

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Budget Senate Estimates

1 June 2010

Question: **BR12**
Topic: **Program Support – China Approved Destination Status Scheme**
Proof Hansard Page: **E45**

Senator Bushby asked:

Senator BUSHBY-What about the program support funding for the delivery of an enhanced Approved Destination Status scheme for China?

Ms Madden-The Approved Destination Status scheme was also an announcement in the budget. The government has committed over \$4 million over the next four years to continue the Approved Destination Scheme. This is a memorandum of understanding we have with the Chinese government and it allows Australia to market Tourism Australia's activities in country. Very importantly, it allows some quality assurance and monitoring of group tours that form the backbone of Chinese visitation to Australia.

Senator BUSHBY-Do you have a breakdown of the budget?

Ms Madden-Yes, we can provide a breakdown of that budget.

Senator BUSHBY-Not today, though?

Ms Madden-I will just check my notes. I have some ADS expenditure breakdown here. One of the important elements of that budget is a compliance monitoring agency contract. We have some indicative details of that for this financial year. Because we are still in the process of negotiating that contract and other aspects it is only in projected budget terms but we can provide some further details to you on notice.

Answer:

Funding of \$4.1 million has been allocated over four years (from 2010/11) to continue the China Approved Destination Status (ADS) Scheme.

An indicative breakdown of the China ADS Scheme funding is provided below:

	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	2012-13 (\$m)	2013-14 (\$m)
Evaluation and monitoring, vetting services, travel, printing, staff costs and other administrative costs	1.014	1.011	1.018	1.026
Total	1.014	1.011	1.018	1.026

[Source: RET 2010/11 Portfolio Budget Statements, page 16.]

The Department is responsible for providing administrative support for the China ADS Scheme. As at 1 July 2010, annual Tourism Division staff costs (including overheads) are expected to be approximately \$300,000 per year over four years.