

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2006**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AUSTRALIA**

**Outcome 1: Stimulating the economic advancement of Aboriginal and Torres  
Strait Island peoples**

**Output 1.3: Business Development and Assistance**

**Question Number: W545-07**

**Question:**

Senator Siewert asked in writing: (a) Did Hillsong Emerge advocate their organisation, government and the private sector playing a continuing role in micro-enterprise development in their report? (b) What were the major findings of the report in relation to supporting Indigenous Australians get into business? (c) Did the Hillsong Emerge report advocate IBA's current strategy in relation to micro-enterprise development?

**Answer:**

- (a) The report examined 5 options, one of which discussed a private/government sector consortium/partnership.
- (b) The pilot project and project reports were not designed to consider this larger question, they were specifically to test micro-enterprise development in an Australian Indigenous context.
- (c) Option 1 in the Hillsong Emerge report was based on using IBA's existing structure to provide micro-enterprise development, page 48;

*“If existing government organisations were to deliver MED services to just the Indigenous population, then the logical way to structure a national rollout of MED to the Indigenous community across Australia would be via IBA using its existing BDP and loan programs. This structure is already in place for small, medium and large business loans, including a central office type facility in Canberra and regional centres in Cairns, Brisbane, Sydney, Wagga Wagga, Melbourne, Darwin, Adelaide, Perth and Broome”.*