

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.1 – Funding for Vocational Education and Training

DEST Question No. E334_05

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

ANTA was a national body helping to ensure that there was a nationally consistent system of training and skills recognition – how will DEST ensure such national consistency continues?

Answer:

Nationally Consistent System

A Ministerial Council on Vocational Education will be established to ensure continued harmonisation of a national system of standards, assessment and accreditation, supported by a Commonwealth-State Funding Agreement.

While specific arrangements for the council are yet to be determined with State and Territory Ministers, the Prime Minister's statement of 22 October concerning Machinery of Government changes signals strong support for the national system, with industry's central role to be maintained.

New national governance arrangements will be established to promote national consistency. These arrangements will maintain the central role of industry and cooperative arrangements with States and Territories.