

Question: 4
Topic: Paper procurement
Asked: 27 February 2017

Senator KITCHING: In a question on notice you were asked about the Anti-Dumping Commission in relation to copying paper. Has any consideration been given to the work of the Anti-Dumping Commission in relation to paper?

Ms Callinan: Yes. Following that hearing we did look at the work of the Anti-Dumping Commission. To the extent that we can refer to that under the requirements of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules et cetera, we will refer to that in our assessments going forward.

Senator KITCHING: But not this assessment just done? Because I think the question on notice indicated that you would have consideration of the Anti-Dumping Commission in relation to copying paper, certainly in the last quarter. You used the future tense, so you said, 'It will be taken into consideration.' But it was not taken into consideration for this one?

Ms Callinan: I would have to check in terms of the one that we did in November and December. Nonetheless, as I understand it, the country of origin of the paper that we do use is Austria. We did look at the work of the Anti-Dumping Commission at that stage and certainly after that hearing. We learned through doing that that Austria was not one of the countries that was being investigated, at least in the information that is publicly provided by the Anti-Dumping Commission.

Answer:

In the department's assessment of paper procurement in October/November 2016, the department did consider the work of the Anti-Dumping Commission, noting that none of the paper assessed was the subject of the Commission's investigations (as advised in the department's response to a question on notice from Senator Carr, provided on 1 December 2016).

The department will continue to consider the work of the Commission in its future paper assessments.