SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09

Outcome/Agency

DEEWR Question No. EW1020_09

Senator Fierravanti-Wells provided in writing.

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Question

Pacific Guest Worker Scheme

During the last round of Senate Estimates the committee was advised that the initial 100 workers would arrive by the end of the year, that comment was made in October 2008. It was envisaged that following the initial arrival 2,500 visas would be granted over three years with those three years due to start from July 2009. Does this timetable still stand or have any revisions been made?

Answer

The first workers arrived in Australia on 16 February 2009. It is envisaged that the three-year Pilot will conclude in July 2012.