

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

**Outcome:** All

**Output Group:** All

#### **DEST Question No. E475\_05 – Final**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

Please itemize all contracts, consultancies, grants, tenders, or secondments to the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) and/or its state branches, approved by the Minister's Department or an agency for which the Minister has portfolio responsibility, since May 1996, including:

- (a) The Department or agency involved and;
- (b) The (i) purpose, (ii) date of approval (iii) value or cost of the contract, grant or secondment and (iv) the outcomes.

#### **Answer:**

##### *Contracts*

There have been a number of significant Portfolio changes since 1996. The Education, Science and Training portfolio was formed by the Machinery of Government changes announced in November 2001 and therefore information relating to the Portfolio can only be provided from that time.

The Department and its agencies have identified 13 funding arrangements, 1 secondment and 1 services contract with the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) since November 2001. The details are contained in Attachment A.

We have received confirmation from ACCI that State Chambers are not branches or divisions of ACCI. They are members of ACCI but are separate, autonomous legal entities over which ACCI has no control.

CSIRO provided a nil response.

## Attachment A

Group/State Office/Agency	PROMISe/BUYiT PRN or Murray Order MO number (N/a if not applicable)	PROMISe/BUYiT contract number (N/a if not applicable)	Date Delegate approved recommendation to contract with ACCI or their State Branch	Contractor	Contract Start Date - Let since 1 November 2001	Contract End Date	Contract Description	Contract type e.g. General Service, Consultancy Service, Funding/Grant, Sponsorship, Secondment	Contract Value (GST inclusive)	Contract Outcomes
ANTA			January 2002	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	January 2002	June 2002	Sponsorship of ACCI and the ACTU for an Australian case study into Lifelong Learning development and best practice experiences in Australia.	Funding	\$55,000	ACCI published research finding
ANTA			June 2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	June 2004	November 2004	Develop and conduct a national workshop for ACCI and industry member associations to support the development of employment and training pathways for Indigenous people within the 'traditional trades'.	General Services Contract	\$17,160	A report was provided to ANTA on the workshop outcomes, including information from industry members on good practice in relation to recruitment, retention and training of Indigenous people, and industry views on barriers to this, that can be considered by ANTA in taking forward its national project "Meeting diverse client needs – how to replicate good practice".
ANTA			April 2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	April 2004	June 2005	Project for the cost of seconding a DEWR staff member to ACCI to undertake work associated with ensuring training wage arrangements covering school based new apprenticeships are incorporated into industrial agreements.	Secondment	Approximate cost \$150,000 (to include costs for Travel and admin overheads)	This work began in April 2004 and is regularly presented to the Training Wage Reference Group including ACCI and its affiliates and the ACTU and affiliates.
Indigenous and Transitions Group	N/a	N/a	Novated to DEST from the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation on 16 September 2003.	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	ECEF contract 1/10/2002. DEST novation deed 16/9/2003.	30/06/2005	To co-ordinate the promotion of the objectives of the MCEETYA Framework for Vocational Education and Training in Schools with ACCI members.	Funding	\$396,250	Increased employer awareness of Vocational Education and Training in Schools including School-Based New Apprenticeships and the Employability Skills Framework. Members' views on VET in Schools represented to national and state education and training authorities.
Vocational Education Training Group	MOR102	N/a	21/12/2001	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	21 December 2001	31/06/2002	Implementation of <i>Building Brighter Futures</i> , the report of the NISI Building and Construction Working Group	Funding	\$440,000	* Building and Construction Industry Task Force and sub-committees established; * Participated in, and facilitated the work of the Task Force, including the provision of management support undertaken; * Ongoing monitoring of Task Force activities conducted and objectives met; * Progress reports on the implementation of the Action Plan prepared; * Activities and achievements of the Task Force promoted to industry forums, professional industry publications provided to conferences and seminars; and * Developments and activities undertaken by other NISI Task Forces to identify common issues monitored
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	16/09/2002	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	16 September 2002	30 June 2003	Facilitation of NISI with emphasis on Retail, Building and Construction and Commercial Cookery	Funding	\$80,000	* Australian Retailers Association assisted to establish a Task Force; * Activities of the Building and Construction Task Force co-ordinated; * Support provided to the Australian Hotels' Association to manage the Commercial Cookery Task Force; and * NISI promoted broadly across industry.
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	25/05/2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	25 May 2004	24 May 2005	Support the Plastics and Chemicals Industry Association NSSS skills research project	Funding	\$55,000	* Research and consultation on strategies to enhance industry access to suitably qualified staff in the plastics and chemicals industry undertaken.
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	11/06/2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	11 June 2004	10 June 2005	Investigate cross-sectoral skills solutions in the Townsville region	Funding	\$73,700	* Work in the Townsville region with Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry member organisations, relevant government agencies, training bodies, Job Network providers and other organisations, to research and document the region's industries, their skills needs, available data and resources.
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	11/06/2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	11 June 2004	10 June 2005	Update and enhance the 'Big Plans' website	Funding	\$95,700	* Develop enhancements to the building and construction <i>Big Plans</i> web site and promote the site to industry.

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Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	30/06/2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	30 June 2004	29 June 2005	A national review of training pathways in the building and construction industry	Funding	\$276,500	* Conduct research and analysis of the skill development needs of the building and construction industry across Australia and review training pathways and delivery in the industry.
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	15/07/2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	15 July 2004	14 July 2005	Co-ordination of NSSS projects	Funding	\$187,000	* Cost and design an industry placement programme for career teachers; * Support industry and project-specific activities to address skill shortages, including regional projects. * Use industry research to underpin development of strategies to address industry skills needs.
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	15/07/2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	15 July 2004	14 July 2005	Implement the Retail Industry Action Plan and support the retail industry Task Force	Funding	\$302,500	* Implement projects arising from the NISI Retail Industry Working Group Report and the Action Plan.
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	12/08/2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	12 August 2004	11 August 2005	Assess and address skills needs for non-cooking, hospitality occupations	Funding	\$302,500	* Look at the skills needs of the non-cooking occupations in the hospitality, accommodation, café and restaurant sector and implement practical projects to deal with these skills needs, difficulties and shortages.
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	3/09/2004	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	3 September 2004	2 September 2005	Implement a marketing plan for New Apprenticeships in the building and construction industry	Funding	\$231,762	* Campaign to increase the uptake of New Apprenticeships in the building and construction industry, through Master Builders Australia.
Vocational Education Training Group	N/a	N/a	23-Jul-04	Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	1 July 2004	30 July 2005	The Industry Training Strategies Programme provides Education and Training Advisers in each state and territory. The Chamber subcontracts this function to state and territory Chambers.	Funding	\$1,167,670	Provision of eight full time education and training adviser [ETA] positions and one national co-ordinator. The ETAs have improved the level of employer understanding and engagement in vocational education and training, and New Apprenticeships through services such as: - information provided to members about New Apprenticeships and Training Packages - newsletters to members - articles in relevant industry magazines on VET issues - information on web sites - meetings with employers on-site - information sessions for employers and other interested parties - responding to phone enquiries - liaison with RTOs, STAs and industry stakeholders regarding New Apprenticeship impediments - participation on appropriate committees and forums - provide feedback and advice to government.