

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 3
Output Group: 3.3 – AEI Group

DEST Question No. E476_04

Senator Crossin asked on 5 November 2003.

Question:

Has DEST had any thoughts, plans or proposals for assisting TAFE sector to expand more into the overseas market as recommended by TAFE Directors Australia?

Answer:

VET sector's efforts to internationalise

DEST, through AEI, continues to work on supporting the VET sector's efforts to internationalise. Recent and forthcoming examples include:

- An International Education Network project for promotion of the Australian VET Framework in China.
- A promotional day in Bangkok to promote VET institutional linkages and "Study in Australia" for VET students.
- A range of VET sector "Study in Australia" promotional materials
- Assistance to a visiting film crew from EBS, Korea, producing a documentary on aspects of Australia's VET system
- VET related dialogue with a number of foreign governments, including Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Japan
- Memoranda of Understanding, providing an umbrella for mutually beneficial cooperation in a range of education and training fields, with the governments of Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore and Brunei
- Education agent training workshops and "Study in Australia" seminars for students and agents in a range of countries
- Co-hosting of a Sino-Australian VET Reform Conference
- Participation in a Taiwan Australian VET Symposium

Ministerial missions and international visitation programmes by senior DEST officials and key VET sector representatives have been undertaken recently in China and India.

In addition, in accordance with a resolution of the ANTA Ministerial Council, a working party has been established, led by the Commonwealth, to examine means to improve the VET sector's performance in education exports. The first meeting of the working party was held on 3 December 2003.