	Senator Whish-Wilson	PACER Plus	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: In terms of eliminating the duties and other restrictive regulations on substantially all trade—and I will give you a question on notice on the services, as well—I would be interested on whether we have</p>	Page 104 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15

				defined what 'substantially' is yet or how far we are away from defining that. Mr Sloper: I am happy to take the question on notice, because consultations are still going and negotiations are continuing.			
71.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Korea Free Trade Agreement	Senator WONG: Do you intend to complete an English translation of the economic impact assessment that was tabled in the Korean National Assembly? Ms Adams: No, we do not. Senator WONG: Do you have any part of that report available in English, and if so can you please provide it? Ms Adams: Yes, we have some elements that we have an embassy translation of, that we can provide.	Page 105 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
72.	DFAT	Senator Back	Services exports	CHAIR: As our commodities come off, it appears to me there is tremendous opportunity for us to capitalise on services and increase that 17 per cent markedly—double it or even more. Can you explain two things? Firstly, what is the extent to which, in the free trade agreements that are the subject of discussion at the moment, services are a focus, because we have had plenty of focus on commodities—beef and others? Secondly, has any modelling been done to predict what the impact on the Australian economy would be if indeed we were able to substantially increase the export income component of our services? Perhaps you might take the overall question on notice, but can you just give us some indicators? China, Japan, Korea, TPP: can you just give us a brief snapshot? Ms Adams: I think the first point I would like to make is that while the way that we currently measure services exports—and our major ones are, of course, education and tourism—is as discrete transactions, what is not counted in the traditional trade statistics is the embedded services that form part of the overall exports from every country. So there is a lot of interesting work around these days from the OECD and other places on the value add of services that form part of your goods export. So if you think about manufactured exports then you are going to have a lot of services used in the production of those: logistic services, financial services, marketing, communications et cetera. If you think about all of the domestic services that go into producing exports then you get already a much higher services export number than that 17 per cent—tourism, education, financial services et cetera. That is the first point I would make. Second, we and the government would certainly agree with the point that you make about the very enormous potential for services exports from Australia into the region. The China Free Trade Agreement, as you have heard Minister	Page 110 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15

				<p>Robb talk about, has given us new entry into particular areas such as health services—even architecture, tourism, education: many specific areas. But even apart from that, there is just the sheer commercial opportunity as China moves more into a consumer and service-based economy out of the change in the emphasis from the export-led manufacturing economy. The growth in services, both domestic and internationally supplied, is phenomenal. We agree that there are huge opportunities there, both through the commitments that we have got in the trade agreements and just as a natural part of the growth of the middle class in our region.</p> <p>CHAIR: As China, presumably, eyes the United States as the major power and they realise the prudential regulation, governance, legal services, insurance services et cetera, would they be looking to Australia as a country that they believe has a degree of excellence in these areas?</p> <p>Ms Adams: I think that is absolutely right. You can see that in the fact that China did make commitments to us in the new area of securities management, more risk-based financial products. They do see Australia as an innovator and a well-regulated and successful market in those areas. So yes, absolutely—and complemented, of course, by the RMB trading arrangements that have just been set up in Sydney.</p>			
73.	DFAT	Senator Wong	India CEPA and RCEP	<p>Senator WONG: You say there are teams working on both. On notice, can I have an indication of the numbers and the levels of the personnel working on both negotiations, please, and also a list of the current timetable for meetings and negotiations.</p>	Page 113 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
74.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Foreign investment	<p>Senator WONG: Is there any agreement other than those where there is obviously a general threshold which would preclude the government's policy from being implemented?</p> <p>Ms Adams: No.</p> <p>Mr Mugliston: No. The only relevant provision would be the review of the commitments provision, and that is done periodically.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Do you think you could clarify all this on notice?</p>	Page 115 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
75.	EFIC	Senator Rhiannon	EFIC directors	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Mr Hunter, in your letter to the <i>Canberra Times</i> on the ninth of this month you stated: EFIC's independent directors have additional directorships within the finance community.</p> <p>I am actually really tight for time; the chair is on my tail. So, if that is not a short answer, can you take this on notice? Can you state what those additional directorships are for your independent directors?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I can state them. Andrew Mohl, who was chairman of Efic, was</p>	Page 115- 116 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15

				<p>also on the board and still is on the board of the Commonwealth Bank. Andrew Mohl's term as a director of Efic finished on 9 December this year.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: That is the only one?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I believe so. I will take that on notice and confirm—</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: In your letter it was plural, so perhaps you could take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I will.</p>			
76.	EFIC	Senator Rhiannon	SMEs	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Sorry: they were really useful figures; you are saying that that figure of \$576 million for your three transactions is incorrect, are you?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: No, I am not. I will repeat it for clarity. In the financial year that we are currently in, year to date, 31 January, we have done 130 transactions, and 120 were for SMEs; that is 92 per cent. By value, we have done \$133 million of transactions, and \$81 million was for SMEs; that is, 61 per cent. Coming back to the financial year that you were referring to, one transaction can distort the numbers. We have done 230 transactions, and 206 were for SMEs; that is 90 per cent. By value, 13 per cent of the transactions were for SMEs. So, one transaction can distort the numbers.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: [inaudible] Port Pirie?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: Port Pirie, correct—\$290 million.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: If you took that one out, what would be the value?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice rather than trying to do the maths on the spot. Perhaps I can give you a little flavour, because I know that what you are asking is, do we have an emphasis on large business or do we have an emphasis on SMEs? We have adapted our processes considerably in the last 18 months to reduce the administrative burden on small businesses applying for export finance at Efic. So we have introduced an accelerated execution process around our two primary products, which are working capital guarantees and bonds. We have reduced execution time on those transactions by 40 per cent. We estimate that that has saved the average small business that applies for a loan to Efic \$5,000. When you consider that the margins that these businesses operate on and the size of those businesses, that is a considerable saving. There are two other things we have done. We have also simplified our documentation to make it easier for SMEs to deal with us. We have hired two additional people in each of Perth, Melbourne and Brisbane for the sole purpose of originating SME transactions and helping small businesses. Seventy per cent of our origination staff at Efic are solely focused on small business.</p>	Page 116 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15

77.	EFIC	Senator Wong	EFIC - staffing	<p>Senator WONG: Most of my questions I can put on notice, but can you provide an overview of staff turnover and/or new jobs created at Efic, particularly referencing the expansion of SME teams in Melbourne, Perth and Brisbane?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice.</p>	Page 117 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
78.	EFIC	Senator Wong	SMEs	<p>Senator WONG: The strategic plan—and I think this was covered in part by a previous question—increases support to SMEs from 206 transactions to 300 in three years and 400 in four years.</p> <p>Mr Hunter: That is right.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Is there somewhere where we can look at the strategies to do that?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice, but we are specifically looking at targeting the very small end of the SME space and particularly developing an online strategy whereby we think that the SME part of our business is looking for that solution.</p>	Page 117 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
79.	EFIC	Senator Wong	EFIC - National interest account	<p>Senator WONG: You can probably give me an answer to this one now. What is the status of the national interest account?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: We have not undertaken any transactions on the national interest account during the course of this financial year, and I do not believe we undertook any in the last financial year, in terms of new transactions.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Are there any current proposals?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I will take that on notice, but I am not aware of any transactions in front of us on the national interest account.</p>	Page 117 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
80.	EFIC	Senator Wong	EFIC - Comparison with other export credit agencies	<p>Senator WONG: You stated in your submission to the Financial System Inquiry: While EFIC's volume of support fluctuates from year to year in response to movements in demand and private market capacity, EFIC's is one of the smallest ECAs in the OECD, and indeed a very modest ECA in relation to the broader ECA community. Nearly all are significantly larger than EFIC, even adjusting for the size of the economy and trade and investment flows. Could you please provide metrics comparing the size and scale of Efic and its operations to those of ECAs from other OECD and major non-OECD economies, including the number of employees, number of firms supported, number and value of transactions entered, value of exports supported and value of exports supported as a share of total exports of the relevant economy? Can you also, in doing so, provide any relevant comparative information relied upon? That is one.</p> <p>Mr Hunter: Yes, we will take that on notice.</p>	Page 118 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15

81.	EFIC	Senator Wong	Comparison with other export credit agencies	<p>Senator WONG: You also stated in your submission to that inquiry: EFIC has one of the narrowest operating mandates in the OECD.</p> <p>I think you have said that before in estimates. Could you please provide examples of how the operating mandates of other significant export credit agencies are wider than that of Efic? Can you please provide examples of products or services which other ECAs provide which are not provided by Efic?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I will take it on notice, but I can share with you one example, which is EDC in Canada—a completely competitive mandate. We do not compete with the private sector. That is one example of where our mandate is very narrow. I will give you a more fulsome answer on notice.</p>	Page 118 AE 26 Feb	12/05/15	14/05/15
82.	DFAT	Senator Bullock	International Planned Parenthood Federation	<p>Are you aware that according to its 2013 annual performance report, IPPF member associations contributed to 17 policy or legislative changes that increased access to legal abortion. Such actions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advocating with the Ministry of Islamic Affairs in the Maldives for the permissibility of abortion; and • advocating for medical abortions to be recognised under the guise of “menstrual regulation” in Bangladesh, where abortion is illegal. <p>Given that Australian development assistance funds given to IPPF go into pooled general funds isn’t it the case that Australian funds are being used in campaigns to make abortion legal in particular countries?</p>	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
83.	DFAT	Senator Bullock	International Planned Parenthood Federation	<p>Are you aware that the IPPF’s handbook, Comprehensive abortion care: Guidelines and tools for clinics, 2012, on page 27 provides instruction in the correct dosages for drug induced abortions up to 23 completed weeks of pregnancy? How does this instruction fit in with IPPF’s claim that “it has not provided abortions beyond 20 weeks gestation” in any country?</p>	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
84.	DFAT	Senator Bullock	International Planned Parenthood Federation	<p>Please provide copies of all correspondence from or to IPPF regarding abortions performed beyond 20 weeks gestation, performed for sex selection or performed under coercion by the State.</p>	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

85.	DFAT	Senator Ludwig	Speechwriting services	<p>Since the Minister took office in September 2013:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Has a full time staff member with responsibility for speech writing ever been allocated to the Minister's office? If yes, on what date did that staff member commence and cease employment in the Minister's office? Have private contractors ever been engaged to assist with speeches for the Minister? If yes, how much has been paid under such contracts in total and which firms were contacted? For what specific speeches have the contractors been engaged? Please provide an itemised list of speeches together with the cost for each speech. 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
86.	DFAT	Senator Whish-Wilson	Economic benefits of free trade agreements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Is DFAT in receipt of modelling of the projected economic impact – both individually and cumulatively – to the Australian economy as a result of the following recently completed bilateral trade agreements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA); Japan-Australia Economic Partnership Agreement (JAEPA); and Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA)? Is DFAT in receipt of modelling of the projected economic impact – both individually and cumulatively – to the Australian economy anticipated to result from the following yet-to-be-concluded multilateral/plurilateral trade deals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement; Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER); and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)? Is DFAT in receipt of modelling of the projected cumulative economic impact to the Australian economy anticipated to result from the above mentioned recently completed bilateral trade agreements and yet-to-be-concluded multilateral/plurilateral trade deals? In respect of all of the above recently completed bilateral trade agreements and yet-to-be-concluded multilateral/plurilateral trade deals, can DFAT provide detail and/or release the results of all of the above mentioned individual and cumulative economic impact models? 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
87.	DFAT	Senator Whish-Wilson	Local procurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Is DFAT able to provide any detail on the likely impact of the Trans-Pacific Partnership on state or local government procurement policy? Is DFAT able to provide any detail on the impact on state or local 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

			impacts of free-trade agreements	government procurement policy if Australia joins the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement?			
88.	DFAT	Senator Whish-Wilson	CAFTA - Labour mobility	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has a memorandum of understanding been signed with the Chinese Government as an addendum to the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement that includes labour mobility conditions? 2. Has the Government done any economic modelling regarding the impact on the Australian labour market of such an agreement? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, can the Government release the modelling? or b. If not, why not? 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
89.	DFAT	Senator Xenophon	Philippines	<p>Since a report released by Amnesty International released a report in December 2014, 'Above the Law: Police Torture in the Philippines', the Philippine Senate has opened an inquiry into the disturbing practices.</p> <p>As one of the Philippines' closest bilateral aid, diplomacy and security partners Australia has a key role to play in promoting human rights in the Philippines.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What specific measures is DFAT undertaking to assist the Philippines Government to comply with and strengthen its performance against the Convention Against Torture? 2. What offers of support has DFAT given to the Philippines' government to improve the training, governance and oversight and accountability of the police force? 3. How is Australia's aid program in the Philippines seeking to assist the Government and in particular its police force to uphold human rights? 4. In light of compelling evidence of torture by police in the Philippines, will Australia be reviewing its aid priorities in the Philippines with a view towards promoting greater oversight over and capacity and accountability in the police force to uphold human rights protections? Please outline what measures will be taken. 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
90.	DFAT	Senator Rice	LGBTI rights abuses in Russia	In light of ongoing reports of homophobic and transphobic attacks in Russia, has the government raised the issue of these reported abuses of LGBTI people in Russia?	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

91.	DFAT	Senator Brown	UNWTO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why did Australia join the UNWTO? 2. What were the key benefits of membership to UNWTO? 3. What was the annual membership cost of UNWTO each year of Australia's membership since it began? 4. What events has Australia participated in previously as a member of UNWTO? Please list all. 5. What is the rationale behind withdrawing from the organisation? 6. In Austrade's opinion, how will our withdrawal affect Tourism Research Australia, Tourism Australia, Austrade and the Australian tourism industry? 7. How will the withdrawal affected the ability of the Australian Government to partner with Pacific nations to deliver economic partnerships, such as the MOU between Carnival Australia and the Government of Vanuatu? 8. Which agencies currently rely on data supplied by the UNWTO for their tourism research? 9. Which research and data will Australia lose access to as a result of this decision? 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
92.	DFAT	Senator Brown	G'Day USA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will the next G'Day USA be held (please provide dates, venues, details) 2. Are further dates planned? If so, when? 3. How much funding is allocated to G'Day USA in each year over the forward estimates 4. How many staff are employed to work on the G'Day USA campaign 5. Please detail travel for all Government Ministers, MPs and personal staff to G'Day USA events in 2014 including expenditures on accommodation, travel, hospitality and any other expenses. 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
93.	DFAT	Senator Brown	Funding programs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the following details be provided for each discretionary grant program in the Minister's portfolio: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. name of the discretionary grant program; b. total funding on a year-by-year basis over the current forward estimates; c. committed funding on a year-by-year basis over the current forward estimates; d. contracted funding on a year-by-year basis over the current forward estimates; e. uncommitted funding on a year-by-year basis over the current 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<p>forward estimates;</p> <p>f. when the current round of funding is scheduled to cease; and</p> <p>g. how many rounds of funding are scheduled after the end of the current round.</p>			
94.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Mekong River Commission - Prior Consultation Process for the Don Sahong Dam	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the Department's understanding of the status of the Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA) process for the Don Sahong Dam? 2. As a key Development Partner to the Mekong River Commission, how does the Department plan to support the Mekong River Consultation in ensuring that the requests of neighbouring countries for an extension to the Prior Consultation process and further studies are adhered to by Laos? 3. Has the Department requested that the Lao Government carry out a transboundary impact assessment of the project or considered that the Australian Government should carry out its own assessment, considering that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Don Sahong Dam poses significant risks for the Mekong region's inland fisheries and food security, which may undermine DFAT's past development work in the countries of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam; and b. That no transboundary impact assessment has yet been carried out, despite requests from Laos' neighbours, meaning that significant gaps remain in understanding the possible upstream and downstream impacts of the project? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
95.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Mekong River Commission - Challenges to implementation of the Mekong River Commission's Prior	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As one of the primary funders of the Mekong River Commission's Mekong Integrated Water Resources Management program, which includes support for the implementation of the PNPCA process, what specific measures is the department taking to support the Mekong River Commission in strengthening or reforming the PNPCA process before future projects are submitted for review under the Prior Consultation process? 2. What steps is the department taking to monitor the development status of other Mekong mainstream dams? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

			Consultation Process				
96.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Mekong River Commission - Lower Sesan 2 Dam, Cambodia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given the ongoing concern from Mekong River Commission Development Partners, what is the department's position, including concerns, on the Lower Sesan 2 Dam? 2. Following the request from Mekong River Commission Development partners, what specifically is the department doing to encourage the Government of Cambodia to submit the Lower Sesan 2 Dam for Prior Consultation or reconsider their plans for the project's development? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
97.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Mekong River Commission - Disclosure of the project designs for the Xayaburi Dam	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In response to questions during the Senate's supplementary Budget Estimates on the 21st of November 2013, it was stated that the Government of Laos had agreed to provide details of the re-design to the MRC by mid-2014. What is the updated and current status of the final designs for the Xayaburi Dam? 2. Are you aware of whether the full re-designs have been provided to the MRC and whether a technical review of the re-design is being carried out to ensure the project's compliance with the MRC's Preliminary Design Guidance measures? May I have the details of where this process is up to, and any concerns expressed by any stakeholders or interests? 3. Has the department received the final designs for the redesign of the Xayaburi Dam, and when were they received? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, when are they expected to be lodged? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
98.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Mekong River Commission - Council Study	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the Mekong River Commission Summit held in April 2014, Mekong leaders called for a prioritisation of key studies underway to fill significant knowledge gaps in understanding the impacts of planned hydropower projects on the Lower Mekong mainstream. This includes the MRC Council study which was first proposed in 2011: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the updated and current status and timeline for the Council Study? b. What are the details of the department's involvement in the Council Study been to date? c. What measures will be taken by the Australian Government to ensure that the Council Study is an open and participatory process that entails meaningful opportunities for public consultation and engagement, and that the outcomes will be used by the MRC and 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				its member countries to inform future decision-making on the development of hydropower projects on the Mekong River?			
99.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Palestine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What advice do you provide to aid projects attempting to take building materials into Gaza to help restore buildings destroyed in the war in Gaza? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is it the case that the UN seeks approval from Israel once the requests for materials come in from Palestine or an aid agency applies to bring in building materials? 2. What is the government's position regarding Palestine's application to become a member of the International Criminal Court? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
100.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Global Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On 5 February 2015, the Minister for Foreign Affairs announced an additional \$15 million over three years for TB programs in Papua New Guinea. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What specific services will this additional funding provide? b. How will the impact of the additional services be measured? 2. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria has announced it is providing \$US18 million for a TB program in Papua New Guinea, working with World Vision Australia. Could the Department explain how the Global Fund-supported program will complement the Australian bilateral funding for TB in Papua New Guinea, and what are the arrangements for coordination between the Australian and Global Fund-supported programs? 3. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria has recently released its register of Unfunded Quality Demand. These are proposals worth \$US2 billion from different countries, which meet the Global Fund's criteria and cannot be funded from the 2014-2016 replenishment. The Register includes \$US204 million for 8 countries in our region (with the largest amounts for Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Pakistan and Cambodia). Given Australia's Global Fund pledge for 2014 to 2016 flat-lined at \$200 million (and the overall replenishment shortfall was \$US2.7 billion) is the Australian Government considering making a contribution to the Global Fund to assist in covering this additional demand? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
101.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Bougainville	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What funding has been earmarked for Bougainville in the financial year 2014/15? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. May I have details of this funding broken down according to purpose, such as infrastructure, human rights, mining, agriculture, 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<p>fisheries?</p> <p>2. Over the 2014/15 period what meetings have been held between Department staff and Adam Smith International, relating to Bougainville? Please include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Event/purpose b. Dates c. Location d. Government staff and other personnel involved e. Outcomes <p>3. Over the 2014/15 period what meetings have Department staff held with Rio Tinto officials, including its subsidiary Bougainville Copper Limited, relating to its Bougainville interests. Please include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Event/purpose b. Dates c. Location d. Government staff and other personnel involved e. Outcomes <p>4. Over the 2014/15 period what meetings have Department staff held with land-owning communities in the Panguna mine area: Please include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Event/purpose b. Dates c. Location d. Government staff and other personnel involved e. Outcomes <p>5. Considering the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade states in the report 'Australian aid: promoting prosperity, reducing poverty, enhancing stability', that it will 'contribute to peace-building initiatives in conflict-affected areas to address long-standing grievances and other drivers of conflict', and that there now exists persuasive evidence, including admissions from company executives corroborated by internal corporate records, that the Rio Tinto subsidiary, Bougainville Copper Limited, was directly involved in facilitating serious human rights abuses during the Bougainville conflict (see the published research of Dr Kristian Lasslett):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the Government's consideration that these developments remain a potential source of instability? b. What steps has the Department made, or will the Department make, to support victims of human rights abuses associated with the BCL? 			
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

				<p>c. What actions is the Department taking in Bougainville to ‘contribute to peace-building initiatives in conflict-affected areas to address long-standing grievances and other drivers of conflict’?</p> <p>6. A 2013 UN study ("Why Do Some Men Use Violence Against Women and How Can We Prevent It? Quantitative Findings from the UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific") raised serious concerns over elevated levels of violence against women on Bougainville. There is a considerable literature supporting the contention that violence against women is often significantly elevated following armed conflict owing to legacies of trauma and violence:</p> <p>a. What steps has the Australian government taken in cooperation with the Autonomous Bougainville Government, to address the UN findings?</p> <p>b. What progress has been made in Bougainville following the Department responding to the elevated levels of violence against women?</p>			
102.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	PNG - aid funding	<p>1. How much of the 14/15 aid budget to PNG will be spent in the categories (from your website http://dfat.gov.au/geo/papua-new-guinea/development-assistance/Pages/papua-new-guinea.aspx) of Law & Justice, and Governance?</p> <p>2. How much of the aid budget to PNG from 2010 – 2014 was spent on Law & Justice, and Governance?</p> <p>3. Is the \$420 million for the PNG Australia Joint Understanding on Further Bilateral Cooperation on health, education law and order in addition to the annual aid budget of \$577 million?</p> <p>4. What period does the Joint Understanding funding cover?</p> <p>5. How much, by department, is spent on/in PNG (including DFAT, DIBP, Attorney General’s Office, Department of Defence)?</p>	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
103.	EFIC	Senator Rhiannon	EFIC	<p>1. In the Productivity Commission Inquiry Report on Australia’s Export Credit Arrangements it is stated [page 303] <i>“These provisions are problematic; because they are very broad, conceivably covering any transaction in the supply chain. They create the risk of EFIC supporting projects and firms that are increasingly remote from the original export focus of the EFIC Act ... ”</i></p> <p>a. How has EFIC responded to this criticism?</p> <p>b. Did you reject or agree with this criticism?</p>	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Have you reassessed your involvement with local projects in light of these criticisms? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. On page 304 of this report it is noted that EFIC has claimed to have received legal advice about section 23 of the EFIC Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is this legal advice publicly available? If not why not? b. Would this legal advice be exempted under the special FOI provision that applies to EFIC? On what grounds? 3. What is EFIC’s response to the statement on page 305 “... <i>the Commission has not found convincing evidence to indicate there are failures in financial markets that impede access to debt or equity finance for large firms, or for domestic resource projects and related infrastructure.</i>” 			
104.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Kangaroo Export Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I have previously been provided with an excel spreadsheet listing details of exports of all kangaroo products, including: by product, country, financial value and quantity/unit. May I please have that updated data, from 2012 until current? 2. May I please have the above details for the US state of California since 2010? <p><i>Note this question has also been lodged with Department of Environment</i></p>	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
105.	DFAT	Senator Rhiannon	Manus Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much money from the aid program/DFAT is being spent on Manus Island, and may I have the details of expenditure and programs? 2. Are there any Australian aid advisors stationed on Manus Island – how many and what is the budget attached? 3. Is the Red Cross paid for on Manus Island through the aid program or DIBP? 4. Have there been any reviews of the Australian aid program/aid funded projects on Manus Island? May I have details or copies of those reviews and findings? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
106.	DFAT	Senator Wong	China Australia Free Trade Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. With reference to the statement by the Prime Minister on 17 November 2014 announcing “the completion of negotiations for a China-Australia Free Trade Agreement” – why is the text of the agreement still secret. b. Can a copy of the following documents be provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The “Declaration of Intent to work towards signature of 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

				<p>the Agreement” signed by the Governments of Australia and China at Parliament House on 17 November 2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Memorandum of Understanding relating to Investment Facilitation Agreements iii. All other agreements or memoranda of understanding associated with ChAFTA iv. The draft text of ChAFTA <p>2. Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the status of the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. How many meetings between Australian and Chinese officials relating to this agreement have been held since the announced conclusion of negotiations. Please provide details of dates, locations, attendees, outcomes and costs. ii. When and where will the agreement be signed. <p>3. Economic Modelling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. With reference to Supplementary Budget Estimates question no. 101 (8) relating to whether ChAFTA will be assessed by economic modelling or other measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Has the Government commissioned any modelling or other assessment measure. If so, can details, including the outcome of the modelling assessment be provided. ii. Has the Government decided not to commission modelling or related study/measure. If so, why. b. Has the Government had regard to the recommendations of the Productivity Commission related to economic modelling both before, during and after negotiations on FTAs. If so, how. If not, why not. <p>4. Safety Standards, Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Does ChAFTA contain any obligations or commitments relating to health and safety of imported Chinese goods. If so, what are they, and what sanctions or other remedies are available to Australia for breach of these obligations or commitments. b. Does the ISDS provision in ChAFTA permit a foreign company to 			
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

				<p>take action against Australia for imposing laws or regulations relating to food and product safety.</p> <p>c. Are provisions in ChAFTA related to Chinese food imports and Australian food exports the same. If not, what are the differences.</p> <p>5. Investment</p> <p>a. With reference to the introduction of a lower cumulative foreign investment review threshold for investment in agricultural land and a proposed lower threshold for agribusiness:</p> <p>i. Why are thresholds lower for Chinese investors than United States investors.</p> <p>6. ISDS</p> <p>a. Were ISDS provisions included in ChAFTA at the request of Australia or China.</p> <p>b. Please outline the ISDS provisions, including so-called safeguards and carve outs.</p> <p>c. How do the ISDS provisions in ChAFTA compare to ISDS provisions in the Korea Australia Free Trade Agreement. If they are different, what is the difference and why.</p> <p>7. Labour market testing</p> <p>a. With reference to the answer to Supplementary Budget Estimates questions no. 67 and no.101(26) relating to the Prime Minister's public statements on labour market testing:</p> <p>i. Has the Government retained labour market testing for Chinese workers or provided exemptions to testing in ChAFTA. If exemptions have been provided, please provide details.</p> <p>b. Can a comparison of labour market testing obligations relating to contractual services suppliers be provided for each of Australia's trade agreements.</p> <p>8. Movement of Natural Persons</p> <p>a. What categories of persons will be provided with (a) access to Australia and (b) access to China. Can a definition of each category of persons be provided. If there are differences in the</p>			
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

				<p>treatment of Chinese citizens seeking to enter Australia and Australian citizens seeking to enter China, can the differences be identified and explained.</p> <p>b. How do the categories of persons provided with access to Australia relate to the 457 skills occupation list. Will Chinese “contractual service providers” and “installers” also need to be providers or installers of listed occupations. If not, why not.</p> <p>c. What specific categories of Chinese workers qualify as “installers and servicers” under ChAFTA and qualify for stays up to 3 months. What type of work would these workers perform that cannot be performed by Australian installers and servicers.</p> <p>d. What specific categories of Australian workers qualify as “installers and maintainers” for the purposes of ChAFTA. How many Australians are likely to benefit from employment or related opportunities in China.</p> <p>e. Has Australia and/or China made any commitments under WTO/GATTs relating to the category “installers and servicers”. If so, please outline those commitments.</p> <p>f. How will the number and impact of the movement of natural persons be tracked, reported and assessed.</p> <p>9. Labour provisions – consultation</p> <p>a. Can consultation with (a) business representatives and (b) labour representatives related to movement of natural persons provisions and other labour issues in ChAFTA be outlined, including the dates of these consultations.</p> <p>b. Which (a) business representatives and (b) labour representatives have been provided with access to sections of draft or final parts of ChAFTA . In each case, when were draft or final texts provided.</p> <p>10. Intellectual Property</p> <p>a. What Intellectual Property provisions are included in ChAFTA.</p> <p>i. Can provisions related to national treatment, enforcement, border measures, geographical indications and cooperation be outlined.</p>			
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Do any of the Intellectual Property provisions require Australian laws to be amended. If so, which laws, and what amendments will be proposed. c. Has the Government assessed the economic impact of the Intellectual Property provisions in ChAFTA. If so, what is the impact. <p>11. Auto and Manufacturing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Are there provisions in ChAFTA that will affect Australia’s auto, auto component, and manufacturing sectors. If so, which provisions, and how will these industries be affected. <p>12. Competition Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the new rules relating to competition policy under ChAFTA. b. Noting the departmental fact sheet that states “Australian and Chinese Competition authorities” will promote cooperation “through the exchange of information, consultation and the notification and coordination of enforcement activities” – can the nature of the proposed cooperation, including the specific types of information proposed to be shared, be outlined. <p>13. Government Procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Can the department confirm that ChAFTA contains a commitment to negotiate a reciprocal agreement on government procurement after the completion of China’s negotiations to join the WTO Government Procurement Agreement. If so, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. When is this anticipated to occur. ii. What will be the nature and form of the “reciprocal agreement”. <p>14. Given that the Chinese government is the largest consumer in China of Australian goods and services, what assessment has been made of the impact of a reciprocal agreement.</p> <p>15. Three Year Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Can the three year review mechanism in ChAFTA be outlined. b. Are there any other review mechanisms. 			
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

				<p>16. Most Favoured Nations (MFN)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Can the MFN provisions in ChAFTA be outlined. b. How would ChAFTA, including any MFN provision, relate to a concluded Trans-Pacific Partnership to which Australia was a party. <p>17. Behind the Border Barriers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the key non-tariff barriers experienced by Australian business seeking to export goods and services to China. b. How does ChAFTA address these barriers to trade. <p>18. Impact</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What impact will the implementation of ChAFTA have on Australian GDP and jobs over the next (a) 5, (b) 10 and (c) 15 years. b. What is the likely diversionary impact of ChAFTA on other export markets over the next (a) 5 (b) 10 and (c) 15 years. 			
107.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Korea Australia Free Trade Agreement	Can a copy be provided of the available English translations of parts of the economic impact assessment of KAFTA tabled in the Korean National Assembly.	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
108.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Japan Australia Economic Partnership Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How will the economic impact of JAEPA be monitored over the coming years, including for goods, services and movement of people. 2. When is the first review under JAEPA. What will it relate to. 3. Do the inclusion of ISDS provisions in the proposed China-Australia Free Trade Agreement have any implications for JAEPA. If so, please outline the implications. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
109.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Australia-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the proposed timeframe for the conclusion of negotiations on an Australia-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement. 2. In relation to the 6th Round of negotiations held in New Delhi on 18-19 December 2014: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who attended. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

			on Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. What chapters were negotiated. Were any closed. c. What were the key outcomes. d. What related costs were incurred. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. When and where are the next formal and informal meetings planned for 2015. 4. What are the sensitive negotiation topics or sectors for (a) Australia and (b) India. 			
110.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Were the November 2014 talks in Jakarta relating to this agreement the formal 3rd round of negotiations. If not what were the status of these talks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who attended these talks. b. What were the key outcomes. c. What related costs were incurred. 2. When and where are future meetings planned in relation to these negotiations. 3. What are the anticipated key sensitive topics or sectors that will impact on these negotiations. 4. What is timeframe for conclusion of negotiations. 5. Has Australia been advised that Indonesia intends to terminate investment agreements containing Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions. If so, when and how was Australia advised. Would the termination of agreements containing ISDS provisions have any impact on Australian agreements with Indonesia, including the 1993 agreement concerning the promotion and protection of investments. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
111.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Australia-Gulf Cooperation Council Free Trade Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the status of the negotiations on this agreement. 2. What costs have been incurred in relation to negotiations since 18 September 2014. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

112.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With reference to Supplementary Budget Estimates question no. 106 (1), which TPP chapters are now concluded and which are still subject to negotiation. 2. Will the TPP include enforceable labour and environmental standards. If so: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the standards. b. How will compliance be monitored. c. What enforcement mechanisms are being considered. 3. Are currency manipulation provisions being negotiated in the TPP. If so: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is Australia's attitude to the inclusion of these provisions. b. What would be the impact of these provisions on Australia. c. Are currency manipulation provisions included in any other trade or investment agreements to which Australia is a party. 4. How will State-Owned Entities be treated in the TPP. 5. With reference to the statement in the department's TPP overview document that "Australia is seeking strong investment protections in the TPP": <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is the Abbott Government seeking the inclusion of ISDS provisions in the TPP. If not, what other "strong investment protections" is Australia seeking. b. Would the inclusion of ISDS provisions in the TPP have any impact on Australia's obligations in relation to other trade and investment agreements. 6. With reference to the statement in the department's TPP overview document that: "Australia is seeking commitments to enable short-term business visitors, intra-corporate transferees, certain independent executives and contractual service suppliers to enter and stay temporarily in TPP Parties": <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Can "certain independent executives" and "contractual service suppliers" be defined. b. Will Australia reserve policy space for labour market testing. 7. In relation to Government Procurement, is the Government seeking to reserve policy space for local and Indigenous content as well as 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
------	------	--------------	-------------------------------------	---	---------	----------	----------

				<p>exemptions for security and sensitive national interest projects?</p> <p>8. Will Australia enter into an agreement that adversely affects the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme in any way.</p> <p>9. With reference to the statement in the department's TPP overview document that: "there are still a number of difficult issues to resolve, including pharmaceutical IP":</p> <p>a. What are the difficult issues.</p> <p>10. With reference to the statement in the department's TPP overview document that: "Once the TPP has entered into force it will co-exist with existing free trade agreements":</p> <p>a. How will the TPP and existing FTAs "co-exist".</p> <p>b. Which agreement will apply in the case of any inconsistency.</p> <p>11. With reference to the answer to Supplementary Budget Estimates question no. 106(9) which provides that costs for TPP negotiations for the FY2014-2015 to 31 December 2014 were \$743,159.65:</p> <p>a. What are the current costs for FY2014-2015.</p> <p>b. Can a breakdown of costs be provided.</p> <p>12. Has the Government commissioned any modelling in relation to the TPP. If so, who has been commissioned, what is the cost, and what is the outcome of modelling work to date.</p> <p>13. Will the TPP affect in any way current and future domestic regulatory requirements related to the storage of data, including personal health and financial data.</p> <p>14. Will TPP provisions related to unrestricted data flows require the amendment of, or exemptions to, Australian privacy laws or any other laws, or will they restrict any future amendments.</p> <p>15. How will TPP provisions related to the free flow of information interact with the Government's proposed Telecommunications Sector Security Reform (TSSR) laws to establish more direct and stringent domestic network supervision.</p>			
113.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Regional Comprehensive	1. In relation to the 6th RCEP negotiation round held in India in December 2014:	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

			Economic Partnership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What were the key outcomes from these meetings. b. Where any chapters substantially progressed. If so, which ones. c. Who attended these meetings and what were the department's costs. d. What sensitive issues remain. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. When and where are the next negotiating and Ministerial RCEP meetings. 3. Are the negotiations on track for conclusion by the end of the year. 			
114.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the status of negotiations on the FTAAP. 2. Why has the agreement not been assigned its own page under "Trade Agreements" on DFAT's website unlike other agreements subject to negotiation. 3. What FTAAP related meetings held since November 2014. Where were they held, who attended, what were the key outcomes. 4. When and where are the next meetings relating to the FTAAP. 5. What are the department costs for the past financial year relating to the FTAAP. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
115.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (PACER Plus)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the status of negotiations on this agreement. 2. Are labour mobility and development assistance sensitive issues in the negotiations. 3. Can details of the negotiations in March 2015 be provided, including costs. 4. With reference to the answer to Supplementary Budget Estimates question no. 109 which provided that the agreement was a "high priority": 5. Is the "high priority" reflected in the resources dedicated to concluding the negotiations. 6. Noting the Prime Minister's willingness to nominate a date for concluding other "high priority agreements", what is the nominated date for concluding negotiations on this agreement. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
116.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Indian Ocean Rim Association	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What progress has been made on priority issues for IORA since the 14th annual Council of Ministers Meeting in Perth in October 2014. 2. When does Australia's role as chair end. 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

			on	3. When and where are the next formal meetings of IORA.			
117.	DFAT	Senator Wong	WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What action will Australia need to take to implement the agreement. What is the timetable for this action. 2. Does Australia have, or require, a national trade facilitation body. 3. Are there WTO meetings scheduled in relation to this agreement this year. If so, please provide details. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
118.	DFAT	Senator Wong	WTO Doha Round	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With reference to the WTO General Council meeting on 20 February 2015 and the call from the Director-General for members to be “much more focused and more interactive” in developing a work programme to conclude the Doha Round: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How has Australia responded. b. What is the status of the Doha Round. c. When was the last ministerial meeting of the Cairns Group. When is the next ministerial meeting of the Cairns Group. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
119.	DFAT	Senator Wong	WTO – subsidies	Is the transparency of foreign subsidies a matter of concern to the Government. What action has the Government taken, including in WTO fora, to address this issue.	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
120.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Trade in Services Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the status of the negotiations on this agreement. 2. Is there a target date for the conclusion of negotiations. If so, what is that date. 3. How will public services be treated. What safeguards are proposed. 4. What are current proposals on “patient mobility”. Will those proposals have an impact on Australians receiving medical treatment. 5. Will the TPP and TiSA be consistent with each other in relation to trade in services. 6. In the event of a conflict, which agreement will prevail. 7. In relation to the recent 10th round of negotiations on TiSA held in the United States from 9-13 February 2015: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who attended for Australia. b. What were the key outcomes. c. What are the key sticking points. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

				<p>d. What costs did the department incur.</p> <p>8. In relation to the scheduled 11th round of negotiations on TiSA to be held in Switzerland from 13-17 April 2015:</p> <p>a. Who will attend for Australia.</p>			
121.	DFAT	Senator Wong	WTO Agreement on Environmental Goods	<p>1. Can a status update on negotiations on the Agreement on Environmental Goods be provided.</p> <p>2. In relation to the next round of negotiations to be held in Geneva between 16-20 March 2015:</p> <p>a. Who will attend for Australia?</p>	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
122.	DFAT	Senator Wong	WTO Government Procurement Agreement	<p>1. Noting the call for submissions from interested parties to inform Government consideration of accession to the GPA:</p> <p>a. How many submissions were received.</p> <p>b. Who made submissions.</p> <p>c. What issues were raised.</p> <p>d. When and where will the submissions be published.</p> <p>2. With reference to the claim on the department's website that the revised GPA that entered into force on 6 April 2014 makes accession to the GPA "more beneficial" to Australia: Why. Can the additional benefits be outlined.</p> <p>3. With reference to the claim on the department's website that Australia's existing laws and measures make Australia "already substantially compliant with the GPA": In relation to which matters is Australia not compliant. What action, including legislative action, is required to make Australia compliant.</p> <p>4. Has the Government made a decision to accede to the GPA. If so, when.</p> <p>5. Can the process for acceding to the GPA be described.</p> <p>6. What GPA-related meetings have Australian representatives attended since 18 September 2013. Who attended each meeting, and what costs have been incurred.</p>	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
123.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Asia Pacific	<p>1. How has Australia engaged with APEC since 18 September 2013.</p> <p>2. Has responsibility for Australia's Economic Committee in APEC been</p>	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

			Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum	<p>moved from Treasury to DFAT?</p> <p>a. If so, why and which staff are responsible.</p>			
124.	DFAT	Senator Wong	G20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What action items from the 2014 G20 Summit are the responsibility of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. 2. What progress has been made on these items. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
125.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Trade disputes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to which WTO disputes is Australia a party. What is the status of each dispute. 2. In relation to which international arbitrations is Australia a party. What is the status of each arbitration. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
126.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Departmental matters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why was the DFAT website redeveloped. What total costs were incurred. 2. Has there been any reallocation of internal functions in the department since 18 September 2013. If so, can the revised arrangements and associated costs be outlined. 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
127.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Departmental expenses for trade functions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With reference to page 29 of the Portfolio Budget Statement 2014-15 for the Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio which shows estimated administered expenses for Programme 1.1 of \$135,391,000 for 2014-15: what proportion of these expenses are devoted primarily to trade operations. 2. With reference to page 29 of the Portfolio Budget Statement 2014-15 for the Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio which shows estimated departmental expenses for Programme 1.1 of \$610,995,000 for 2014-15: what proportion of these expenses are devoted primarily to trade operations. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
128.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Departmental programs	With reference to the Portfolio Budget Statement 2014-15 for the Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio, which programmes apart from Programme 1.1 include operations or functions which are substantially related to trade. Please provide details of those trade operations or functions performed by the Department under these programmes.	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

129.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Foreign trade barriers	With reference to the US Trade Representative's annual National Trade Estimates Report on Foreign Trade Barriers, does the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade compile similar information and analysis of trade barriers imposed on Australia by foreign countries. If so, in what form. If not, why not.	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
130.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Appointments	<p>1. For all appointments to boards, authorities and advisory committees made by the Minister for Trade personally or by a delegate or agent of the Minister since 18 September 2013 provide the following details:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> name of person appointed; title of position; name of board, authority or advisory committee; appointment start date; appointment expiry date; selection process; and remuneration. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
131.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Investor-State Dispute Settlement	<p>1. Can a list be provided of all current trade and investment agreements or treaties to which Australia is a party which include Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions.</p> <p>2. For each agreement, please indicate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the parties to the agreement; when negotiations for the agreement were finalised; when the agreement entered into force; whether the agreement's original ISDS provisions have been renegotiated since the agreement entered into force and, if they have, the date or dates on which the original ISDSS provisions were modified. 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
132.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ebola - Aspen Medical ETC	<p>1. Is the Aspen ETC expected to continue operations indefinitely?</p> <p>2. What are the up dated figures on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Total number of patients admitted Total number of patients treated for Ebola and released Total number of patients who did not have Ebola and were released Total number of patients deceased 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. What is the updated current number of operational beds? 4. Besides running the centre itself, has Aspen Medical provided any other services in Sierra Leone such as surveillance, health promotion, education, or rapid response teams performing services outside the centre? 5. What were the salaries they were offering Australian/New Zealand workers? 6. How did those salaries compare to those they were offering local workers? 7. Did Aspen follow guidelines on remuneration specifically in regard to the difference between local and expatriate wages? 8. Did Aspen seek guidelines from UNMEER or from the Sierra Leone government on remuneration for workers? 			
133.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Innovation Hub	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have external consultants or new hires been brought in to work on the hub? 2. If not, was it formally determined that DFAT had sufficient internal capacity to be more innovative? 3. How was this decision made? 4. If yes, how much was spent on recruiting? 5. How many new hires? 6. Are these new staff more valuable to the department than the career AusAID executives with decades of aid expertise? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
134.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Contracts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which agencies/partners currently hold contracts with DFAT? 2. What is the value of each of those contracts? 3. When is each contract due to expire or up for renewal? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
135.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Quantity of aid cuts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As part of the 2014 MYEFO, the Government announced \$1 billion in cuts from Australia's aid program in FY2015-16, and a further \$1.3 billion in FY2016-17 and \$1.4 billion in FY2017-18. This means that in FY2016-17, Australia's aid as a share of its gross national income will reach 0.22 percent. 2. Can the Department confirm that this is the lowest ever level of aid as a percentage of GNI that Australia has ever given? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				3. Is this the least generous Australia has ever been?			
136.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Impact to Australia's national interest and diplomatic ties	<p>1. Has the Department made any assessment of the impacts of a 20 to 40 percent cut to the aid program on the effectiveness of Australia's aid program and Australia's international relationships?</p> <p>a. What criteria are being used to determine where cuts will be made?</p> <p>b. What impact will these cuts have on Australia's relationships with the Governments and peoples of East Asia, Middle East and North Africa, the Pacific, South and West Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America?</p> <p>2. Can the Department name the Governments with which the Department has initiated dialogue regarding the 20 to 40 percent cuts and what has the response been?</p> <p>a. If no, why not?</p> <p>b. When does the Department intend to inform relevant Governments that Australian aid will be cut?</p> <p>3. Is the Department going to cut Australian aid to UN agencies like UNDP, UNICEF, OCHA, WFP, UNHCR?</p> <p>a. If so, what impact will the cuts have on Australia's diplomatic capacity through the UN?</p> <p>4. Given the integrated nature of the Department and the links the Government has made between aid, diplomacy and trade in its economic diplomacy framework – what impact will the drastic and immediate cuts to aid have on the Government's diplomatic capacity and its economic diplomacy framework?</p>	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
137.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Breaking commitments to aid partners and country governments	<p>1. Will the Department have to break contracts and agreements mid-stream with partner governments and aid delivery partners as a result of cuts?</p> <p>a. If yes, can the Department specify which programs in which countries will be cut?</p> <p>b. If no, does that mean all existing programs will be allowed to continue?</p> <p>2. What is the expenditure associated with cutting aid programs prior to completion? Does the Department anticipate having to provide</p>	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				compensation to its aid partners/contractors for the breaking of existing contracts?			
138.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Aid transparency and predictability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minister Bishop has publicly emphasised the importance of a predictable aid program – what mechanisms will the Department put in place to ensure a predictable aid program? 2. When will the Department release detailed information about which programs in which countries will be cut? 3. Will the Department issue a Blue Book for aid in the next budget? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, why not? 4. Australia is a signatory to the IATI (International Aid Transparency Initiative). Currently, the Department only releases some information on bilateral aid to the IATI. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is the Government fulfilling its commitment under IATI? b. Will the Department release all aid information to IATI as required under the agreement? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
139.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Gender	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The most recent Performance Report of the Australian Aid Program looked at whether the Government was achieving each of the 10 targets it set out for itself in its aid policy. Can the Department outline which of the targets are on track? 2. Is the gender target on track? 3. In relation to the gender target - having 80 per cent of programs focus on gender, what were some of the obstacles outlined to reaching that target? 4. So does gender programming require more aid investment? Is it the Department's assessment that the gender goal can be reached without more investment in gender, say specifically in the area of aid for trade where the report notes there are challenges and programs need to be improved? 5. How can this happen when 20% of the entire aid budget is being cut? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
140.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Economic diplomacy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the measurable objectives of the Government's economic diplomacy policy? 2. What are the deadlines/targets for these objectives? 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

141.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Restructure of DFAT and AusAID merger	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate knowledge <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How has the Department ensured transfer of knowledge where staff have left? b. How much has the Department spent on consultants to ensure knowledge transfer? 2. How large is the backlog of former AusAid staff requiring Security Clearances to perform their duties at DFAT? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What level of clearance is required? b. How many former AusAid staff have been cleared? c. How many remain under consideration? 3. DFAT's divided locations <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Budget QoN #408 – there were two branches which were split across the two DFAT office locations as of June with no finalised plan for whether they would be moved back together. Are they still split? Is this permanent? Has there been feedback from staff on how this affects their ability to work effectively as a team? 4. IT spend <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The expected spend on the department's IT integration was \$850k – is this still the case? 5. Overseas posts <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the expected number of embassies and high commissions that will be merged with other? b. What is the expected number of embassies and high commissions to close? c. What is the expected reduction in staff numbers in overseas posts? d. What is the reason for the delay to co-locating our diplomatic presence in Baghdad with the UK? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. What is the breakdown of the cost of the delay (\$12.9 million) in the current budget? ii. When is the relocation expected to be complete? e. What is the breakdown of costs associated with the operation of the interim embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine? f. How many staff are engaged in the operation of the embassy? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
------	------	--------------	---------------------------------------	---	---------	----------	----------

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> g. Will that number be reduced between now and September 2015? h. What are the functions undertaken by the embassy? i. Is September 2015 still the expected timeframe for the embassy's closure? <p>6. Which Ambassador and High Commissioner postings were replaced in 2014?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who was appointed to each post? <p>7. Which Ambassador and High Commissioner postings will be due for new personnel in 2015?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which individuals have been appointed already? b. Which individuals are being considered for posts later this year? <p>8. How much has the department spent on consultants to assist with the merging of the two departments?</p> <p>9. What are the costs of phone bills for Ministerial offices since 18 September 2013?</p> <p>10. Does the department provide local sim-cards for ministerial staff when they travel to reduce data and phone costs?</p> <p>11. How much money in grants, purchases for services or similar has the government given in the last 12 months to think-tanks, universities and similar?</p> <p>12. How much of this has come from the aid budget?</p>			
142.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Media and social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many media staff does the department have? 2. How many media staff are located in missions and embassies? 3. Are there any staff with a specific responsibility (along with other duties) for social media either in Canberra or in embassies and missions? What is the total cost of these staff? 4. Does the Minister's office ever censor or edit the tweets and social media of the department? 5. Do any of the ministers offices ever direct staff to mention the Minister's personal twitter 'handle' in tweets? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
143.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Cleaners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are the cleaners working in DFAT still facing job uncertainty? 2. Is this a violation of the terms of the contract with the existing cleaners? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Has the tender process for a new contract been completed? 4. Will a future contract make a change in order to reduce cleaners' job uncertainty? 			
144.	DFAT	Senator Wong	DFAT Bargaining Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the APSC finalised its approval of DFAT "financial estimates and the Department's proposed bargaining position"? 2. If not, what is the expected timeline? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
145.	DFAT	Senator Wong	CNY message in <i>The Australian</i>	<p>With reference to an advertisement that appeared in the 14 February 2015 edition of <i>The Weekend Australian</i> with the Foreign Minister's picture on it:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who paid for the ad? 2. Was the ad approved by the FMO? 3. Did the Minister endorse the message? 4. Did the Minister approve the use of her photograph? 5. Who is Gloria Guo Zou? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
146.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Cambodia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With reference to Budget QoN #27 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Has Minister Bishop met with these Ministers again since February? 2. Australia is providing \$40 million in development assistance for Cambodia to upgrade its ability to export rice and introduce electoral reform. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide more information on these programs. b. Who are the partners? c. What is the objective? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
147.	DFAT	Senator Wong	50 th Munich Security Conference	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was Australia's official involvement at the 50th Munich Security Conference, held from 31 January to 2 February 2014. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Did any Australian Ministers attend? b. Did any former Australian Prime Ministers attend? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
148.	DFAT	Senator Wong	India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On 4-5 September 2014 the Prime Minister visited India with a delegation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who were the members of the Australian delegation? b. How many cricketers were in the delegation? c. Of those members which were business representatives, which 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15

				<p>were political representatives and, which were government employees?</p> <p>d. How was each member invited and on what basis was their invitation issued?</p> <p>e. What were the costs associated with each delegate's participation and how were they covered?</p> <p>2. On the week of 12-16 January 2015 Trade and Investment Minister Andrew Robb visited India with a delegation of approximately 450 members:</p> <p>a. Who were the members of the Australian delegation?</p> <p>b. How many cricketers were in the delegation?</p> <p>c. Of those members which were business representatives, which were political representatives and, which were government employees?</p> <p>d. How was each member invited and on what basis was their invitation issued?</p> <p>e. What were the costs associated with each delegate's participation and how were they covered?</p>			
149.	DFAT	Senator Wong	PNG	<p>1. What is the cost of Security for 2018 APEC meeting in Papua New Guinea?</p> <p>a. Which budget will these funds be allocated under?</p> <p>b. Which agencies will be involved?</p> <p>2. Is PNG on track to meet most of the millennium development goals? If not, why not?</p> <p>3. How are Australian investments helping in areas to reach the MDGs?</p> <p>4. What are some of the results of Australian aid programming in PNG, for example in supporting women's empowerment?</p> <p>5. The recent Performance Report of Australian Aid committed the Government to spending 30 per cent of investments in PNG on private-sector led growth initiatives.</p> <p>a. Can the Department explain what this means?</p> <p>b. What sorts of investments will this include?</p>	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Given the recent budget cuts, will there be any additional money for PNG? 7. How does the Department intend to ensure the investments in private sector led growth benefit the poorest people? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What concrete actions will the Department take to ensure this? 8. How will the Department be complementing these investments with ensuring private-sector led growth in PNG is also respectful of human rights and natural resources? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What safeguards will be put in place alongside these investments? 9. How much of the 30% of investment in private-sector led growth in PNG will go towards investments in safeguards and building a private sector that respects human rights? 			
150.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Banking and aid	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is DFAT giving official development assistance (ODA) funds to any of the ANZ bank, Commonwealth Bank, National Australia Bank or Westpac? 2. If not, where does the \$500,000 that the ANZ has stated (on 15 August at the JSCFADT) is being paid to them by DFAT come from? 3. If so, can the Department please provide details of the total amount of ODA paid and the frequency of payments for each bank receiving ODA funds? 4. Can the Department also provide details of any future payments that have been agreed to and the time frames for these? 5. If these payments are from ODA funds, did DFAT enter into any discussions with these institutions prior to signing the MOUs about their human rights policies and practices? What was the nature of these discussions? 6. What are the other conversations have DFAT had about the requirements for these institutions to meet, as part of discussions on becoming a recipient of ODA? 7. Provide details of any MOUs associated (date of commencement, counties covered by the agreement). 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
151.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Ambassador or for Women	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Natasha Stott Despoja was appointed the Ambassador for Women and Girls in December 2013. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What activities has she undertaken since her appointment? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

			and Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. What is the value or purpose of each activity? c. Which foreign governments and international organisation has she engaged with? d. What has the outcome of each of these engagements been to date? e. What international travel has she undertaken since her appointment? f. What was the nature and purpose of each occasion of international travel? g. What were the outcomes of each occasion of international travel? h. What are the costs associated with all of her duties? 			
152.	DFAT	Senator Wong	UNGA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many departmental officials travelled to the United Nations General Assembly Leaders week in 2014? And 2013? 2. How many Ministers travelled to the United Nations General Assembly Leaders week in 2014? And 2013? 3. How many rooms did the department book? 4. What was the cheapest room? 5. What was the most expensive? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
153.	DFAT	Senator Wong	United Nations Climate Change Conference 2015 (Paris, France – December)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2015 is a significant year for international cooperation and action with UN negotiations on the Sustainable Development Goals, Development Finance and a Framework Convention on Climate Change. Can the Department confirm that the Government has pledged \$200 million to the UN's Green Climate Fund to support developing countries to reduce their emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change. Has this been paid? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What further steps is Australia taking to ensure international agreements on climate change, sustainable development, and development finance are addressing the needs of developing countries, particularly our neighbours in the Pacific region? 2. Given that DFAT is responsible for international work on climate change, can the Department outline the process and timing for the PMC taskforce that is developing the Government's climate change commitments for the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2015 in Paris in December 2015? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Is there a paper for consultation? When this will be released and will it be a public consultation? 4. If not public, can the Department advise who will be consulted and why this is not a public consultation? 5. Who from the Government will attend the United Nations Climate Change Conference? Will Minister Bishop be chaperoned again this year? 6. Who from the Department will attend the United Nations Climate Change Conference? 7. What is the Department doing to prepare for the conference? 			
154.	DFAT	Senator Wong	UN agencies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will our existing contributions to the following multilateral funds finish? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. World Bank b. Asian Development Bank (ADB) c. International Monetary Fund (IMF) d. World Food Program e. World Health Organisation (WHO) f. UN agencies g. Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (Gavi) h. The Global Fund (the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria) 2. When are the replenishment dates for each of the funds' renewal? 3. What have our contributions to each fund been annually from 2013 to the end of the forward estimates? 	Written	12/05/15	14/05/15
155.	DFAT	Senator Wong	New Colombo Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the economic objectives of the New Colombo Plan? b. How are these objectives measured? c. What are the social objectives of the New Colombo Plan? d. How are these objectives measured? 2. 2014 pilot <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What were the findings of the New Colombo Plan's 2014 pilot phase in Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and Hong Kong in 2014? b. Has an evaluation of the 2014 pilot taken place? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Who conducted the evaluation? d. What were the findings of the evaluation? e. How did the New Colombo Plan's 2014 pilot perform against each of its four key performance indicators listed in the budget statement? <p>3. 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How are the findings of the pilot evaluation being applied to the wider rollout of the New Colombo Plan? b. What are the key performance indicators for the 2015 wider rollout of the New Colombo Plan? c. How were these indicators set? 			
156.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Passports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given the new passport surcharge, what is the new fee structure of obtaining passports? 2. What is the cost to DFAT of procuring a passport? 3. What is the difference between what is charged for each passport type and the real cost to DFAT of procuring that passport? 4. What was the difference between what was charged for each passport type and the real cost to DFAT of procuring that passport prior to the surcharge being introduced? 5. Where was the profit directed in the past and where will the increased profit margin be directed in future? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
157.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Cultural visits program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What activities were undertaken in 2014 by the cultural visits program funded by DFAT? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who participated in each activity? b. What were the outcomes of each activity? c. What were the costs associated with each activity/participant? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
158.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Public diplomacy	Can the Department provide information on the rationale of a lack of a public diplomacy budget – have there been a reduction in the number of public diplomacy initiatives or the scale?	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15
159.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Overseas property	1. Can the Department provide the full breakdown of costs for renovating or upgrading the following properties:	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Australia's OECD ambassador in Paris (\$2.02 million); b. Australian ambassador to France's residence (\$1.5 million); c. Rome (\$893,000); d. Dublin (\$243,000); and e. Apia, Samoa (\$184,000). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Can the Department also provide any timeline/deadlines for any of the above renovations which are ongoing. 3. Can the Department provide a list of other properties due for upgrades/renovations, approximation of time frame and approximation of costs. 			
160.	DFAT	Senator Wong	Family planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For over 40 years the Government of Australia has provided unrestricted funding to IPPF. Can the Minister confirm that a new unrestricted funding agreement has or will be agreed with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) from 2015-16. 2. Given Australia's commitment to the Asian and Pacific Declaration on Population and Development in Bangkok 2013, can the Minister provide information on DFAT's funding to family planning and reproductive health programs in the 2014/15. 3. What funding was provided to UNFPA and the International Planned Parenthood Federation in the current financial year? 	Written	17/04/15	14/05/15