

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11  
20 October 2010

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SCIENTIST

**TOPIC:** Climate Change

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Colbeck

**QUESTION No.:** SI-56

Professor Sackett recently met with her equivalent in Britain, Sir John Beddington. What issues were discussed at that meeting? Was the subject of climate change discussed – and was there any divergence in their respective views on that subject?

It has been reported that Professor Sackett told the ADC Forum earlier this year that research institutions in Australia are siloed and that they need to develop more open cultures to successfully engage in collaboration. Can you explain what she meant by that statement?

**ANSWER**

The Chief Scientist for Australia, Professor Penny D Sackett, recently took the opportunity of the annual meeting of Science, Technology in Society forum in Kyoto to meet her British counterpart, Sir John Beddington. They discussed many issues, including mathematics, food security and sustainability in general and climate change in particular. There was no divergence of views on climate change.

Professor Sackett engages in many forums, including several Australian Davos Connection (ADC) forums. A more precise indication of which ADC forum, and the precise reference to the report of her remarks would be required in order to answer this question appropriately. Professor Sackett's public remarks are posted on her website.