

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 3

**Output Group:** 3.2 Assistance for science collaboration and innovation

#### DEST Question No. E750\_04

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

#### Question:

- a) Please provide the names of all the consultants who prepared the report on the operation of CRCs last year and provide a copy of the report.
- b) Were the CRCs provided an opportunity to voice their opinion on this report before the report went to the Minister?
- c) How many of the report's recommendations were implemented in the new guidelines for CRCs?

#### Answer:

- a) The following consultants from Howard Partners Pty Ltd or its associates were involved in the evaluation:
  - o John Howard
  - o Alastair Higham
  - o Dr Janice Hirshorn
  - o Professor Ron Johnson
  - o Dr Mark Matthews
  - o Dian Jones
  - o Dr Craig Fowler

Rodney Latimer, Cheryl Edward and Ben Reeves of ORIMA Research (as a sub-contractor to Howard Partners Pty Ltd) undertook telephone based surveys of CRC stakeholders.

The Report was published on the CRC Programme website ([www.crc.gov.au](http://www.crc.gov.au)) on 22 August 2003. A copy of the Report is attached.

- b) CRCs were invited to have input to the Evaluation but were not asked to comment on the Evaluation Report.
- c) Sixteen of the thirty recommendations have been implemented in full, part or with modifications in the new 2004 Selection Round Guidelines. Most of the remaining recommendations relate to aspects of the Programme not specifically covered by the selection guidelines. One is directed at the CRC Association and all but two of the remainder are being pursued in some way in the development of programme arrangements. Recommendations II-9 and II-14 are not being pursued at this stage.