

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

1 June – 3 June 2010

Question: BET 339

Topic: Europe's Financial Situation

Hansard Page: Written

Senator EGGLESTON asked:

1. Is there concern about the situation in Europe, particularly Greece, Spain, Portugal, Ireland and more recently, Italy?

Answer:

The Australian Government welcomes moves by European leaders to restore credibility and sustainability to public finances through fiscal consolidation efforts and the implementation of the European Stabilisation Mechanism.

The stress testing of 91 major European banks in July was a welcome and significant step in restoring confidence in the health of the European banking sector.

The Australian Government welcomes the joint EU/IMF support package for Ireland and applauds the Irish government's determination to restructure its financial sector and mend its public finances.