

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2007-2008 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

#### Outcome

#### DEST Question No. E097\_08

Senator Carr asked on 31 May 2007, EWRE Hansard page 63.

#### Question:

**Senator CARR**—Thank you very much. I now turn to the International Education Group. I have a matter that was raised on Sunday, 27 May 2007 in *Background Briefing*, an ABC Radio National program. I do not want to name the person, despite the fact that it has been on the radio. It is alleged that a student from Zimbabwe is studying for a masters degree at Macquarie and has been awarded a DEST Endeavour program scholarship. Have there been any inquiries from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade concerning that award?

**Ms Buffinton**—I am not aware of an Endeavour awards scholar from Zimbabwe and concerns from DFAT. I will double check, but according to my list there is no awardee for 2007—which is the current year—from applications from last year going to anybody from Zimbabwe.

#### Answer:

##### *Endeavour Awards*

The International Education Group administers the Endeavour Scholarships, which are generally targeted at certain countries and regions, and do not provide for applications from Zimbabwe. Of the scholarships we administer, the only ones open to worldwide applications are the Endeavour International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (EIPRS). Under that programme, DEST allocates funding to participating universities, which determine the successful applicants. The most recent data provided by the universities indicates that in 2005, there were 5 students from Zimbabwe studying on an EIPRS. Data for the year 2006 will be available from universities in late 2007.