

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio  
Additional Estimates Hearing 2012-13  
13 February 2013

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION.

**TOPIC:** International Science Linkages Program

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Mason

**QUESTION No.:** AI-76

The government's International Science Linkages (**ISL**) program lapsed on 30 June 2011. The review of the ISL program by the Allen Consulting Group in February 2011 noted that the ISL program filled a gap that other government programs did not cover and recommended the continuation of funding for the program (Allen Consulting Group, *Evaluation of the International Science Linkages Program: Executive Summary and Recommendations*, February 2011, page ii).

- a) Does the government intend to devise a replacement for the ISL program?
- b) If so, when will the replacement program be announced?

**ANSWER**

There are no current plans for a successor program to the International Science Linkages (ISL) program. The Government has a range of mainstream programs and activities that foster international co-operation including activities of the Australian Research Council, CSIRO and Cooperative Research Centres. The department continues to manage and develop bilateral science and technology funds with India and China and to pursue bilateral relationships more broadly including with Japan the EU and the US.