

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Budget Estimates 2008-09

2 June 2008

**Question:** BR-31  
**Topic:** Regional Tourism Projects and World Tourism Organisation membership  
**Proof Hansard Page:** E138/E139

**Senator Ian Macdonald asked:**

**Senator IAN MACDONALD**—I would be interested in a short description on notice, because we have run out of time, of how you intend to achieve those goals. Good luck to you in this area. Finally, could I ask you to take on notice that on page 285 of budget statement No. 2, Supporting Regional Tourism shows that there is \$2.3 million funded from other sources in the government, in the department, because there is no out-year funding. Similarly, in relation to the United Nations Tourism Organisation there is \$1.7 million. Again, there is no line item in the budget; it simply indicates that it would be paid from existing resources. I am just asking the department again and perhaps you could take this on notice. Are those two additional requirements that the department has to find from its budget in addition to the efficiency dividends? That is the question, if you could take that on notice. The department is no longer here.

**Senator Sherry**—I will take that on notice

**Answer:**

The \$2.3 million mentioned on page 285 of Budget Statement No. 2 refers to funding for a number of regional tourism projects committed to in the 2008/09 Budget. In the event the Government took the decision to fund these and a number of other regional tourism projects from within the resources available to the Australian Tourism Development Program. 12 projects are to be funded, to a total value of \$4.626 million.

The funding of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation membership in 2008/09 is from the resources available to the Department.