EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for schools

DEST Question No. E423_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003

Question:

Refers to DEST Question No. E279_04

1.   In general, is it the case that accountability for schools funding is met by systems through the annual national report on schooling?

2.   The Department's answer to E279_04 noted (answer 2) that the release of the 2000 report was the longest period of delay in history. The 2000 report is now available. When was it released?

3.   When will the 2001 report be released? Was it due by December 2002, as required by MCEETYA (see answer 1 to E279_04)?

4.   Will the 2002 report be released by the end of the year, as required by MCEETYA? If not, when?

Answer

National Report on Schooling in Australia

1.   Yes.

2.   Public release of the 2000 report commenced online in April 2002 and was completed early January 2003. The print report was released in June 2003. Substantial editing and formatting of the online version was required for the print version.

3.   The 2001 report has been progressively released online since February 2003. The full report is expected to be available on the web by the end of January 2004. Following approval processes in all jurisdictions and with less editing and formatting of the online version than was needed for the 2000 report, it is anticipated the print version should be available around the end of March 2004. At its meeting in July 2003 MCEETYA committed to a timetable for the production of the annual *National Report on Schooling in Australia* to achieve public release by the end of the calendar year following the reporting year and all jurisdictions will be endeavouring to fulfil that commitment.

4.   Online release of the 2002 report is expected to commence before the end of 2003. It is expected that this will be complete by April 2004, with the print version to follow around mid-2004.