

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 3
Output Group: 3.3 – Support for the Australian education and training export industry and international relationships.

DEST Question No. E773_06 - Final

Senator Nettle provided in writing.

Question:

What steps has the Commonwealth Government taken to protect the civil and human rights of the employees of the overseas operating entities of Australian universities?

Answer:

Overseas employees of Australian universities and associated entities

The terms and conditions of employees working with Australian universities and their companies overseas is a matter for the relevant university, in accordance with local employment laws and policies.

The Australian Government is eager to see the reputation of Australian education service providers maintained overseas, and would expect that Australian universities and their companies reflect appropriate values and standards in their employment practices.

In the case of university employees overseas, the Australian Universities Quality Agency has the capacity to identify concerns about offshore employment practices and conditions through its audits of self-accrediting Australian higher education institutions.