

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 3
Output Group: 3.3 – Support for the Australian education and training export industry and international relationships.

DEST Question No. E783_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

In reference to the establishment of a national accreditation agency for English language providers, AEI says, "At that time, the EA was the only organisation large enough, and with appropriate expertise, to set up an accreditation agency for ELICOS courses."

Is this still the case? Are there other organisations large enough and with appropriate expertise to assume a leadership and/or representative role for this accreditation agency?

What organisations are these? Is ACPET such an organisation? If not, why not?

Is the Government planning to review the composition and membership of the NEAS Board and/or national accreditation arrangements for ELICOS? When will that happen, and what form will the review take?

Answer:

Accreditation

The Australian Education Systems Officials Committee (AESOC), which comprises the CEOs of the education and training departments from the Australian, State and Territory governments, agreed in late 2004 to commission a study to explore options for achieving national accreditation and standards for ELICOS courses and providers. The views of ACPET and other industry associations will be sought to inform the study.

The study outcomes will inform AESOC in presenting recommendations for endorsement by the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA).