

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Sustainable Development Goals - IDC

Senator: Moore, Claire

Question reference number: 4

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Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2016

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator MOORE: Can you tell me who is on the IDC?

Ms Hatfield Dodds: I would have to take that on notice. I think it would be in excess of 15 departments who were represented at the deputy level at the first meeting.

Senator MOORE: Who determined which departments would be involved?

Ms Hatfield Dodds: That would have happened before I commenced with Prime Minister and Cabinet, so I would need to take that on notice. I can probably find out when we take a break.

Senator MOORE: That will be fine. I understand the role of Foreign Affairs in terms of the international aspects. I am trying to get through the way that the domestic responsibilities are going to be there, because in terms of the discussions I have heard so far it has been focused on our role as an international aid provider as opposed to our own domestic responsibilities.

Ms Hatfield Dodds: Certainly the IDC is taking the domestic side of our response seriously, but I can come back to you on that as well.

...

Senator MOORE: In terms of reporting, because another aspect is reporting back around how the SDGs operate, do you know whose responsibility that is going to be, which minister will have responsibility for looking at Australia's response?

Ms Hatfield Dodds: I do not but, again, I can find out.

Senator MOORE: That would be good. Also, in terms of reporting processes internationally, is that going to be a responsibility through the IDC and then back to foreign affairs or is that yet to be determined?

Ms Hatfield Dodds: It is yet to be determined.

Senator MOORE: Has the schedule of meetings of the IDC been determined yet?

Ms Hatfield Dodds: I believe it has. I can find that out for you as well.

Answer:

The following agencies are represented on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Inter-Departmental Committee (IDC):

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C)
- Attorney-General's Department
- Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Australian Federal Police
- Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
- Department of Communications and the Arts
- Department of Defence
- Department of Education and Training
- Department of Employment
- Department of the Environment and Energy
- Department of Finance
- Department of Health
- Department of Immigration and Border Protection
- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
- Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development
- Department of Social Services
- The Treasury

DFAT and PM&C jointly determined which departments would be involved.

Many Ministers will continue to be responsible for reporting on activities within their respective portfolios, which are relevant to the 2030 Agenda. The various UN-led reporting processes are not yet finalised. The IDC will consider how Australia will report.

A schedule for the IDC meetings is currently being progressed by DFAT and PM&C.