

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2008-09
23 October 2008

Question: **SR-9**
Topic: **Australian Tourism Development Program**
Proof Hansard Page: **E99-100**

Senator Ronaldson asked:

Senator RONALDSON—I have some questions about the Australian Tourism Development Program. I understand that funding was reduced at the last budget; is that right?

Ms Madden—Yes, that is correct.

Senator RONALDSON—What is the current level of funding for the ATDP for the year 2008-09?

Ms Madden—It is \$4.5 million this year, 2008-09.

Senator RONALDSON—How much is that a reduction from 2007-08?

Ms Madden—I am just trying to establish whether we have the previous year's figure here. Can I suggest that we provide this on notice?

Senator RONALDSON—Just to double-check, the 2008-09 funding was \$4.5 million in set-up; is that right?

Ms Madden—I will reconfirm that in our question on notice, including the previous year's allocation.

Ms Madden—What I can advise is that in the 2008-09 budget, as you have noted, the government did announce some saving measures from the Australian Tourism Development Program. I can confirm that the full year's funding for this year, 2008-09, is actually \$6.45 million. Over the next total three years the ATDP is \$14.332 million. There is a redesign underway at present of the ATDP criteria to ensure that the money is spent as effectively and efficiently as possible, and that consideration was perhaps part of the government's consideration in reducing this year's allocation to ATDP. I do not have further—

Answer:

The ATDP budget for 2008-09 is \$6.450 million. The ATDP budget for 2007-08 was \$10.923 million – a difference of \$4.473 million between the two financial years.