

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3

Output Group: 3.2 – Assistance for science collaboration and innovation.

DEST Question No. E833_06

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

Question:

Forward budget estimates show the government will contribute \$4.594 million in 2005/06 rising to \$4.903 million in 2008/09, while the UK's contribution will decrease to \$2 million in 2006/7 and \$1 million in the subsequent years. This is estimated as a funding shortfall of \$11 million. How will the AATB supplement its income? Will the government commit to making up this funding shortfall?

Answer:

Supplementation of income for Anglo-Australian Telescope

The Supplementary Agreement to the Anglo-Australian Telescope Agreement signed in November 2005 makes explicit that one of the Anglo-Australian Telescope Board's (AATB's) functions is to diversify the funding base of the Telescope. The AATB is actively pursuing the diversification of its funding base.