

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

**Outcome/Agency**      *Outcome 5*

**DEEWR Question No.**   **EW0300\_10**

Senator Cash asked on Tuesday, 2 June, 2009, EEWHR Hansard page 101.

**Question**

*DEEWR Payment to the ACTU*

Senator CASH—I have another contract number here—CN177839. My understanding is that that one is for reimbursement of airfares and that it was paid to the ACTU. Do you know what it is for?

Mr Kovacic—Is that an amount of just over \$12,000?

Senator CASH—Unfortunately I do not have that information.

Mr Kovacic—If it is the contract that I am thinking of—and I will take this on notice and confirm—it is for reimbursement of airfares to the ACTU for its participation in the Australian delegation to the International Labour Conference which occurs in Geneva each year. Under the ILO's constitution, the government is required to fund participation of both the employer and worker delegates on the Australian delegation.

Senator CASH—So you would also have reimbursed other bodies for their flights?

Mr Kovacic—It would have been the employer delegation as well.

Senator CASH—Okay. My understanding is that flights for the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry were not reimbursed.

Mr Kovacic—I have taken the question on notice but I will double-check. I will take that issue on notice as well.

**Answer**

Contract CN177839 was for reimbursement of airfares and related expenses, totalling \$12,164.31, for attendance by one of the ACTU representatives at the 2008 International Labour Conference in Geneva.

Under the ILO Constitution, the Australian Government is obliged to fund attendance at the annual ILO Conference for employer and worker representative groups. Three ACTU delegates and three employer delegates attended the ILO Conference in 2008. Airfares and related costs were paid for by Government.

Travel arrangements in 2008 for members of the delegation, including worker and employer representatives, were arranged either on a reimbursement basis or booked directly by the Department on behalf of the representatives. As per the following attachments, two non-Government delegation members made their own travel arrangements: Ms Alison Tate of the ACTU and Mr Peter Anderson of the ACCI. Similar to payments made to the ACTU, DEEWR made a payment for \$12,526.01 to ACCI for Mr Anderson's airfare to Geneva.

## Attachment 1

### Australian Non-government delegation members to ILC 2008

Name	Organisation	Method of booking	Method of payment
Peter Anderson	ACCI	Self-arranged	Invoice sent to DEEWR and reimbursed accordingly
Stephen Nance	ACCI	Booked by DEEWR	Paid by DEEWR travel card
Stephen Smith	AiG	Booked by DEEWR	Paid by DEEWR travel card
Sharan Burrow	ACTU	Booked by DEEWR	Paid by DEEWR travel card
Alison Tate	ACTU	Self-arranged	Invoice sent to DEEWR and reimbursed accordingly
Daniel Walton	AWU	Booked by DEEWR	Paid by DEEWR travel card