

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

26 February 2014

**Question:** AET 959-963

**Topic:** Hospitality and entertainment (ATO)

**Written:** 5 March 2014

#### Senator LUDWIG asked:

- 959) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date including any catering and drinks costs.
- 960) What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- 961) What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- 962) What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- 963) Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

#### Answer:

- 959) The ATO does not account for hospitality and entertainment expenses separately. Official hospitality covers all hospitality and entertainment expenses incurred by the ATO.

From 1 December 2013 to 28 February 2014, ATO expenditure on official hospitality was \$5,375 (excluding GST). The table below contains details of the date, location, purpose and cost.

Date	Location	Purpose	Cost (\$)
3/12/2013	Canberra	Official retirement event for Second Commissioner Bruce Quigley	1,965
4/12/2013	ATO Office, Albury	Albury Business Event - Local business engagement jointly hosted with the Albury Northside Chamber of Commerce	1,379
10/12/2013	Brisbane	Official Dinner - Korean National Tax Authority	339
11/12/2013	Sydney	Official Dinner - International Revenue Authority Delegates	509
16/12/2013	New Delhi, India	Gifts - Indian Revenue Bilateral Dialogue - ATO representing Department of Treasury	117
5/02/2014	Brisbane	Official Dinner - National Tax Agency of Japan	701
6/02/2014	Canberra	Gift - presented to external representatives at the Community Engagement and Marketing stream leadership workshop	32
17/02/2014	ATO Office, Brisbane	Gift - presented to external speaker at Site Technical Conference	219
19/02/2014	Seoul, Korea	Gifts - presented to Korean tax officers attending the OECD BEPS Regional Consultation	114
<b>Total</b>			<b>5,375</b>

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

26 February 2014

- 960) Refer to AET 959 above.
- 961) The ATO's internal budget system does not provide information at the requested level of detail.
- 962) Refer to AET 961 above.
- 963) The ATO keeps the costs for international visits to a minimum by running multilateral events that many countries from the region can attend. The number of requests for visits to the ATO are considerably higher than those that the ATO agrees to each year.