

Questions Nos. 1-16

Program: DFAT

Topic: Meeting between Secretary of State Clinton and Ambassador Beazley on 10 June 2010

Question on Notice

Page: 6

Senator Brandis, Senator Kroger

Question

- 1. Would you ask Ambassador Beazley whether, during his conversation with the Secretary of State Clinton, a remark was made by either of them in relation to the likelihood of Mr Rudd's imminent replacement as Prime Minister by Ms Gillard?***

Answer

Records of conversations between Australian Ambassadors to the United States and the Secretary of State are treated as confidential by both sides and their content is not publicly disclosed.

Question

- 2. Was there only one meeting between Ambassador Beazley and Secretary Clinton in June 2010?***

Answer

Yes.

Question

- 3. Was there a note taker present at the meeting between Ambassador Beazley and Secretary Clinton?***

Answer

Yes.

Question

- 4. On what date did the cable come to your attention – on the day it was received or immediately thereafter?***

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Answer

Shortly after it was received.

Question

5. Does the security system which indicates when a cable has been opened also indicate which departmental staff member opened it?

Answer

The Department's information technology system has the capability to undertake a comprehensive audit of incoming cables.

Question

6. Would that electronic record still exist in relation to a cable received in June 2010?

Answer

Yes.

Question

7. Who else opened and read the cable, apart from yourself and the member of your staff who brought it to your attention?

Answer

The cable was opened by a number of officers from DFAT, both in Canberra and at posts, as well as by some officers at other agencies.

Question

8. Was the cable seen by the then Minister, Mr Smith?

Answer

The cable was opened by the Office of the Foreign Minister, but it is not known whether it was sighted by Mr Smith at the time.

Question

9. Was the meeting sought by the American authorities – by Secretary Clinton and her office – or was it initiated by Ambassador Beazley?

Answer

The proposal for a meeting arose from a conversation between Ambassador Beazley and the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific.

Question

10. Was there a conversation between Ambassador Beazley and the Minister or anyone in the minister's office about the meeting?

Answer

No.

Question

11. When were the arrangements for this meeting first made?

Answer

The meeting was arranged on 2 June 2010.

Question

12. After the cable was received, did anyone either in your department or in the minister's office, ring Mr Beazley to speak to him about the cable or the meeting generally?

Answer

Not to my knowledge.

Question

13. If a minute of that conversation had been made, either in Australia or Washington, would it have been recorded and archived, and if so could it be disclosed to the Committee?

Answer

There is no such record.

Question

14. After the replacement of Mr Rudd by Ms Gillard on 23 June 2010, when was the next occasion on which Ambassador Beazley and Secretary of State Clinton spoke?

Answer

Ambassador Beazley and Secretary of State Clinton next met on 13 July 2010 at an Australia-America Leadership Dialogue event.

Question

15. How many times have the Secretary of State and Ambassador Beazley met?

Answer

Approximately 24 times.

Question

16. What was the date of the meeting before this one on 10 June?

Answer

6 April 2010.

Questions No. 17, 18, 19

Program: DFAT

Topic: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Question on Notice

Page: 15

Senator Ronaldson

Questions

- 17. *Does the Australian High Commission in London provide any support to the Executive Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development?***
- 18. *If it has not been provided at the moment, are you aware of whether there is any intention to provide any support? Has there been any discussion about that, that you are aware of?***
- 19. *Are you aware of any requests to DFAT to provide support to the Executive Director?***

Answers

- 17.** Mr Bob McMullan is the Director representing Australia, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea and Egypt at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).
The Australian High Commission in London has on occasion passed briefing material to the Director.
Mr McMullan is sometimes invited to receptions and events organised by the Australian High Commission in London.
- 18.** See response to 17.
- 19.** DFAT has on occasion prepared briefing for the Director regarding international developments and Australia's interests in the EBRD, similar to the briefings provided to Australia's representatives to other international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 20

Program: DFAT

Topic: Overseas staffing

Question on Notice

Page: 15

Senator Ronaldson

Question

Can you provide details of new employment in the Australian High Commission in London since Supplementary Budget Estimates in October 2011, including details of new expat postings and locally engaged staff and including position, classification and their role.

Answer

The number of new locally engaged staff employed in the Australian High Commission in London during the period October 2011 to 31 January 2012 was:

Agency	LES Level	No. of Recruits	Title	Work Unit	Contract Type
DFAT	BB3	1	Research Officer - Olympics	Political Branch	Non-Ongoing
DIAC	BB1	7	Client Service Officer	Contact Centre	Ongoing Permanent
DIAC	BB1	1	Administration Officer	Office Services	Ongoing Contract
DIAC	BB3	1	Integrity Officer	DIAC Integrity Office	Ongoing Permanent

Of the ten new locally engaged staff, three are Australian citizens. The other employees are British, Portuguese, Italian, Irish, Hungarian and French nationals.

Since October 2011, no new Australia-based positions have been established in London.

Question No. 21

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial travel

Question on Notice

Page: 20

Senator Kroger

Question

Can you provide a breakdown of the mode of travel for the five trips?

Answer

The mode of travel for the five trips was VIP Special Purpose Aircraft.

The 5 trips are detailed below:

- Indonesia (Jakarta): 8 January 2012
- Papua New Guinea: 30 September -1 October 2011
- Indonesia and East Timor: 7-10 July 2011
- Indonesia: 28-30 March 2011
- Indonesia: 8 December 2010

Question No. 22

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial travel

Question on Notice

Page: 21

Senator Kroger

Question

When Minister Rudd has travelled to the US and visited New York and Washington, has he always stayed in the HOM residences there or has he stayed in hotel accommodation during some of those trips?

Answer

Minister Rudd stayed at both HOM residences and in hotel accommodation when he travelled to the US and visited New York and Washington.

Question No. 23

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial travel

Question on Notice

Page: 21

Senator Kroger

Question

When the Minister Rudd seeks a sign-off from the Prime Minister in relation to each trip, does that include a forecast budget for each trip, with accommodation? Is that what she signs off on?

Answer

Prior to each overseas visit Minister Rudd was required to provide an estimate of costs for the visit. Questions concerning action taken by the Prime Minister should be directed to the Prime Minister's Office.

Question No. 24

Program: DFAT

Topic: Hospitality

Question on Notice

Page: 25

Senator Eggleston

Question

Looking specifically at the Group of 77 countries in the United Nations, would it be possible for us to get some comparative figures for expenditure on hospitality, comparing expenditure two years ago with expenditure during the current year?

Answer

Records of hospitality expenditure are maintained on individual files across DFAT's overseas network.

To provide hospitality expenditure for each post in the United Nations Group of 77 countries would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 25

Program: DFAT

Topic: Durban Climate Change Conference

Question on Notice

Page: 25

Senator Eggleston

Question

What status did the three DFAT attendees from Canberra have at the Durban Climate Change Conference?

Answer

The three officers from DFAT Canberra who attended the Durban Climate Change Conference had the status of members of the Australian delegation. The three officers participated in the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) negotiating sessions and a range of bilateral discussions with other countries.

Question No. 26

Program: DFAT

Topic: EU Carbon Tax

Question on Notice

Page: 26

Senator Eggelston

Question

Could you provide information on who Minister Rudd has spoken about the issue of Australian airlines' exemption from paying a European Union carbon tax?

Answer

The Government continues to voice its opposition to such unilateral measures that give rise to market distortions. Former Minister Rudd and other Ministers and senior officials have consistently engaged EU officials on this matter. Mr Rudd discussed the measure and Australia's associated concerns with EU Commissioner for Climate Action, Ms Connie Hedegaard, in September 2010. Most recently, Ministers Albanese and Combet wrote to Commissioner Hedegaard (January 2012) to reiterate Australia's concerns with the unilateral directive. The Government's stated preference is to continue working within the relevant governing body, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 27

Program: DFAT

Topic: UNGA

Question on Notice

Page: 26

Senator KROGER

Question

Regarding Minister Rudd's recent address at the United Nations General Assembly, what time was he originally scheduled to give that speech – that press conference, and what time did it actually happen? Could you also provide the budget forecast for hiring and equipment and what the ultimate cost was?

Answer

The then-Foreign Minister was scheduled to give Australia's national statement to the UN General Assembly at some time between 7:30 and 8:30pm. The press conference commenced at approximately 9pm.

The UN estimated that the fee would be USD\$1,575, but stated that this could vary if the press conference were to be significantly delayed. The final invoice for the press conference was USD\$1,260.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 28

Program: DFAT

Topic: UNSC Bid

Question on Notice

Page: 27

Senator Kroger

Question

Where are we at in relation to the budget for the United Nations Security Council bid and what has our spend been to date?

Answer

The Department fully utilised new funding provided by Government for the UNSC bid totalling \$13.0m over three years (2008-09 \$1.9m; 2009-10 \$5.4m; 2010-11 \$5.7m).

In the 2011-12 Budget the Government committed \$10.5 million over two years to the bid, which is expected to be fully utilised. These funds are being provided from existing departmental resources.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 29

Program: DFAT

Topic: Death of Kim Jong Il

Question on Notice

Page: 28

Senator EGGLESTON

Question

What countries remained in the chamber at the United Nations General Assembly during the two minutes silence for the passing of the previous leader of North Korea?

Answer

The United Nations (UN) did not record which countries were represented in the chamber at the time the two minutes silence was called. The UN does not usually record who is in a room at a given time, unless an official vote is being taken.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 30

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global China Dialogue

Question on Notice

Page: 30

Senator Eggleston

Question

Have there been any costs to the department to date on the organisation of the proposed Global China Dialogue?

Answer

To date (2 March 2012), the organisation of the proposed Global China Dialogue has involved a commitment of \$70,000.

Question No. 31

Program: DFAT

Topic: Recent discussions with Japan on Whaling

Question on Notice

Page: 35

Senator Kroger

Question

What discussions have we had since, say May last year, in relation to the Japanese Government's announcement that they will continue their whaling program in the Southern Ocean?

Answer

On 4 October 2011, Japanese Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Michihiko Kano, announced that Japan would resume whaling in the Southern Ocean for the 2011-12 season.

Since that time, the Australian Government has had frequent discussions with the Japanese Government regarding whaling. Australia has repeatedly conveyed the Government's strong opposition to Japan's so-called 'scientific' whaling. These discussions included a formal meeting on 21 November 2011 between the International Whaling Commissioners of Japan and Australia in Canberra alongside other senior officials from the Australian Government and Japanese Embassy.

Question No. 32

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arrest of Australian boy in Bali

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Ronaldson

Question

The police advised the Consul General of the arrest of the boy in Bali. At what time approximately on 5 October were you made aware of the arrest?

Answer

A consular staff member at the Consulate-General in Bali was first notified of the arrest by Mr Suroso (the boy's initial lawyer) by telephone at 9am on 5 October 2011. The staff member then confirmed the arrest by telephone with the investigating officer, Mr Watugunung.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 33

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arrest of Australian boy in Bali

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Ronaldson

Question

Had the police who contacted the Consul General notified the parents at that stage?

Answer

Yes. The boy's father stayed at police headquarters on the night of 4 October 2011. He knew of the arrest before consular staff.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 34

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arrest of Australian boy in Bali

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Ronaldson

Question

You notified them on the day after he was arrested?

Answer

No. The boy's parents knew of the arrest before consular staff.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 35

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arrest of Australian boy in Bali

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Ronaldson

Question

What time was he arrested on the 4th?

Answer

The investigating officer, Mr Watugunung, advised consular staff in Bali that the boy had been arrested at 1pm on 4 October 2011.

Question No. 36

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arrest of Australian boy in Bali

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Ronaldson

Question

How and when was the Foreign Minister made aware of the arrest?

Answer

A briefing on the case was first sent to the Minister's advisers at 5.08pm on 5 October 2011. DFAT is not aware of the time at which the contents of the briefing were conveyed to Mr Rudd.

Question No. 37

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arrest of Australian boy in Bali

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Ronaldson

Question

Can you ascertain where the Foreign Minister was at the time he was notified and which officials advised him?

Answer

Mr Rudd was in Melbourne launching the AusAID Dollar for Dollar Initiative on October 2011 at the time DFAT provided a brief to his Ministerial advisers by email (5.08pm on 5 October 2011). DFAT does not know what time he was notified or by whom.

Question No. 38

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arrest of Australian boy in Bali

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Ronaldson

Question

How long was it before the Foreign Minister made contact with DFAT officials in Indonesia?

Answer

Mr Rudd first spoke to the Consul General in Bali, Mr Brett Farmer, on 6 October 2011.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 39

Program: DFAT

Topic: Arrest of Australian boy in Bali

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Ronaldson

Question

When was the Prime Minister alerted to the arrest before the Foreign Minister's press conference on the evening of 6 October? Who informed the Prime Minister?

Answer

A briefing on the case was first sent to the Prime Minister's Department at 5.08pm on 5 October 2011. DFAT is not aware of when the Prime Minister was informed and by whom.

Question No. 40

Program: DFAT

Topic: Export of live cattle to Indonesia

Question on Notice

Page: 37

Senator Colbeck

Question

Did we get any advance advice from the Indonesians before their public announcement that the number of live cattle permitted into the country would be changed?

Answer

The Indonesian Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs had advised DFAT that the live cattle quota for 2012 would be determined by the results of Indonesia's domestic cattle survey but did not inform us of likely permit numbers prior to 15 December 2011.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 41

Program: DFAT

Topic: Export of live cattle to Indonesia

Question on Notice

Page: 37

Senator Colbeck

Question

Have we had any conversations about the major change in the way that documentation was being presented?

Answer

Indonesia did not advise of changes to documentation requirements prior to implementation in January 2012.

Question No. 42

Program: DFAT

Topic: Export of fruit and vegetables to Indonesia

Question on Notice

Page: 38

Senator Colbeck

Question

Over what period of time were the discussions about the process on the rationalisation of ports of access to Indonesia for fruit and vegetables from 14 to four?

Answer

Discussions with Indonesian authorities on arrangements for the rationalisation of ports commenced following the announcement of regulatory amendments on 19 December 2011, and are continuing.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 43

Program: DFAT

Topic: Export of fruit and vegetables to Indonesia

Question on Notice

Page: 38

Senator Colbeck

Question

Has there been any assessment of the suitability or readiness of the proposed port of entry to receive our produce?

Answer

No. DFAT has been reflecting Australian industry concern at the closure of Jakarta's primary port, and the distance of proposed new ports from existing markets.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 44

Program: DFAT

Topic: Export of live cattle to Indonesia

Question on Notice

Page: 39

Senator Kroger

Question

Was DFAT consulted prior to the decision on the live cattle export bans? What damage has been done with our relationship with Indonesia and what steps, if any, are being taken to repair the breakdown that may have happened to our relationship?

Answer

Answer on consultation on the live cattle exports bans were provided during a previous Estimate Hearing [Proof Committee Hansard, Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee Estimates, Thursday 20 October 2011, p.31].

Question No. 45

Program: DFAT

Topic: Freedom of Information

Question on Notice

Page: 39

Senator Colbeck

Question

Can you explain why some documentation can be released through FOI but not through an order of the Parliament?

Answer

The two processes are different. In the context of FOI, decision-makers remove material from documents which falls under the statutory exemptions in the FOI Act in order to enable the remainder of the document to be released. Similar arrangements do not apply in response to an order of the Parliament.

It is also the case that the releasability of material changes over time, so material which may not be able to be released at one point in time may be able to be released at a later point.

Question No. 46

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesian carbon partnership

Question on Notice

Page: 40

Senator Stephens

Question

Is the issue of the Indonesian carbon partnership still being considered in diplomatic terms as opposed to trade terms?

Answer

The Indonesia-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership is part of our broad bilateral engagement with Indonesia. It is not being managed as exclusive to either our diplomatic or economic and trade engagement.

Question No. 47

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesian logging and forestry

Question on Notice

Page: 40

Senator Eggleston

Question

What was discussed between Australian and Indonesian officials regarding the legislation on logging and forestry issues?

Answer

There have been extensive discussions between officials on logging and forestry issues.

Consultation has occurred with both Indonesian Minister for Forestry Hasan and the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry, as well as Indonesian Trade Minister Wirjawan and the Indonesian Ministry of Trade. Consultations have occurred both in Australia and Indonesia. Consultations on this issue have followed since Minister Burke, then Minister for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, met with Indonesian Minister for Forestry Hasan in Canberra on 10 March 2010 and the matter was first raised.

Australia and Indonesia signed a Letter of Intent agreeing to cooperate on forestry matters, including capacity building, on 12 November 2008. The current forum for official-level discussion with Indonesia on forestry matters, including illegal logging, is the Australia-Indonesia Working Group on Agriculture, Food and Forestry Cooperation (WGAFFC). The last meeting of WGAFFC was held in Indonesia on 27-28 October 2011, where Australia's proposed measures to combat illegal logging were discussed as an agenda item.

Question No. 48

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesian logging and forestry

Question on Notice

Page: 40

Senator Eggleston

Question

Has the Indonesian government expressed concern about Australian government actions on logging and forestry?

Answer

Indonesian Trade Minister Wirjawan, in a letter to the Senate Standing Committee of Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport's inquiry into the Illegal Logging Prohibition Bill (2011), expressed a number of concerns about the Bill. This has also been raised at officials-level (see answer to Question No. 47).

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 49

Program: DFAT

Topic: Human rights in Malaysia

Question on Notice

Page: 44

Senator Kroger

Question

Have there been any enquiries on human rights issues in Malaysia from DIAC since the May (June?) Estimates?

Answer

Yes. In August 2011, in response to a request from DIAC, DFAT provided information on the position of Shia Islam in Malaysia.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 50

Program: DFAT

Topic: LLRC Report

Question on Notice

Page: 58

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What date was the written assessment on the LLRC Report provided to the Minister?

Answer

A ministerial submission on the LLRC report was submitted to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on 24 January 2012.

Question No. 51

Program: DFAT

Topic: Uranium exports to India

Question on Notice

Page: 59

Senator Senator Fawcett

Question

In the six months prior to the Prime Minister's announcement on the decision to export uranium to India, was DFAT or the Foreign minister approached by either the US State Department or members of the administration?

Answer

Yes. The US State Department and administration regularly approach both DFAT and the Foreign Minister to discuss a wide range of matters.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 52

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG

Question on Notice

Page: 59

Senator Eggleston

Question

How many phone calls did the Foreign Minister make to the Australian High Commissioner in PNG since 12 December?

Answer

Seven.

Question No. 53

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question on Notice

Page: 64

Senator Birmingham

Question

Was Minister Rudd present at the Cabinet meetings preceding the announcement by the government on the additional criteria and extension of the Tender Evaluation Board tender process for the Australia Network process?

Answer

Beyond public statements by the Prime Minister, any details of the extent to which the Cabinet considered the Australia Network tender and the nature of those deliberations are confidential to the Cabinet.

Question No. 54

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question on Notice

Page: 64

Senator Birmingham

Question

Was a formal submission on the tender on the Australia Network taken to either of the Cabinet meetings?

Answer

Beyond public statements by the Prime Minister, any details of the extent to which the Cabinet considered the Australia Network tender and the nature of those deliberations are confidential to the Cabinet.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 55

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question on Notice

Page: 67

Senator Birmingham

Question

Can I get the position and title of Mr Brad Orgill and when he was engaged to undertake the role?

Answer

Mr Orgill is the former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of UBS Australasia. He was never formally engaged by the Government.

Question No. 56

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question on Notice

Page: 67

Senator Birmingham

Question

Was Mr Orgill appointed before 16 September, the date on which a revised tender decision was meant to be made?

Answer

Mr Orgill was never formally appointed.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 57

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial travel

Question on Notice

Page: 69

Senator Eggleston

Question

Can you confirm that Minister Rudd's accommodation expenses for a two night stay in Jerusalem was \$4,200 and a one night stay in Stockholm was \$1,700?

Answer

This question should be directed to the Department of Finance and Deregulation, which administers travel costs of Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries and MOP(S) Act staff.

Question No. 58

Program: DFAT

Topic: Migrant Workers Convention

Question on Notice

Page: 70

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Can you provide an update on Australia's response to the Migrant Workers Convention on ratification?

Answer

The Australian Government considers the human rights of migrant workers and temporary entrants are protected under domestic and international law and does not intend to become a party to the Convention on the Human Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families.

Question No. 59

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs

Question on Notice: Page 72

Senator Eggleston

Question

What is the status of the following FTAs: Australia-China; Australia-Gulf Cooperation Council; Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement; Australia-Malaysia; Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus; Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement; Australia-India FTA; the Doha Round; EU; and the Australia-Korea FTA?

Answer

The Australian Government is seeking an FTA with **China** which serves Australia's interests. The 18th round of negotiations was held in Canberra from 19-21 March 2012 and negotiations are ongoing.

Australia-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) negotiations are suspended while the GCC reviews its FTA policy. Australian Ministers have been pressing for the negotiations to resume.

At the inaugural Indonesia-Australia Annual Leaders' meeting on 20 November 2011, Prime Minister Gillard and President Yudhoyono committed to "commence negotiations on an **Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA)** at the earliest opportunity." The IA-CEPA will build upon each country's commitments under the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA), which entered into force for Indonesia on 10 January 2012. Pre-negotiation consultations have been held twice in Indonesia (December 2010 and April 2011) and once in Australia (March 2011).

Dr Emerson met Malaysia's Minister for International Trade and Industry, Mustapa Mohamed, at the most recent Malaysia-Australia Joint Trade Committee meeting in Kuala Lumpur (31 January 2012) to review progress in the **Malaysia-Australia Free Trade Agreement (MAFTA)** negotiations. The Ministers confirmed their commitment to conclude negotiations on MAFTA in March 2012. Officials will meet in late March to consider outstanding issues.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Both parties are committed to concluding a high-quality FTA that builds on each party's AANZFTA commitments

The fourth officials' **Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus** negotiating session, to be held in Brisbane from 27 to 29 March 2012, will focus on rules of origin, customs procedures and labour mobility. A Non State Actor Dialogue on PACER Plus, scheduled to be held in Brisbane on 26 March 2012, is an opportunity for interested members of civil society (i.e., the Pacific business community and non-government organisations) to get an update on the negotiations and express their views to officials involved in the PACER Plus negotiations.

Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement Leaders announced the broad outlines of the TPP Agreement last November. This includes a commitment to pursue a comprehensive, ambitious agreement which eliminates tariffs and other barriers to trade and investment. Australia held bilateral meetings in February 2012 with Japan, Canada and Mexico regarding their interest in TPP membership. The next round of negotiations will take place from 8-18 May 2012 in the United States.

The **Australia-India Comprehensive Economic Agreement (CECA)** negotiations were launched in May 2011 and to date there have been two negotiating rounds: the first round took place in New Delhi on 28-29 July 2011 and the second round was held in Canberra on 17-18 November 2011. A third round is provisionally scheduled to take place in late May 2012.

Although the **Doha Round** remains at a standstill, there were some encouraging signs from last December's WTO Ministerial meeting, attended by Dr Emerson. Fifty countries representing 70 percent of global GDP joined Australia in making a comprehensive pledge against protectionism. During 2012 we will seek to have others join this pledge. Also encouraging were indications of support from a broad range of countries for concepts Australia and some of our likeminded partners advanced to establish new pathways forward for the Round. These concepts include breaking the Round into more manageable parts, adopting trade liberalisation measures that can be agreed in the short term and finding new ways forward for more intractable issues. Progress in the Doha Round remains vital to assist the recovery of the world economy. It is equally important that we continue to champion the vital role of the WTO in providing a framework which safeguards international trade and helps to resolve trade disputes.

Australia's negotiations with **Korea** are well advanced and the Australian Government is working hard to conclude the negotiations as soon as possible. Australia is not engaged in bilateral FTA negotiations with the **EU**.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 60

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs

Question on Notice: Page 72

Senator Eggleston

Question

Regarding the Australia-Korea FTA, what has been the impact of the KORUS FTA on Australia's export market to South Korea? When is an agreement likely to be reached? Is it correct that an agreement was expected to be made by the end of 2012? If so, why the delay and is greater political involvement from the Australian government needed to get this agreement finalised?

Answer

The Korea- United States FTA (KORUS) only entered into force on 15 March 2012. It is, therefore, too early to measure the impact of KORUS on Australian exports to South Korea. Australia's negotiations with Korea are well advanced and the Australian Government is working hard to conclude the negotiations as soon as possible.

In April 2011, during Prime Minister Gillard's visit to Korea, the Prime Minister and Korean President Lee announced they would strive to conclude the negotiations by the end of 2011. However, the divisive political debate in Korea over the ratification of KORUS slowed progress on the Australia-Korea negotiations and the 2011 year-end target date could not be met.

Korea's focus on completing the domestic processes required to bring KORUS into force, following the acrimonious domestic debate in Korea on ratification of the agreement, has continued to impact the progress of Australia's FTA negotiations with Korea. Despite this, the Government is committed to concluding negotiations as soon as possible. Trade Minister Emerson told the ABC Radio's "Rural" program on 9 March, "in terms of the delay, if that were in our hands there would be no delay. I can't say on behalf of the Korean Government the date of which we might be able to finalise this agreement. What I can say is that at my level and at the highest levels of our Government, we're working very hard to complete the negotiations for the deal with Korea."

Question No. 61

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs

Page 72

Senator Eggleston

Question

Have the Koreans signed an FTA with the USA? If so, what impact is this expected to have on (1) Australia's trade with Korea and (2) Australia's FTA negotiations? Is the Department concerned that the US-South Korea FTA will adversely affect our \$630 million beef export trade?

Answer

The Korea-US FTA negotiations were originally concluded in April 2007 but did not enter into force. The FTA was subsequently renegotiated and a new deal (KORUS) signed in December 2010. The Agreement passed through the US Congress in October 2011 and passed through the Korean National Assembly on 22 November 2011. Following domestic implementation processes in both the United States and Korea, KORUS entered into force on 15 March 2012. It is expected that, under KORUS, the United States will gain a competitive advantage over some Australian agricultural exports in the Korean market as the Korean tariffs on US imports of agricultural products, particularly beef, begin to phase-down over 15 years. The Government is concerned about the potential for such a tariff differential to adversely affect our agricultural exports to Korea and is, therefore, striving to conclude negotiations with Korea as soon as possible to safeguard the commercial interests of Australian agricultural exporters.

Question No. 62

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs

Question on Notice

Page 72

Senator Eggleston

Question

What FTAs have been signed since the PM appointed Minister Emerson to the role of Trade Minister?

Answer

Since Dr Emerson was appointed Trade Minister in September 2010, the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA) entered into force for Laos (1 January 2011), Cambodia (4 January 2011) and Indonesia (10 January 2012). As a result, AANZFTA is now in force for all twelve signatories to the agreement. In addition, Minister Emerson signed the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) on 1 October 2011. ACTA establishes a new standard of intellectual property enforcement to help ensure that Australia's innovative and cultural industries enjoy an enhanced level of protection among member countries. ACTA will also help protect Australian consumers from the potential health and safety risks of imported counterfeit products.

Question No. 63

Program: DFAT

Topic: Export of live cattle

Question on Notice

Page: 74

Senator Edwards

Question

What changes in paperwork have been required of exporters of live cattle since the review? Are there plans to extend the changes to the exporters of sheep?

Answer

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is responsible for administering the new Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS) arrangements for exported livestock, which apply to cattle, sheep and all other animals. Detailed information about the process and documentation requirements of the new arrangements is available on the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) website at www.daff.gov.au/aqis/export/live-animals/livestock/escas.

Question No. 64

Program: DFAT

Topic: New Zealand apples

Question on Notice

Page: 75

Senator Fawcett

Question

Has there been any discussion between the Federal government and the Tasmanian government on the ban of New Zealand apples import?

Answer

Yes. DFAT has been advised that the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, has had contact with his Tasmanian counterpart on this issue. Senator Ludwig has stressed that the import policy assessed the quarantine risks and developed science-based conditions for all of Australia

Question No. 65

Program: DFAT

Topic: Leighton Offshore

Question on Notice

Page: 79

Senator Ludlam

Question

What was the precise date of the review of the offshore code of conduct of Leighton?

Answer

EFIC undertakes a review of all credit relationships, at least annually. These reviews comprise an assessment of the business and operations, and financial performance; and other risk factors such as those relating to bribery, money laundering and terrorism financing as required under Australian law.

A review of all facilities relating to the Leighton Group was conducted on 21 December 2010, in the month prior to issuing the performance bonds, and most recently on 4 January 2012 as part of the annual client review process. As part of this process EFIC uses a proprietary service that searches more than 650 data bases to identify information relating to money laundering and terrorism financing activity, but given the breadth of this service, it is capable of revealing other issues that may warrant further investigation, such as reports on bribery or corruption. EFIC's annual review focused on the results of the detailed analysis and did not specifically focus on the Leighton Group's published Code of Ethics.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 66

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contractors

Question in Writing

Senator Humphries

Question

- (A) How many contractors are currently employed in the department/agency?**
- (B) How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 2 years?**
- (C) How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 5 years?**
- (D) How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 10 years?**
- (E) Does the department/agency make a habit of employing contractors to fill positions on a permanent basis?**

Answer

(A) As at 29 Feb 2012, the department employed 414 contractors through a combination of service level/panel contracts or direct hire contracts.

	Direct Contract	Service Level Contract / Panel Providers
DFAT	31	232
APO*	132	
OPO*	19	
	183	232
Total	414	

* Australian Passport Office (APO) and Overseas Property Office (OPO) are funded through special agreements/accounts.

(B) Based on current contracts, as at 29 Feb 2012, there are 48 contracts for a period of more than two years.

(C) Based on current contracts, as at 29 Feb 2012, there are no contracts for a period of more than five years.

(D) Based on current contracts, as at 29 Feb 2012, there are no contracts for a period of more than 10 years.

(E) The department does not employ contractors to fill positions on a permanent basis. Contractors are engaged to supplement seasonal workloads (eg Australian Passport Office) or for specific project work requiring specialist skills for a finite period.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 67

Program: DFAT

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Question on Notice

Question in Writing

Senator Humphries

Questions

- (A) What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5 percent to 4 percent on the department/agency's budget bottom line during financial years 2012/13, 13/14, 14/15?**
- (B) What percentage of the department/agency's budget is designated to staffing?**
- (C) What is the size of the department/agency's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors, and consultants.**
- (D) What specific strategies will the department/agency adopt to ensure continued operation within budget?**
- (E) Will or has consideration been made to reducing staffing compliment including contractors, and consultants?**

Answers

(A) As per the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2011-12, Page 16:

2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
\$19.707 million	\$19.492 million	\$19.709 million

(B) 49.46 per cent (excluding the Overseas Property Office special account).

(C) As published in the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2011-12, the department's average staffing level was 3,875.

As at 29 Feb 2012, the headcount of Australian-based staff, locally engaged staff and contractors is as follows:

	Full time Headcount	Part time Headcount	Total Headcount
Australian Based	2352	177	2529
Locally Engaged Staff	1549	129	1678

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Contractors	414
Total	4621

As published in the Annual report 2010-11, the department entered into a total value of \$771,461 for consultancy contracts valued at \$10,000 or more. To identify the number of individual consultants would be a significant diversion of resources and in these circumstances I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

(D) The additional 2.5 per cent efficiency dividend will be applied to all work units in 2012-13 onwards, including posts and state offices. The Department will be looking at reducing discretionary costs including travel and contractor costs and will continue to identify further savings as required. There will be no post closures or reductions to Australian based staff overseas.

(E) Yes. Refer (D)

Question No. 68

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question on Notice (**REVISED**)

Page: Written

Senator Eggleston

(A) How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?

(B) How many non ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?

(C) This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

Revised Answer (Part A only)

A)

Level	Staff Recruited as at 29 February 2012
Graduates	51
APS1-5	35
APS 6/EL1	35
EL2	4
SES	2
Total	127

B)

Level	Non-Ongoing as at 29 February 2012
APS1-5	64
APS6/EL1	19
EL2	8
SES	8
Total	99

C) As at 29 February 2012 there have been 58 new non-ongoing contracts in the 2011-12 financial year. The average length of a non-ongoing contract is six months.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 68

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?**
- (B) How many non ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?**
- (C) This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?**

Answer

(A)

Level	Staff Recruited as at 28 February 2012
Graduates	52
APS1-5	4
APS 6/EL1	5
Total	61

(B)

Level	Non-Ongoing as at 29 February 2012
APS1-5	64
APS6/EL1	19
EL2	8
SES	8
Total	99

(C) As at 29 February 2012 there have been 58 new non-ongoing contracts in the 2011-12 financial year. The average length of a non-ongoing contract is six months.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 69

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) How many ongoing staff left in the year 2010-11? What classification were these staff?

(B) How many non ongoing staff left in the year 2010-11? What classification were these staff?

Answer

(A)

Level	Ongoing Separations 2010-11
Graduates	4
APS1-5	39
APS 6/EL1	63
EL2	20
SES	11
Total	137

(B)

Level	Non-Ongoing Separations 2010-11
APS1-5	85
APS 6/EL1	23
EL2	10
SES	13
Total	131

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 70

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details i.e. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.

(B) If there are any plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

Answer

(A) There are no planned reductions to Australian-based staff overseas. There may be a reduction in Locally Engaged Staff in some cases, but Heads of Mission will determine if, and where, savings are made at their posts. Any reductions in the number of positions in Canberra will be through natural attrition rather than any program of involuntary redundancies

(B) See (A) above.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 71

Program: DFAT

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) How will the efficiency dividend applied in the 2011-12 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook be implemented in your agency/department?***
- (B) What percentage of your budget must be cut?***
- (C) Will any staff position be cut to meet the efficiency dividend? If yes, provide details of where the positions are located, the classification, whether the position is ongoing or not.***
- (D) Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend***

Answer

- (A)** The additional 2.5 per cent efficiency dividend will be applied to all work units in 2012-13 onwards, including posts and state offices. The Department will be looking at reducing discretionary costs including travel and contractor costs and will continue to identify further savings as required. There will be no post closures or reductions to Australian based staff overseas.
- (B)** The Department's operating appropriation budget will be reduced by 4% from 2012-13.
- (C)** Refer (A)
- (D)** Refer (A)

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 72

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) Please list the SES positions you have in your department/agency in the years 2007-08; 2008-09; 2009-10; 2010-11 and financial year to date.

(B) Identify the different levels and how many are permanent positions.

Answer

(A)

1 July 2007- 30 June 2008

Category	Canberra	State Offices	Overseas	Total
SES Band 1	62	0	24	86
SES Band 2	20	2	2	24
SES Band 3	5	0	0	5
SES Specialist Band 1	1	0	0	1
SES Specialist Band 2	1	0	0	1
Director-General of ASNO*	1	0	0	1
Head of Mission Band 1	0	0	28	28
Head of Mission Band 2	0	0	24	24
Head of Mission Band 3	0	0	9	9
Secretary	1	0	0	1
SES Unattached**	18	0	0	18
Total	109	2	87	198

1 July 2008- 30 June 2009

Category	Canberra	State Offices	Overseas	Total
SES Band 1	64	1	22	87
SES Band 2	21	1	3	25
SES Band 3	5	0	0	5
SES Specialist Band 1	1	0	0	1
SES Specialist Band 2	1	0	0	1
Director-General of ASNO*	1	0	0	1
Head of Mission Band 1	0	0	33	33
Head of Mission Band 2	0	0	22	22
Head of Mission Band 3	0	0	10	10
Secretary	1	0	0	1
SES Unattached**	24	0	0	24
Total	118	2	90	210

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

1 July 2009-30 June 2010

Category	Canberra	State Offices	Overseas	Total
SES Band 1	74	1	23	98
SES Band 2	22	1	4	27
SES Band 3	6	0	0	6
SES Specialist Band 1	1	0	0	1
SES Specialist Band 2	1	0	0	1
Director-General ASNO*	1	0	0	1
Head of Mission Band 1	0	0	26	26
Head of Mission Band 2	0	0	23	23
Head of Mission Band 3	0	0	16	16
Secretary	1	0	0	1
SES Unattached**	20	0	0	20
Total	126	2	92	220

1 July 2010-30 June 2011

Category	Canberra	State Offices	Overseas	Total
SES Band 1	70	1	26	97
SES Band 2	20	1	3	24
SES Band 3	5	0	0	5
SES Specialist Band 1	1	0	0	1
SES Specialist Band 2	2	0	0	2
Director-General ASNO*	1	0	0	1
Head of Mission Band 1	0	0	33	33
Head of Mission Band 2	0	0	18	18
Head of Mission Band 3	0	0	12	12
Secretary	1	0	0	1
SES Unattached**	22	0	0	22
Total	122	2	92	216

July 2011-29 February 2012

Category	Canberra	State Offices	Overseas	Total
SES Band 1	60	1	26	87
SES Band 2	22	1	3	26
SES Band 3	5	0	0	5
SES Specialist Band 1	1	0	0	1
SES Specialist Band 2	2	0	0	2
Director-General ASNO*	1	0	0	1
Head of Mission Band 1	0	0	40	40
Head of Mission Band 2	0	0	17	17
Head of Mission Band 3	0	0	11	11
Secretary	1	0	0	1
SES Unattached**	22	0	0	22
Total	114	2	97	213

(B) As at 29 February 2012, there were a total of 203 permanent (ongoing) SES, eight non-ongoing SES, plus the Secretary and Director-General of the Australian Safeguards and Non-proliferation Office (ASNO). Of the eight non-ongoing SES, four were based in Canberra (all SES band 1s) and four were based overseas (two Band 2s and two Band 3s).

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 73

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question on Notice

Page: Written

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) How many graduates have been engaged this year? Where have they been placed in the department/agency? Were these empty positions or are they new positions?**
- (B) List what training will be provided, the name of the provider and the cost.**

Answer

(A) The number of policy and corporate graduates engaged this year is 52. The graduates have been placed across all divisions in the department. Graduates are placed in vacant positions and count towards a division's staffing levels.

(B) Graduates undertake a two year training program which includes on the job training, professional skills training and academic courses.

Training	Provider	Cost
APSC Graduate Events	APSC	\$15,900
Australia's Strategic Interests	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Australian Identity and Values	Hugh Mackay	\$2,000
Consular Training	In-house	
DFAT Writing Skills	Wordly Wisdom Writing Services	\$21,190
Human Rights	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Induction Training	In-house	
International Relations and World Politics	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Introduction to Australian Foreign Policy	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Introduction to Economics	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Introduction to Exporting	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Introduction to Financial Management	In-house	
Introduction to International Law	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Modern Diplomacy and Representation Skills	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Negotiation Skills	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Presentation and Networking Skills	Not yet contracted	To be determined
Trade Policy	In-house	
World Trade Organisation and Free / Regional Trade Agreements	Not yet contracted	To be determined

Question No. 74

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government Advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) What was the total cost of all advertising for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?**
- (B) For each of those years, list whether the advertising is campaign or non-campaign and details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.**
- (C) Did the Department of Finance and Deregulation provide any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.**
- (D) Did the advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item.**
- (E) Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.**
- (F) What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?**

Answer

(A, B & E): Details of all contracts valued at or over \$10,000 can be found on AusTender – the Commonwealth's procurement reporting system.

The Department's Annual Reports includes information on advertising expenditure.

- The Department's 2010-11 Annual Report, refer Appendix 10 page 228.
- The Department's 2009-10 Annual Report, refer Appendix 10 page 248.
- The Department's 2008-09 Annual Report, refer Appendix 10 page 292.
- The Department's 2007-08 Annual Report, refer Appendix 9 page 312.

(C) The Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFA) provided advice on Smartraveller campaign advertising throughout its development.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

(D) The Department policies comply with the “Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies” as set by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

F) The Department expects the level of expenditure on advertising in 2011-12 to remain consistent with 2010-11 apart from advertising expenditure on the Smartraveller campaign, which is expected to increase to \$3.9 million.

Question No. 75

Program: DFAT

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.*
- (B) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.*
- (C) What is the Department's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.*
- (D) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.*
- (E) What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.*
- (F) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.*
- (G) What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.*
- (H) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.*

Answer

(A) & (C) As at 29 February 2012 the department spent \$3.16 million on hospitality and entertainment in Australia and overseas. Hospitality and entertainment expenditure is not collected separately.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

This expenditure is to facilitate contacts with politicians, government, civic and military officials, business people, journalists, academics and other influential people and organisations in the host country. These contacts assist officers in promoting Australia's interests and policies, and in seeking information that will form the basis of future policy strategies.

Records of hospitality expenditure are maintained on individual files across DFAT's Australian and Overseas network. To provide hospitality expenditure by date, location, purpose and cost of each event would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

(B) & (D) As at 29 February 2012, expenditure on hospitality and entertainment for each Minister's and Parliamentary Secretary's Office was as follows:

Date 8 November 2011
Location Atrium, R G Casey Building, Barton
Purpose Trade Minister delivered the Sir Alan Westerman Lecture on Australian Trade Policy
Cost \$11,731.88

Date 4 August 2011
Location Courgette Restaurant, Canberra
Purpose Working lunch with Russian Ambassador and Foreign Minister's Chief of Staff
Cost \$248.18

(E) & (G) The Department's projected hospitality and entertainment expenditure for 2011-12 is expected to be similar to expenditure patterns in 2010-11. Refer (A).

Details of hospitality and entertainment expenditure are maintained on individual files across DFAT's Australian and overseas network. To provide anticipated hospitality and entertainment expenditure by date, location, purpose and cost of each event would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances; I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

(F) NIL

(H) NIL

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

Question No. 76

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Board Appointments

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) *List all of the boards within this portfolio including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.*
- (B) *What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?*
- (C) *Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.*

Answer

- (A) All boards including board titles, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members are listed below.
- (B) The gender ratio for each board follows.
The gender ratio for boards across the department is 33.96 per cent female (not including ex officio members)
- (C) Appointments to each board for the FYTD are listed below.

Australia Awards

(A) Title: Australia Awards.

Term of appointment: Members are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research.

Tenure of appointment: 2 years with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

Professor Geoff Gallop AC	Chair	13/05/2011	12/05/2013
The Hon Bruce Baird AM	Member	13/05/2011	12/05/2013
Ms Simone Bartley	Member	13/05/2011	12/05/2013
Ms Jillian Broadbent AO	Member	13/05/2011	12/05/2013
Professor Peter Coaldrake AO	Member	13/05/2011	12/05/2013
Secretary DFAT	ex officio	ongoing	
Director General AusAID	ex officio	ongoing	
Secretary DIISRTE	ex officio	ongoing	

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

- (B) Gender ratio: 40 per cent female (not including ex officio).
- (C) No board appointments for the FYTD.

Australia-China Council (ACC)

- (A) Title: Australia-China Council.

Terms of appointment: Appointments are made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Trade.

Tenure of appointment: 5 years for Chair, 3 years for member.

Members:

The Hon. Warwick Smith AM	Chair	9/09/2011	8/09/2016
Mr Kevin Hobgood-Brown	Deputy Chair	1/11/2010	31/10/2013
Professor Susan Street	Member	1/11/2010	31/10/2013
Mr Peter Cleary	Member	31/08/2009	30/08/2012
Mr Chris Clark	Member	10/09/2009	9/09/2012
Ms Suhanya Raffel	Member	1/11/2010	31/10/2013
Professor Fiona Wood FRACS AM	Member	1/02/2011	31/01/2014
Dr Heather Smith, Deputy Secretary DFAT	ex officio	ongoing	

- (B) Gender ratio: 42.85 per cent female (not including ex officio).

- (C) One board appointment for the FYTD - Chair of the Board, The Hon. Warwick Smith AM.

Australia-India Council (AIC)

- (A) Title: Australia-India Council.

Terms of appointment: All members (other than the Chair and the ex officio) are appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Chair is appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: up to 5 years with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

Mr John McCarthy, AO	Chairman	14/12/2009	13/12/2012
Ms Suzanne Davies	Member	1/08/2010	31/07/2013
Professor Brien Holden OAM	Member	7/09/2009	6/09/2012
Professor Margaret Sheil	Member	7/09/2009	6/09/2012
Professor Gillian Whitlock	Member	7/09/2009	6/09/2012
Mr David Stuart (DFAT Division Head responsible for South Asia)	ex officio	ongoing	

- (B) Gender ratio: 60 per cent female (not including ex officio).
- (C) No board appointments for the FYTD.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

Australia-Indonesia Institute (AII)

(A) Title: Australia-Indonesia Institute.

Terms of appointment: The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the nomination of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. A member of the Institute, other than the Chairperson and the ex-officio DFAT member shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair), part-time basis for 3 years (members). Possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

Professor Tim Lindsey	Chair	9/02/2011	8/02/2013
Andrew Donovan	Member	18/06/2009	17/06/2012
Professor Bruce Robinson	Member	18/06/2009	17/06/2012
Mr Greg Sheridan	Member	18/06/2011	28/07/2012
Professor Julia Howell	Member	10/02/2011	9/02/2014
Professor David Hill	Member	10/02/2011	9/02/2014
Dr James Bradfield	Member	10/02/2011	9/02/2014
Ms Rufiath Yousuff	Member	10/02/2011	9/02/2014
Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary DFAT)	ex officio	ongoing	

(B) Gender ratio: 25 per cent female (not including ex officio)

(C) No board appointments for the FYTD.

Australia International Cultural Council (AICC)

(A) Title: Australia International Cultural Council (AICC).

The terms of all AICC board members, other than ex officio members, expired mid-March 2011 and no new members have been appointed.

Ex officio members:

Ms Sally Basser, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts, Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport.	ex officio
Ms Gillian Bird, Deputy Secretary DFAT	ex officio
Mr Bruce Dover, Chief Executive, Australia Network.	ex officio
Dr Ruth Harley, Chief Executive Officer, Screen Australia.	ex officio
Ms Kathy Keele, Chief Executive Officer, Australia Council	ex officio
Mr Peter Grey, Chief Executive Officer, Austrade	ex officio
Mr Andrew McEvoy, Managing Director, Tourism Australia.	ex officio
Ms Penny Hutchinson, Director, Arts Victoria.	ex officio

(B) Gender ratio: 50 per cent female, all ex officio.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

(C) No board appointments for the FYTD.

Australia-Japan Foundation

(A) Title: Australia-Japan Foundation.

Terms of appointment: The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Members of the Board, other than the Chairperson and the ex-officio DFAT member, shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair) and for 3 years (Members) with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

Mr Murray McLean OAM, Chairman (Vic)	Chairman	1/01/2012	31/12/2016
Mr Peter Yates AM (Vic)	Member	1/02/2010	1/02/2013
Mr Tim Lester (WA)	Member	1/02/2010	1/02/2013
Mr Tony Ellwood (Qld)	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Professor Kate Darian-Smith (Vic)	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Mr Greg Earl (NSW)	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Ms Melanie Brock (WA)	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Dr Heather Smith, Deputy Secretary DFAT	ex officio	ongoing	

(B) Gender ratio: 28.57 per cent female (not including ex officio).

(C) One board appointment for the FYTD – Mr Murray McLean OAM, Chairman.

Australia-Korea Foundation (AKF)

(A) Title: Australia-Korea Foundation.

Terms of appointment: The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Members of the Board, other than the Chairperson and the ex-officio DFAT member, shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair) and for 3 years (Members) with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

Mr David Palmer	Chairman	17/07/2008	16/07/2013
Dr Bronwen Dalton	Member	15/09/2009	14/09/2012
Professor Chung-Sok Suh	Member	12/07/2011	31/12/2012
Mr Carrillo Gantner AO	Member	29/04/2011	28/04/2014
Mr James Casey	Member	11/07/2011	10/07/2014
Professor Michael Manton FTSE	Member	2/02/2012	2/02/2015
Dr Heather Smith Deputy Secretary DFAT	ex officio	ongoing	

(B) Gender ratio: 16.70 per cent female (not including ex officio).

(C) Two board appointments for the financial year 2010-11, Mr James Casey, Professor Michael Manton, one re-appointment Professor Chung-Sok Suh.

Australia-Malaysia Institute (AMI)

(A) Title: Australia-Malaysia Institute

Term of appointment: The Chair and members (other than the ex officio member) shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 3 years.

Members:

All Board positions expired on 31 December 2011. A submission is currently with the Minister to appoint a new Board.

(B) Gender ratio: Not applicable as all Board members' terms have expired.

(C) No appointments in FYTD. A submission is currently with the Minister to appoint a new Board.

Australia-Thailand Institute (ATI)

(A) Title: Australia-Thailand Institute.

Term of appointment: The Chair and members (other than the ex-officio member) shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 3 years.

Members:

Ms Margie West AM	Member	1/11/2009	31/10/2012
Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary DFAT)	ex officio	ongoing	

Other Board positions expired on 31 December 2011.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

(B) Gender ratio: Not applicable as other Board members' terms have expired.

(C) No new appointments in FYTD. A submission is currently with the Minister to appoint a new Board.

Council for Australian-Arab Relations (CAAR)

(A) Title: Council for Australian-Arab Relations.

Term of appointment: The Chair of the Council and members of the board (other than ex officio members) shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs with the agreement of the Minister for Trade. Chair and Members may be re-appointed for a term.

Tenure of appointment: 3 years for members.

Members:

Mr Ahmed Fahour	Chairman	31/01/2011	30/12/2013
Dr Glen Simpson	Deputy Chairman	31/01/2011	30/12/2013
Mr Anthony Abraham	Member	10/12/2009	9/12/2012
Dr Anne Aly	Member	10/12/2009	9/12/2012
The Hon Steve Bracks, AC	Member	22/09/2011	22/07/2014
Mr Syd Giller	Member	10/12/2009	9/12/2012
Ms Libby Lloyd, AM	Member	10/12/2009	9/12/2012
Dr Kevin Moriarty	Member	10/12/2009	9/12/2012
Mr David Stuart (DFAT delegate of the Secretary)	ex officio	ongoing	
Mr David Landers (Austrade delegate of the CEO)	ex officio	ongoing	

(B) Gender ratio: 25 per cent female (not including ex officio).

(C) One board appointment, The Hon Steve Bracks AC, and one ex officio appointment, Mr David Landers, for FYTD.

Council on Australia Latin American Relations (COALAR)

(A) Title: Council on Australia Latin American Relations (COALAR).

Term of appointment: The Chair of the Council and members of the board (other than ex officio members) shall be appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs in consultation with the Minister for Trade. Chair and Members may be re-appointed for a term.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 3 years.

Members:

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

Mr David Luboff	Chairperson	1/07/2010	30/06/2013
Mr Richard Egerton-Warburton AO	Deputy Chair	1/07/2004	30/06/2012
Professor Margaret Gardner AO	Member	5/03/2007	30/06/2013
Ms Cristina Talacko	Member	6/09/2007	30/06/2013
Mr Craig Foster	Member	1/07/2010	30/06/2013
Mr Rob Grant	Member	1/07/2010	30/06/2013
Mr Greg Martin	Member	1/07/2010	30/06/2013
Mr Charlie Sartain	Member	1/07/2004	30/06/2012
Ms Heather Smith (Deputy Secretary DFAT)	ex officio	ongoing	
Mr Peter Grey (CEO Austrade)	ex officio	ongoing	
Mr Colin Walters (Head of International Education Division DIISRTE)	ex officio	ongoing	

(B) Gender ratio: 25 per cent female (not including ex officio).

(C) No new board appointment FYTD.

Editorial Advisory Board (EAB)

The terms of the Chair and all members of the Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) expired on 30 June 2011 and as at 16 February 2012 no new members have yet been appointed.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

(A) Title: Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

Term of appointment: All appointments are made in accordance with the EFIC Act 1991.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 3 years, possible re-appointment for a second term or third terms if the member has been appointed at any time as the Chairperson.

Members:

Mr Angus Armour	Managing Director	31/10/2003	By Board decision
Mr Andrew Mohl	Chairperson	9/12/2011	8/12/2014
Ms Sally Pitkin	A/g Deputy Chairperson*	1/08/2010	31/07/2013
Mr Bruce Brook	Member	1/03/2010	28/02/2013
Ms Jennifer Seabrook	Member	5/04/2011	4/04/2014
Mr David Evans	Member	9/12/2011	8/12/2014
Ms Deena Shiff	Member	9/12/2011	8/12/2014
Mr Nicholas Minogue	Member	9/12/2011	8/12/2014
Mr Dennis Richardson (Secretary DFAT)	ex officio	ongoing	
Mr Bruce Gosper (Deputy Secretary DFAT)	Alternate Government Member ex officio	ongoing	

*(Deputy Chair as of
9 December 2011)

(B) Gender ratio: 37.50 per cent female (not including ex officio members).

(C) Four new board appointments in the FYTD, Andrew Mohl, David Evans, Deena Shiff, and Nicholas Minogue.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

Australian National Commission for UNESCO

(A) Title: Australian National Commission for UNESCO.

Terms of appointment: the Chair and community members shall be appointed by the Minister; the members will be Australian citizens. The Parliamentary Observers are nominated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs until ceasing to be members of the Senate or House of Representatives or Dissolution of the House of Representatives, whichever is sooner. The Minister will consult the Leader of the Opposition in appointing the Parliamentary Observer representing the Opposition.

Tenure of appointment: part-time basis for up to 4 years; with possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

Ms Anthea Tinney	Chair	16/06/2009	15/06/2013
vacant	Youth member		
Professor Denise Bradley AO	Specialist member	16/06/2009	15/06/2013
Dr James Bradfield Moody	Specialist member	16/06/2009	15/06/2013
Professor Abdullah Saeed	Specialist member	16/06/2009	15/06/2013
Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP	Parliamentary Observer		
Senator Marise Payne	Parliamentary Observer		

Departmental Representatives:

DFAT	ex officio	ongoing
DBCDE	ex officio	ongoing
DEWHA	ex officio	ongoing
DEEWR	ex officio	ongoing
DIAC	ex officio	ongoing
DIISRTE	ex officio	ongoing
DHA	ex officio	ongoing
AusAID	ex officio	ongoing

(B) Gender ratio: 50 per cent female (not including ex officio or Parliamentary Observers).

(C) The terms of two specialist members expired in 2011. There is currently no appointed youth representative to the Board. A Ministerial Submission recommending the reappointment of Mr Hadlow and Ms Grant and appointment of a new youth representative was not actioned by the then-Minister for Minister Affairs prior to his resignation. A Ministerial Submission on these appointments will be put to the new Minister for consideration in the coming weeks.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) – Policy Advisory Council (ACIARPAC)

(A) Title: Policy Advisory Council

Terms of Appointment: Membership of the Council is limited to 13, comprising a President, the Director General of AusAID's nominee and not fewer than nine and no more than eleven other members appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Minister is required, under the Act, to ensure that a substantial number of the members of the Council are residents of countries other than Australia, and to have regard for the knowledge of appointees concerning the agricultural problems of developing countries or their experience in organising or conducting agricultural research.

Tenure of appointment: Part time basis for 3 years.

Members:

Professor Beth Woods OAM	President	21/3/2011	20/3/2014
Dr Subbanna Ayyappan	Member	19/7/2010	18/7/2013
Mr Brown Bai	Member	22/8/2011	21/8/2014
Dr Monthathip Chanphengxay	Member	22/8/2011	21/8/2014
Dr Patricio Faylon	Member	22/8/2011	21/8/2014
The Hon. Professor Ruth Oniang'o SS DSM	Member	7/7/2010	6/7/2013
Dr Muhammad Tusneem	Member	22/8/2011	21/8/2014
Dr Nguyen Van Bo	Member	19/7/2010	18/7/2013
Mr Ian Kershaw (nominee of the Director General AusAID)	ex officio	ongoing	

(A) Gender ratio: 33 per cent female.

(B) Four new Council appointments FYTD: Mr Brown Bai, Dr Monthathip Chanphengxay, Dr Patricio Faylon and Dr Muhammad Tusneem.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, Thursday 16 February 2012

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) – Commission for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR Commission)

(A) Title: Commission for International Agricultural Research

Terms of appointment: The Commissioners are appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part time basis for 3 years.

Members:

Ms Joanna Hewitt AO	Chair	7/04/2011	6/04/2014
Mr David Crombie	Commissioner	7/04/2011	6/04/2014
Dr Nick Austin	Commissioner	31/07/2009	30/07/2012
Professor Kym Anderson	Commissioner	7/04/2011	6/04/2014
Dr Conall O'Connell	Commissioner	7/04/2011	6/04/2014
Dr Joanne Daly	Commissioner	29/10/2009	28/10/2012
Mr Peter Baxter (Director General AusAID)	Commissioner	6/05/2010	5/05/2013

(B) Gender ratio: 28.57 per cent female.

(C) No new Commission appointments FYTD.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 77

Program: DFAT

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer

Yes. The Department administers its discretionary grants in accordance with the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines.

Question No. 78

Program: DFAT

Topic: Freedom of Information

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?**
- (B) What was the total cost to the Department to process FOI requests for 2009-10 and 2010-11?**
- (C) What is the total cost to the Department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?**
- (D) How many FOI requests did the Department receive for the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each financial year, how many requests were denied and how many were granted? Did the Department fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?**
- (E) How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the Department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?**
- (F) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date?**

Answer

- (A) Yes.** The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, established under the *Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010*, provides advice to all agencies governed by the Freedom of Information Act 1982 with respect to responding to FOI requests. This advice is available at http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/guidelines.html#foi_guidelines. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provided FOI Guidance Notes to all departments on 28 July 2011. This is available at http://www.dpmc.gov.au/foi/guidance_notes.cfm. Prior to the reforms of 1 November 2010, FOI Guidelines for all Government agencies were issued by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, and are used in responding to FOI requests which were submitted prior to 1 November 2010. DFAT also receives legal advice from time to time from external legal advisers on specific FOI matters, including the Australian Government Solicitor.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

(B) (i) The total cost to DFAT to process FOI requests for 2009-10 was \$1,325,263. This information is publicly available at http://www.dpmc.gov.au/foi/annual_reports.cfm.

(ii) The total cost to DFAT to process FOI requests for 2010-11 was \$1,151,963. This information is publicly available at http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/reports/FOIAR_10-11/index.html

(C) DFAT compiles information on costs relating to FOI at the end of each financial year and this information is provided to the Office of the Information Commissioner for publication in the usual reporting cycle. Reporting partial year results may not provide an accurate comparison to previous whole year data. Answering this question would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources in undertaking the task part way through the reporting cycle. The process will be undertaken at the end of the reporting period. This information will then be published by the Office of the Information Commissioner on their website.

(D) (i) DFAT received 115 FOI requests during the 2009-10 financial year. In 2009-10,

- 15 requests resulted in access being granted in full
- 52 requests resulted in access being granted in part
- 12 requests resulted in access being denied in full
- 23 requests were withdrawn

- In terms of processing times, the following data is reported and published:

2009-10	0-30 days	31-60 days with consultation	31-60 days without consultation	61-90 days	Over 90 days
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	28	8	16	13	14

Note that a range of statutory extensions of time are permitted under the FOI Act in certain circumstances. Response times over 30 days do not necessarily indicate that the response is overdue, once statutory extensions are allowed for.

This information is publicly available at http://www.dpmc.gov.au/foi/annual_reports.cfm

- (ii) DFAT received 170 FOI requests during 2010–11 financial year. In 2010-11,
- 26 requests resulted in access being granted in full
 - 57 requests resulted in access being granted in part
 - 21 requests resulted in access being denied in full
 - 33 requests were withdrawn

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

- In terms of processing times, the following data is reported and published:

2009-10	0-30 days	31-60 days with consultation	31-60 days without consultation	61-90 days	Over 90 days
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	34	28	14	5	23

Note that a range of statutory extensions of time are permitted under the FOI Act in certain circumstances. Response times over 30 days do not necessarily indicate that the response is overdue, once statutory extensions are allowed for.

This information is publicly available at
http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/reports/FOIAR_10-11/index.html.

(E) DFAT has received 59 FOI requests between 1 July 2011 and December 31 2011. During that period,

- 6 requests resulted in access being granted in full
- 32 requests resulted in access being granted in part
- 6 requests resulted in access being denied in full
- 8 requests were withdrawn

- In terms of processing times, the following data has been submitted covering the period 1 July 2011 – December 31 2011:

2009-10	Applicable statutory time period met (30 days)	Up to 30 days over the applicable statutory time period	31-60 days over the applicable statutory time period	61-90 days over the applicable statutory time period	More than 90 days over the applicable statutory time period
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	11	2	11	5	15

Note that a range of statutory extensions of time are permitted under the FOI Act in certain circumstances. Response times over 30 days do not necessarily indicate that the response is overdue, once statutory extensions are allowed for.

Information for the financial year as a whole will become publicly available as part of the usual reporting cycle.

(F) None.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 16 February 2012

Question No. 79

Program: DFAT

Topic: Community Cabinets

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this financial year to date?
- (B) How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel?
- (C) How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodation and any other expenses.
- (D) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?

Answers:

- (A) Information on Ministers' domestic travel costs is available from the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD).
- (B) Information on Ministerial Staff domestic travel, including costs, is available from DoFD.
- (C) One to two departmental officers (from State Offices) attended each Community Cabinet meeting this financial year to date. Costs were absorbed in the department's operating budget.
 - One departmental officer (from the State Office) attended the 1 September 2011 Community Cabinet meeting held in Yeronga, QLD. No portfolio Ministers were present. The costs involved were negligible and absorbed as part of normal operations.
 - The State Office Director attended the 3 October 2011 Community Cabinet held in Kingston, Tasmania. The Foreign Minister was

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 16 February 2012

present. The costs involved were negligible and absorbed as part of normal operations.

- Two departmental officers (from the State Office) attended the 9 November 2011 Community Cabinet meeting held in Werribee, Victoria. The Foreign Minister was present. The costs involved were negligible and were absorbed as part of normal operations.

(D) Information on the cost to Ministers' offices for the Community Cabinet meetings is available from DoFD.

There was no additional cost to the department arising from Community Cabinet meetings this financial year to date. Departmental travel costs were absorbed within the department's operating budget.

Question No. 80

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Reviews

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For this financial year to date:

- (A) How many Reviews are being undertaken?
- (B) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
- (C) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- (D) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- (E) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- (F) What reviews are planned?
- (G) When will each of these reviews be concluded?

Answer

- (A) None.
- (B) None.
- (C) Not applicable.
- (D) Not applicable
- (E) Not applicable
- (F) None
- (G) Not applicable

Question No. 81

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consultants

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) How many consultancies were undertaken in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10?**
- (B) How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.**
- (C) How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.**

Answer

- (A) Details of all consultancy contracts valued at or over \$10,000 let in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are available in DFAT's Annual Reports for the respective financial years and on AusTender – the Commonwealth's procurement reporting system. To provide details of consultancies and contracts awarded valued at less than \$10,000 would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.
- (B) Details of all consultancies valued at or more than \$10,000 can be found on AusTender - the Commonwealth's procurement reporting system.
- (C) Four (4) consultancies are planned for 2011-12 and these are included in DFAT's Annual Procurement Plan. When contracts are awarded, the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement are published on AusTender – the Commonwealth's procurement reporting system

Question No. 82

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?**
- (B) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11**
- (C) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date?**
- **Which agency or agencies provided these services?**
 - **What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12?**
 - **What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?**
- (D) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?**
- **Which agency or agencies provided these services?**
 - **What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12?**
 - **What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?**

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Answer

(A) Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs Media Monitors account

Mr Rudd (from 14 September 2010)

14 September 2010 to 30 June 2011 - \$68,204

Mr Smith (until 13 September 2010)

1 July 2010 to 14 September 2010 - \$20,267

1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 - \$63,278

1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 - \$44,301

3 December 2007 to 30 June 2008 - \$27,771

(Total media costs for Mr Smith from 3 December 2007 to 30 June 2008 were \$29,071. A trial package for Australian Associated Press was used from 14 December 2007 to 29 February 2008 at a cost of \$1300).

Office of the Minister for Trade Media Monitors account

Dr Emerson (from 14 September 2010)

14 September 2010 to 30 June 2011 - \$19,484

Mr Crean (until 28 June 2010)

1 July 2010 to 14 September 2010 - \$7,038

1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 - \$24,082

1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 - \$17,333

3 December 2007 to 30 June 2008 - \$1,610

(Total media costs for Mr Crean from 3 December 2007 to 30 June 2008 were \$2,910. A trial package for Australian Associated Press was used from 14 December 2007 to 29 February 2008 at a cost of \$1,300).

Office of the Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs Media Monitors account

Mr Marles

14 September 2010 to 30 June 2011 - \$27,559

Mr Kerr

Media Monitors account was set up for the office in January 2008 but no accounts were received.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Office of the Parliamentary Secretary for Trade Media Monitors account

Mrs Elliot

No request has been received from Mrs Elliot's office for a Media Monitors account to be set-up.

Mr Byrne

No request was received from Mr Byrne's office for a Media Monitors account to be set-up.

TOTAL COSTS FOR MEDIA MONITORING FOR ALL MINISTERS/PARL SECS:

FY 2010-11 - \$142,551
FY 2009-10 - \$87,360
FY 2008-09 - \$61,634
FY 2007-08 - \$31,981 (from 3 December 2007 to 30 June 2008)

(B)

The cost of media monitoring services engaged by the department (Media Liaison Section, PMB) are set out below:

FY 2010-11 - \$226,001.00
FY 2009-10 - \$213,555.40
FY 2008-09 - \$203,040.41
FY 2007-08 - \$170,380.85

(C)

- Media Monitors
- \$95,000
- Mr Rudd: 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011 - \$9,661.47
- Mr Emerson: 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011 - \$27,439.02
- Mr Marles: 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011 - \$19,941.96
- Total: 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012 - \$57,042.45

(D)

- Media Monitors, AAP, and Factiva
- \$251,599.00
- 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012 - \$150,261.25

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 83

Program: DFAT

Topic: Social Media

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online?

(B) If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issued. If no, please explain why not.

Answer

(A) Yes.

(B) Internal Administrative Circulars entitled "DFAT Twitter Account" and "Publishing Images (Photographs and Videos) Online: Policies and Procedures" have been revised to incorporate links to the new Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) Protocol. In addition, the department's Conduct and Ethics Manual provides general guidance to staff on this issue. Internal working papers of this nature are not tabled.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 84

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contractors

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For this financial year to date:

- (A) Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details.***
- (B) Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details.***
- (C) Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details.***
- (D) Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details.***
- (E) Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details.***
- (F) Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details.***
- (G) Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details.***
- (H) Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details.***
- (I) Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.***

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Answer

As at 29 February 2012:

- (A) No.
- (B) No.
- (C) No.
- (D) No.
- (E) No.
- (F) No.
- (G) No.
- (H) Yes. DFAT engaged The Boston Consulting Group Pty Ltd from 29 August to 5 September 2011 to review the department's IT organisation.
- (I) No.

Question No. 85

Program: DFAT

Topic: Discretionary Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) *Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.***
- (B) *Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?***

Answer

- (A)** A list of the Department's grants is publicly available on its website which includes details of grant recipients, purpose and funding location (<http://www.dfat.gov.au/dept/grants/index.html>)
- (B)** The Department administers its discretionary grants in accordance with the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 16 February 2012

Question No. 86

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) How many reports were commissioned by the Government in your portfolio in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?

(B) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.

(C) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?

(D) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answers

(A) Similar Questions in Writing about Commissioned Reports were received from the Committee for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. Attached are copies of answers provided in responses to questions from hearings held at:

- Additional estimates 2009-2010; February 2010. Question 24 (attachment A)
- Supplementary Budget estimates 2010-2011; October 2010. Question 29 (attachment B)
- Supplementary Budget estimates 2011-2012; 20 October 2011. Questions 156 and 157 (attachment C)

(B) None.

(C) Not Applicable.

(D) Not Applicable.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional estimates 2009-2011; February 2010
Answers to questions on notice from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Question 24

Portfolio overview

Topic: Commissioned reports

Question in writing

Senator Trood asked:

- A. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in the Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio since November 2007?
- B. Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
- C. How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- D. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer

- A. A report was produced as an output of the Review of Export Policies and Programs (the 'Mortimer' Review).
- B. The Mortimer Review was commissioned on 21 February 2008 (date of announcement by the Minister for Trade). The report produced by the Review team was handed to the Government on 2 September 2008 and released publicly on 22 September 2008. The Terms of Reference are attached. The Committee members were Mr David Mortimer AO and Dr John Edwards. Professor Kym Anderson, Mr Andrew Stoler, Mr Peter Gallagher, and Dr Nicholas Gruen oversaw analysis of FTAs that was incorporated in the report. Further details of the review and the report are available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) website http://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/export_review/index.html.
- C. The total cost of the Mortimer Review (including the report's publication) was \$394,611. The Panel was supported by the Review Secretariat, made up of 11 staff: 5 x DFAT, 4 x Austrade, 1 x DAFF and 1 x DRET. The DFAT component was: 1 x SES Band 2, 2 x BB4, 1 x BB3 and 1 x BB2.
- D. The report has been released publicly. The Government has taken action on key issues raised in the report, including enhancements to the Export Market Development Grants Scheme; increased funding for clean energy; domestic reforms to improve productivity, skills, infrastructure and competitiveness (including commencement of wide-ranging infrastructure enhancement projects, such as the National Broadband Network); the conclusion and entry-into-force of the Chile-Australia FTA and the ASEAN-Australia-

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional estimates 2009-2011; February 2010
Answers to questions on notice from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

New Zealand FTA; the commencement of negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement; and the establishment of the Ministerial Council on International Trade.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Budget supplementary estimates 2010-2011; October 2010
Answers to questions on notice from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Question 29

Portfolio overview

Topic: Commissioned reports

Written question

Senator Trood asked:

- A. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio since Budget Estimates 2010? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
- B. How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- C. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer

- A. None.
- B. Not applicable.
- C. Not applicable.

Question No. 156 and 157

Program: DFAT

Topic: Commissioned reports

Questions in Writing

Senator Eggleston

- A) How many reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio for the year 2010-11? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
- How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
 - What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?
- B) How many reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio FYTD? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
- How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
 - What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answers

A) None.

B) None.

Question No. 87

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.)

(B) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?

(C) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer

(A). The 2011-12 statistics relating to small business will be collated following the end of the financial year and will be provided to the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE) in response to their yearly survey. DIISRTE are expected to release this survey in September 2012.

(B). Departmental practices accord with the requirements outlined in Finance Circular 2008/10 on the Procurement 30 Day Policy for Small Business. Late payment interest penalty for the current financial year amounts to \$8,846.21. No late payments were paid in the previous financial year.

(C). The interest charge was calculated in accordance with the Finance Circular 2008/10. The applicable General Interest Charge (GIC) rate was determined under section 8AAD of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953*, as detailed on the Australian Taxation Office website.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 88

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government stationery requirements

Question on Notice

Page: Written

Senator Eggleston

Question

How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date?

Answer

For the period 1 July 2011 to 31 January 2012 the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on stationery requirements for portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries was \$17,443.10.

Question No. 89

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)?**
- (B) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.**
- (C) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?**
- (D) What is the cost for this financial year to date?**
- (E) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers?**
- (F) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.**
- (G) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?**
- (H) What is the cost for this financial year to date?**
- (I) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines?**
- (J) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.**
- (K) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?**
- (L) What is the cost for this financial year to date?**

Answer

Pay TV (Questions A-D)

Yes. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade subscribes to pay television. Open source reporting on matters related to the Department's work assists the department fulfil its functions.

Television subscriptions are decentralised and managed and budgeted by individual work units in Canberra, across 95 posts overseas and by 7 state and territory offices, according to their varying requirements. Aggregating subscriptions and their costs across all DFAT offices, both overseas, and in Australia would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

Television subscriptions in Canberra have the following approximate GST inclusive costs:

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Service Provider	Channels included	<u>2011-12</u> <u>Estimated cost</u>	<u>2011-12 to 29</u> <u>Feb 2012</u>
Foxtel	Sky News, CNN, CNBC, BBC World, Sky Weather, and Sky Business	\$17,760.00	\$10,360
TransACT	Fourteen channels including: Channel News Asia, Al Jazeera, ABC, ABC2, SBS, Prime, WIN and Capital	\$12,176.88	\$9,166.48
Parliamentary Broadcasting Service	Parliamentary channels	\$7,000	\$7,229.42

Newspapers (Questions E-H)

Yes. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade subscribes to a range of newspapers – hardcopy and online – including major national and international papers. Open-source reporting on matters related to the Department's work assists the department fulfil its functions.

Newspaper subscriptions are decentralised and managed and budgeted by individual work units in Canberra, across 95 posts overseas and by 7 state and territory offices, according to their varying requirements. Aggregating these subscriptions and their costs would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

Magazines (Questions I-L)

Yes. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade subscribes to a range of magazines, hardcopy and online. Open-source reporting on matters related to the department's work assists the department fulfil its functions.

Magazine subscriptions are decentralised and managed and budgeted by individual work units in Canberra, across 95 posts overseas and by 7 state and territory offices, according to their varying requirements. Aggregating these subscriptions and their costs would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

Question No. 90

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Questions

(A) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately), undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type- i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

(B) For the financial year to date, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.

(C) For the financial year to date, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.

(D) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

(E) Are employees taking the most direct route when travelling: If not, please explain why?

(F) Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the cost per employee

(G) When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as their Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Answer

(A) and (B)

Costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984 are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance). Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas visits are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation* and its supporting information. The reports and supporting information are also published on the Finance web site.

(C)

- (i) Details for travel for the period 1 July to 31 October 2011 were provided in the response to Question on Notice 170. The following information is for travel for the period 1 November 2011 to 29 February 2012.
- (ii) There were no security costs incurred for departmental officers.
- (iii) Departmental officers are entitled to a travel allowance which covers food, beverages and incidentals. It is not possible to itemise separately the amounts spent on food, beverages, alcohol and incidentals for each staff member for each trip.
- (iv) In some cases a staff member may have a 'nil' response for travel costs (eg if the staff member accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary on a SPA flight), for accommodation costs (eg if the staff member stayed at the Official Residence or privately) or for travel allowance (eg if the staff member attended functions involving meals which were funded by the Australian or a foreign government, then that staff member would not be paid travel allowance for that meal).
- (v) The class of travel to which departmental officers are entitled is based on whether the staff member is SES or non-SES. All staff travel business class for international flights over two hours in duration. In the case of a single-sector trip (not including check-in time) of less than two hours in duration the class of travel is economy class for non-SES staff. This provision applies equally to return travel involving sectors of less than two hours duration. (If business class is not available, SES staff travel first class and non-SES staff travel the next class below business class.) Australian domestic travel that is part of an international journey will be of the same standard as the international component, wherever possible.
- (vi) The costs provided in this response are as at 16 March 2012. Some costs may still not have been finalised.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

1. Mr Rudd travelled to the USA from 10 to 12 November 2011.

Mr Rudd was not accompanied by any Canberra-based DFAT staff on this visit.

2. Mr Rudd travelled to India from 13 to 16 November 2011.

Mr Rudd was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

First Assistant Secretary, South and West Asia and Middle East Division

(i)	4,313.57	(ii)	362.95	(iii)	Nil	(iv)	200.73 Visas
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3. Mr Rudd travelled to Korea from 28 November to 1 December 2011.

Mr Rudd was not accompanied by any Canberra-based DFAT staff on this visit.

4. Mr Rudd travelled to Germany, Lithuania, Italy, Libya, Qatar, the USA and El Salvador from 4 to 19 December 2011.

Mr Rudd was accompanied by two Canberra-based DFAT staff members to Germany, three to Lithuania, four to Italy, one to Libya, two to Qatar, one to the USA and two to El Salvador. The total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for each of these staff is as follows:

First Assistant Secretary, Europe Division

(i)	13,181.63	(ii)	1,881.78	(iii)	927.73	(iv)	226.72 Fees
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Assistant Secretary, Pakistan and Afghanistan Branch

(i)	12,041.18	(ii)	954.82	(iii)	Nil	(iv)	190.73 Visas
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Assistant Secretary, Middle East Branch

(i)	10,542.05	(ii)	731.34	(iii)	249.73	(iv)	249.89 Visas
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Director, South America Section

(i)	10,058.00	(ii)	747.00	(iii)	362.00	(iv)	Nil
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Executive Officer, EU and Western Europe Branch

(i)	8,070.00	(ii)	931.32	(iii)	380.69	(iv)	1.04 Fees
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Diplomatic Courier

(i)	35,526.83	(ii)	3,174.69	(iii)	1,302.53	(iv)	Nil
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5. Mr Rudd travelled to Indonesia and the USA from 8 to 15 January 2012.

Mr Rudd was accompanied by two Canberra-based DFAT staff members to Indonesia. The total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff is as follows:

Ambassador for People Smuggling Issues

(i)	4,358.52	(ii)	716.26	(iii)	241.68	(iv)	490.65 Fees
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Assistant Secretary, Indonesia Branch

(i)	2,552.85	(ii)	665.39	(iii)	Nil	(iv)	241.61 Fees
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Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

6. Mr Rudd travelled to France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Germany, Ethiopia and Switzerland from 18 to 30 January 2012.

Mr Rudd was accompanied by three Canberra-based DFAT staff to France, Belgium, the United Kingdom and Germany; and two to Ethiopia. The total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff is as follows:

First Assistant Secretary, Europe Division

(i)	9,798.92	(ii)	3,668.90	(iii)	1,510.21	(iv)	250.81 Fees
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Assistant Secretary, Africa Branch

(i)	10,953.00	(ii)	901.00	(iii)	97.00	(iv)	Nil
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Director, Western Europe Section

(i)	9,722.19	(ii)	2,810.22	(iii)	1,001.87	(iv)	706.53 Fees
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Diplomatic Courier

(i)	14,615.41	(ii)	1,472.76	(iii)	1,046.25	(iv)	Nil
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7. Mr Rudd travelled to Germany from 2 to 6 February 2012.

Mr Rudd was accompanied by two Canberra-based DFAT staff. The total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff is as follows:

Assistant Secretary, Northern, Southern and Eastern Europe Branch

(i)	7,408.87	(ii)	941.11	(iii)	Nil	(iv)	191.33 Fees
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Executive Officer, Northern, Southern and Eastern Europe Branch

(i)	10,092.97	(ii)	1,529.67	(iii)	499.32	(iv)	534.00 Passport/ Fees
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8. Mr Rudd travelled to Mexico and the USA from 19 to 24 February 2012.

Mr Rudd was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Mexico. The total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

Assistant Secretary, G20 and International Economy Branch

(i)	10,061.00	(ii)	356.00	(iii)	149.41	(iv)	Nil
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9. Dr Emerson travelled to the USA from 9 to 14 November 2011.

Dr Emerson was not accompanied by any Canberra-based DFAT staff on this visit.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

10. Dr Emerson travelled to Indonesia from 18 to 20 November 2011.

Dr Emerson was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member. The total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

Assistant Secretary, Indonesia Branch

(i)	3,700.25	(ii)	1,313.97	(iii)	264.51	(iv)	25.37	Departure tax
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11. Dr Emerson travelled to Vietnam and Switzerland from 12 to 20 December 2011.

Dr Emerson was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Vietnam and one to Switzerland. The total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff is as follows:

Deputy Secretary

(i)	17,975.72	(ii)	3,750.14	(iii)	1,838.38	(iv)	Nil
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Assistant Secretary, South-East Asia Bilateral Branch

(i)	4,206.84	(ii)	496.01	(iii)	Nil	(iv)	Nil
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12. Dr Emerson travelled to Switzerland and Malaysia from 26 January to 1 February 2012.

Dr Emerson was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Switzerland and two to Malaysia. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff is as follows:

Deputy Secretary

(i)	6,357.72	(ii)	627.00	(iii)	124.31	(iv)	Nil
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Assistant Secretary, South-East Asia Bilateral Branch

(i)	4,176.14	(ii)	1,125.12	(iii)	Nil	(iv)	Nil
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Executive Officer, South-East Asia Bilateral Branch

(i)	5,446.78	(ii)	872.59	(iii)	159.98	(iv)	Nil
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13. Mr Marles travelled to the Seychelles, the Maldives and Bangladesh from 6 to 14 November 2011.

Mr Marles was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to the Maldives and one to Bangladesh. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for these staff is as follows:

First Assistant Secretary, South and West Asia and Middle East Division

(i)	4,262.17	(ii)	1,084.99	(iii)	237.07	(iv)	240.45	Visas
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Executive Officer, South and Central Asia Branch

(i)	6,040.38	(ii)	1,113.92	(iii)	177.38	(iv)	0.40	Fees
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14. Mr Marles travelled to Solomon Islands, Micronesia, Tuvalu and Samoa from 13 to 16 December 2011.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Mr Marles was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

(i)	48.23	(ii)	520.04	(iii)	73.22	(iv)	Nil
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15. Mr Marles travelled to Uruguay from 18 to 22 December 2011.

Mr Marles was not accompanied by any Canberra-based DFAT staff on this visit.

16. Mr Marles travelled to France, Jamaica, Guyana, Grenada, Barbados, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela from 25 January to 5 February 2012.

Mr Marles was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Jamaica, Guyana, Grenada, Barbados, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

Executive Officer, Canada and Latin America Branch

(i)	13,688.00	(ii)	1,684.00	(iii)	1,156.00	(iv)	389.00 Visas, vaccinations
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17. Mr Marles travelled to Vanuatu from 15 to 17 February 2012.

Mr Marles was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member. The total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

Assistant Secretary, Pacific Islands Branch

(i)	Nil	(ii)	346.92	(iii)	Nil	(iv)	Nil
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18. Mrs Elliot travelled to Hong Kong from 8 to 11 November 2011.

Mrs Elliot was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member. The total cost of (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, (iii) travel allowance, and (iv) any other expenses for this staff member is as follows:

Director, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan Section

(i)	7,494.75	(ii)	2,041.90	(iii)	510.45	(iv)	66.54 Fees
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(D) As at 29 February 2012, DFAT had spent \$17.66 million on travel this year. This figure includes airfares, accommodation, meals and other travel related expenses. The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow expenditure to be broken up to the level of detail sought. To attempt to extract this data would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources'.

(E) Yes. Staff travel is limited to a range of approved travel routes and must be in accordance with the International Best Fare of the Day policy.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

(F) The provision of one airline/club membership purchased at official expense is a condition of service for SES staff. Wherever possible, SES staff are encouraged to pay for this membership with official frequent flyer points.

Non SES staff are not eligible for membership at official expense of any airline's Club Lounge. The Department does not separately record lounge membership. To extract this data would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

(G) No.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 91

Program: DFAT Portfolio Overview

Topic: Legal Costs

Questions in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Questions

- (A) *What sum did the department spend on legal services FYTD within the department? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- (B) *What sum did the department spend on legal services FYTD from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- (C) *What sum did the department spend on legal services FYTD from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- (D) *What sum did the department spend on legal services FYTD from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***

Answers

(A) The total expenditure by the department (including both bills paid and payable) on external legal services for the financial year to 29 February 2012 was \$2 096 887.

It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the total legal services expenditure according to each service and its cost. To do so would involve an unreasonable diversion of government resources.

(B) The total expenditure by the department on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor for the financial year to 29 February 2012 was \$904 940 broken down as follows: (i) \$694 483 for commercial advice; (ii) \$79 289 for litigation and dispute resolution; and (iii) \$131 168 for general advice.

(C) The total expenditure by the department on legal services from private firms in Australia for the financial year to 29 February 2012 was \$420 440 broken down as follows: (i) \$364 704 for commercial advice; (ii) \$14 407 for litigation and dispute resolution; and (iii) \$41 329 for general advice.

(D) The figures provided above in relation to total expenditure by the department on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor and private firms do not include the external legal services expenditure by posts overseas. This additional amount was \$771 507 for the financial year to the end of February 2012.

It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the total external legal services expenditure by posts overseas according to each service and its cost. To do so would involve an unreasonable diversion of government resources.

Question No. 92

Program: DFAT

Topic: Executive Coaching & Leadership Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For this FYTD, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant. Also include the reason for the study.

Answer

For this FYTD (at 9/03/2012), 53 DFAT employees are undertaking undergraduate and postgraduate studies in the following disciplines:

Accounting
Business
Commerce
Development
Finance Journalism
Government
International Relations
International Studies
Law
Management
Psychology
Science
Strategic Affairs
Translation

The total cost for education expenses FYTD is \$42,223. The average cost per participant over the FY is \$1400 (based on 30 personnel reimbursed this FYTD).

A total of 2800 hours of study leave has been granted this FYTD (53 hours average per student).

Study is undertaken to allow officers to develop their professional skills in academic disciplines that are relevant to the department's core business output.

Question No. 93

Program: DFAT

Topic: Executive Coaching & Leadership Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information FYTD:

- 1. Total spending on these services**
- 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification**
- 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted**
- 4. The names of all service providers engaged**

(B) For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4). Above, please provide:

- 1. The name and nature of the service purchased**
- 2. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based**
- 3. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification**
- 4. The total number of hours involved for all employees**
- 5. The total amount spent on the service**
- 6. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)**

(C) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:

- 1. The location used**
- 2. The number of employees who took part on each occasion**
- 3. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part**
- 4. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location**

Answer

- (A)
1. For this FYTD, \$6930 has been spent on executive coaching and \$170,347 on leadership training services.
 2. Four Executive Level 1 employees were offered and took part in coaching services. 806 executive employees were offered leadership training including all SES band levels; Executive Level 2 and Executive Level 1 officers.
 3. A total of 103 executives employees engaged in leadership training including all SES band levels, Executive Level 2 and Executive Level 1 officers. Study leave was not granted to these employees for their training.
 4. The May Group was the provider of the executive coaching services noted at A4. Providers engaged for leadership development services so far in 2011-12 are: Yellow Edge; the Australian Public Service Commission; the Harvard Kennedy School; Melbourne Business School; and The Australian New Zealand School of Government.
- (B) For each service purchased:
1. Executive coaching services were provided on a one-on-one basis whilst all leadership programs were group based.
 2. Executive coaching and leadership training totalled approximately 1922 hours for all executive employees.
- (C) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises:
1. Training locations that were used externally included: the Australian Public Service Commission; the Harvard Kennedy School in Boston; Melbourne Business School; The May Group in Canberra, MTAA House Pty Ltd (Canberra); and Australian Government School of Management in Sydney.
 2. A total of 31 executive employees were trained at external locations.
 3. Training provided at external locations totally approximately 885 hours.
 4. The cost to utilise external premises in Canberra for the delivery of leadership training for DFAT executives was \$800.

Question No. 94

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Media Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) *In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:*

- 1. *Total spending on these services***
- 2. *The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification***
- 3. *The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted***
- 4. *The names of all service providers engaged***

(B) *For each service purchased from a provider listed under 4. above, please provide:*

- 1. *The name and nature of the service purchased***
- 2. *Whether the service is one-on-one or group based***
- 3. *The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification***
- 4. *The total number of hours involved for all employees***
- 5. *The total amount spent on the service***
- 6. *A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)***

(C) *Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises please provide:*

- 1. *The location used***
- 2. *The number of employees who took part on each occasion***
- 3. *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part***
- 4. *Any costs the department or agency incurred to use the location***

Answer

- (A) In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:
1. For this FYTD, \$10,368 has been spent on media training.
 2. Twenty SES Officers and four Executive Level 2 officers have been offered media training.
 3. Four SES Band 1 and four Executive Level 2 officers have utilised these services. Study leave was not granted to these employees for their training.
 4. Laurie Wilson and Associates was engaged to deliver media training.
- (B) For each service purchased from a provider listed under 4 above, please provide:
1. The service, titled 'Media Skills Training and Interaction with the Media' is a day-long workshop.
 2. The training is delivered one-on-one and group based.
 3. Four SES Band 1 and four Executive Level 2 officers have utilised these services.
 4. Training provided at external locations totalled approximately 56 hours.
 5. The total amount spent on the service is \$9,688.
 6. The fees were charged as a complete package.
- (C) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises please provide:
1. Training locations that were used externally included: MTAA House Pty Ltd (Canberra) and the National Press Club (Canberra).
 2. A total of three executive employees were trained at external locations.
 3. Training provided at external locations totalled approximately 28 hours.
 4. The cost to utilise external premises in Canberra for the delivery of the media training was \$680.

Question No. 95

Program: DFAT

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Question on Notice

Page: 95

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?**
- (B) For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.**

Answer

- (A) As at 15 March 2012, DFAT has been advised by the Family Assistance Office that 15 employees are eligible for payment of Paid Parental Leave payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme.
- (B) For the year 2011-12, DFAT has provided 12 employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme.

Question No. 96

Program: DFAT

Topic: Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries

Question on Notice

Page: Written

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.**
- (B) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.**
- (C) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification.**

Answer

- (A) Nil
(B) Nil
(C) Nil

Question No. 97

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate Cars

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) How many cars are owned by each department and agency in your portfolio?***
- (B) Where is the car/s located?***
- (C) What is the car/s used for?***
- (D) What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?***
- (E) How far did each car travel this financial year to date?***

Answer

- (A) The department currently owns 434 motor vehicles
- (B) DFAT's vehicles are dispersed across our 95 overseas posts.
- (C) The vehicles are used to perform a range of departmental functions overseas including; driving Heads of Mission to officials meetings and functions to fleet vehicles used for diplomatic courier services..
- (D) Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across DFAT's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.
- (E) Details of car mileage are maintained on individual files across DFAT's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 98

Program: DFAT

Topic: Taxi Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.

(B) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.

Answer

(A) & (B)

Information on DFAT expenditure on taxis is not separately recorded. It would entail significant diversion of resources to collate this expenditure and to break it down in to business groups. In the circumstances, I do not consider that additional work can be justified.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 16 February 2012

Question No. 99

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Printing of Documents

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Does the department print any hard copies of reports/statements/papers they produce? If yes, please list how many copies, where they are delivered and the cost.

Answer

The department printed the following documents:

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Annual Report 2010-2011. A total of 1900 copies were printed for delivery to Parliament, the public and internal use at a cost of \$24,260.85 (including GST)
- Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office Annual Report 2010-2011. A total of 1100 copies were printed for delivery to Parliament, the public and internal use at a cost of \$18,784.08 (including GST)
- Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2011-2012. A total of 500 copies were printed for delivery to Parliament and internal use at a cost of \$2,574.00 (including GST).

Question No. 100

Program: DFAT

Topic: Provision of equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided.**
- (B) What equipment is provided to department/agency staff? Please list what the equipment is, the cost, the classification of the staff receiving the equipment and the reason why**

Answer

(A)

Yes. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) provides Information and Communications Technology (ICT) support for portfolio-related activities in accordance with Department of Finance and Deregulation (DOFD) guidelines for:

- . The Minister for Foreign Affairs;
- . The Minister for Trade;
- . The Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs;
- . The Parliamentary Secretary for Trade, and their offices.

DFAT provides each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary with ICT equipment to support the operation of their offices and the work of their staff. Office equipment includes: laptop/PC, Blackberry, mobile phone, iPad, and iPhone.

ICT equipment is also available for the personal residence of the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary. Personal residence equipment includes: laptop, ADSL (Internet) connection, PC, printer, and fax.

There is no 'standard' offering as such; rather the mix of ICT equipment provided is determined by the particular needs of each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary, their staff and office.

The total cost of providing ICT 'services' to Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries includes both equipment and services such as voice and data (3G or ADSL) connections to utilise devices provided.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
 Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Total Cost of ICT services to Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries

The total annual cost of ICT services (devices and services) provided to Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries by the DFAT is set out below. Disaggregating costs down to the individual office or individual would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

Period	Total Costs
2011-12 (1 Jul 11 – 31 Dec 11)	\$206,298
2010-11	\$737,339

(B)

DFAT provides ICT equipment to departmental staff and to staff in other agencies/departments under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for ICT Services.

The baseline ICT service package provided to DFAT staff consists of a desktop computer and desk phone. This is a standard offering to all staff and is not determined by classification.

Printers and multi-function devices (print, copy, scan and fax) are generally shared resources.

The provision of additional equipment such as mobile phones, blackberries and laptops is determined by business need, typically related to specific job functions – such as blackberries for travelling executives

DFAT provides ICT services to over 40 other government agencies and departments under MOU which includes arrangements for cost recovery for these services. Typically this includes desktop computing services.

Total Cost of ICT Services to Staff - 2011-12

This information is consistent with DFATs submission to the 2010-11 Cross Agency ICT Benchmarks report. DFATs position is that disaggregating costs down to the individual staff and classification level would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

DFAT ICT Cost Profile	FY 2010-11
Operating Expenditure	119,432,564
Operating Revenue	23,870,139
Net Operating Expenditure*	95,562,425
Capital Expenditure	34,136,034

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 101

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing in overseas posts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

How many Heads of Australian Missions around the world employ chefs and how many employ cooks? Which missions are they?

Answer

As at 29 February 2012, 24 Australian ambassadors/high commissioners employed chefs and 39 employed cooks.

Chefs
Abuja
Bandar Seri Begawan
Bangkok
Brussels
Lima (part-time)
London
Los Angeles
Malta
Manila
Moscow
Nairobi
New York UN
Ottawa
Paris
Port Moresby
Port of Spain
Pretoria
Rome
Taipei ACIO
Tehran
Tokyo
Washington
Wellington#
Zagreb

#The occupant's title is Residence Manager/Chef

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Cooks
Abu Dhabi
Accra
Addis Ababa
Amman*
Ankara
Athens *
Bali *
Beijing
Berlin
Brasilia
Budapest
Buenos Aires
Colombo
Dhaka
Dili
Hanoi
Harare
Ho Chi Minh City
Honiara
Honolulu*
Islamabad
Jakarta
Kathmandu
Kuala Lumpur
Kuwait City
New Delhi*
New York CG*
Nicosia*
Paris OECD
Phnom Penh*
Rangoon
Riyadh
Seoul
Shanghai
Singapore
Stockholm
Suva
Vienna
Vientiane

*The occupant's title is Cook/Housekeeper or Cook/House Manager

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 102

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing in overseas posts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

What is the difference between the two, for the purposes of their assignment to a mission?

Answer

The terms chef and cook are interchangeable depending on the use of the titles in each location. The use of the term chef in some countries may reflect the qualifications held by the individual.

DFAT does not assign cooks/chefs to overseas missions. Employment is by local hire by the Head of Mission or Head of Post.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 103

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing in overseas posts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Why do Heads of Missions need chefs and why do they need cooks?

Answer

Heads of Mission who employ a chef or cook use them to assist with representation activities.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 104

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing in overseas posts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

What determines whether a post gets a cook or chef?

Answer

Individual Heads of Mission or Heads of Post will determine if they require the services of a cook or chef depending on the nature of their representational duties.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 105

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing in overseas posts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

How are cooks and chefs recruited?

Answer

Chefs like any other domestic staff, are the private employees of heads of mission who assess the requirements of each domestic staff position and determine the skills and experience required.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 106

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing in overseas posts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Of the missions with chefs, are those chefs local employees or Australian citizens?

Answer

Five of the twenty four chefs are Australian citizens. The others are nationals of the host government, or third country nationals.

Question No. 107

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing in overseas posts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Of the missions with chefs (as opposed to cooks), please detail:

- (A) Each chef's term of employment/tenure*
- (B) The process by which each chef was sourced or recruited*
- (C) Whether the Department paid any relocation costs for chefs who are Australian citizens and, if so, the cost of that relocation*
- (D) The diplomatic status of those chefs (e.g. diplomatic immunity)*
- (E) The cost of maintaining those chefs (e.g. housing, car etc.)*
- (F) The qualifications of those chefs (e.g. have they come from the Ritz Carlton or a sandwich bar in Wagga Wagga)*
- (G) The duties of the chefs at each of the missions (e.g. all meals, evening meals only, state/formal dinners etc.)*
- (H) Why a chef is required at those particular missions*
- (I) The number of times the foreign Minister has visited the countries in which the missions are located in 2010-11 and to date in 2011-12.*
- (J) The total spend on hospitality – food, wine and entertainment but excluding salaries – at those missions for the previous five financial years.*

Answer

- (A) The duration of employment is normally the posting term of the officer.
- (B) As the domestic staff are private employees of the head of mission or head of post, the department does not hold information on the process by which each chef was sourced or recruited.
- (C) No relocation costs are paid by the Department.
- (D) Chefs have no diplomatic status and travel on ordinary passports.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

(E) In addition to their salaries, some chefs may receive housing at the official residence as part of their remuneration package. They do not receive government-funded benefits, such as vehicles.

(F) The department does not hold information on the qualifications of the chefs.

(G) The head of mission/head of post will determine the duties of the chefs at each post.

(H) The head of mission or head of post will assess the requirements of each domestic staff position and determine the skills and experience required.

(I) In 2010-11 and for the current financial year to 6 February 2012, the former Foreign Minister Mr Rudd visited the following countries in which missions with chefs are located. The figures represent the number of times the Foreign Minister visited those countries within the above-mentioned timeframe.

Belgium	2
France	2
Italy	3
Japan	1
Kenya	1
New Zealand	1
Papua New Guinea	1
South Africa	1
Thailand	1
The Philippines	1
United Kingdom	3
USA	8

(J) Details of hospitality expenditure are maintained on individual files across DFAT's overseas network. To provide hospitality expenditure for missions with chefs would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 108

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

What does DFAT understand Mr Brad Orgill's role in the Australia Network tender process to be?

Answer

Mr Orgill was to lead parallel negotiations with both tenderers. Mr Orgill was never formally engaged and his involvement in the tender process ceased following the termination of the tender process by the Government.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 109

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

What contact have Mr Richardson and Mr Orgill had in relation to the Australia Network tender?

Answer

Mr Richardson met with Mr Orgill for preliminary discussions on 12 October 2011.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 110

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

What contact have departmental officials had with Mr Orgill in relation to the Australia Network tender?

Answer

DFAT officials met with Mr Orgill on 12 October 2011 for preliminary discussions on a course of action for proceeding with parallel negotiations. Mr Orgill was then out of Australia for a period of approximately 4 weeks, during which time the Government made the decision to terminate the tender process.

Question No. 111

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

- (A) Was Mr Orgill's salary paid by DFAT?**
- (B) If not, is DFAT aware which Department was responsible for the employment of Mr Orgill?**
- (C) What was/is the nature of Mr Orgill's contract?**
- (D) How much was/is Mr Orgill paid?**

Answer

- (A) Mr Orgill was never formally engaged by DFAT. Consequently, he received no salary.**
- (B) Not applicable.**
- (C) Not applicable.**
- (D) Not applicable.**

Question No. 112

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

Is DFAT responsible for the negotiation of contract term with the ABC?

Answer

DFAT was responsible for negotiating and entering into contract extensions with the ABC to cover the interim period between the expiry of the 2006 contract and the finalisation of arrangements to cover the future delivery of the Australia Network by the ABC. PM&C is leading policy discussions with DBCDE, DFAT and other relevant agencies to settle advice to the Government on the ongoing governance arrangements to give effect to the Government's decision to make the Australia Network a permanent feature of the ABC.

Question No. 113

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

What discussions has DFAT had with DBCDE or PM&C since the announcement that the ABC will hold the Australia Network contract in perpetuity regarding this announcement, the ongoing operation of the Australia Network, or the tender process?

Answer

PM&C is leading policy discussions with DBCDE, DFAT and other relevant agencies to settle advice to the Government on the ongoing governance arrangements to give effect to the Government's decision to make the Australia Network a permanent feature of the ABC.

Question No. 114

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

What discussions has DFAT had with the ABC since it was awarded the Australia Network contract regarding the ongoing operation of the Australia Network service?

Answer

PM&C is leading policy discussions with DBCDE, DFAT and other relevant agencies to settle advice to the Government on the ongoing governance arrangements to give effect to the Government's decision to make the Australia Network a permanent feature of the ABC. The ABC is being consulted as part of that process. DFAT has also negotiated interim contract extensions with the ABC pending the finalisation of these long-term arrangements.

Question No. 115

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

Has DFAT had input into the development of the contract between the Government and the ABC for the operation of the Australia Network? Please detail.

Answer

DFAT is the agency responsible for managing the existing contractual relationship between the Government and the ABC for the operation of the Australia Network. PM&C is leading policy discussions with DBCDE, DFAT and other relevant agencies to settle advice to the Government on the process for determining the ongoing governance arrangements to give effect to the Government's decision to make the Australia Network a permanent feature of the ABC. The precise form of the long-term governance arrangements for ABC's delivery of the Australia Network is still to be finalised.

Question No. 116

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

- (A) What conditions does DFAT believe are necessary for the Australia Network to meet its obligations as a tool of soft diplomacy?***
- (B) Has DFAT advised DBCDE or PM&C of these requirements?***
- (C) Do these requirements differ from the obligations set out in the previous Australia Network contract? If so, please detail all differences.***

Answer

PM&C is leading policy discussions with DBCDE, DFAT and other relevant agencies to settle advice to the Government on the ongoing governance arrangements to give effect to the Government's decision to make the Australia Network a permanent feature of the ABC. Given the Government's ongoing consideration of these matters, it is not appropriate to comment further.

Question No. 117

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

What questions did Mr Richardson ask of the Tender Evaluation Board at their 12 May 2011 meeting?

Answer

Mr Richardson met with the Tender Evaluation Board on 12 May 2011 to discuss the TEB's report and to receive a briefing regarding its recommendations. Mr Richardson asked some clarification questions of the TEB to assist him in his role as the Approver.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 118

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

Has the steering committee met since the announcement of the ABC as holder of the contract in perpetuity? When? What was discussed?

Answer

No.

Question No. 119

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia Network tender

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

Has the Government been approached by Sky seeking compensation as a result of the tender process not proceeding? Has compensation been offered? Which Department is responsible in terms of any compensation claims?

Answer

The Australian News Channel (ANC) sought reimbursement of the costs it incurred from participating in the Australia Network tender process. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has managed the Government's process for considering ANC's claim. A settlement has been reached between the Commonwealth and ANC. As the terms of the settlement with ANC are confidential, we are unable to comment further.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 120

Program: DFAT

Topic: Whaling

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

Please detail all resources committed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as well as known contributions from other agencies, towards the return to Australia in January 2012 of three protesters who boarded the Japanese vessel Shonan Maru No 2.

Answer

Officers from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's North Asia Division, International Organisations and Legal Division, Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division, and the Australian Embassy in Tokyo worked on this issue.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 121

Program: DFAT

Topic: Whaling

Question in Writing

Senator Birmingham

Question

What was the Department's total expenditure on this exercise?

Answer

The Department managed the incident from within existing resources.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 122

Program: DFAT

Topic: Europe

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- (A) *Who represented Australia at the funeral of former Czech president Vaclav Havel?***
- (B) *Was an invitation extended to the Coalition to be represented at the Funeral?***

Answer

- (A)** Then Australian Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Ms Ruth Pearce, represented Australia at the funeral.
- (B)** No invitation was extended through DFAT to the Coalition to be represented at the funeral, nor would this be normal practice.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 123

Program: DFAT

Topic: Israel UN resolutions

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

(A) Could the Department please outline if Israel, or other members of the international community, have raised concerns after Australia changed its vote on three annual UN resolutions relating to Israel in November 2011?

(B) If so, what were the concerns raised?

Answer

(A) Israel has raised these votes with Australia.

(B) We do not propose to disclose in-confidence diplomatic discussions.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 124

Program: DFAT

Topic: Palestinian membership of UNESCO

Question in Writing

Senator KROGER

Question

Australia was one of 14 countries to vote against Palestine membership of the UN cultural organisation UNESCO.

- (A) Was there contact between the Foreign Minister and the Prime Minister regarding Australia's position on the UN vote?***
- (B) Was there any contact between the Foreign Minister's staff and the Prime Minister's staff regarding Australia's position on the UN vote?***
- (C) Did any meetings or discussions take place between the Foreign Minister and the Prime Minister regarding the vote? Did any meetings or discussions take place between their offices? If so, in either instance, were minutes taken? If so, will the department please table these minutes.***
- (D) Who advised the Government about this change in strategic position?***
- (E) Was any advice sought from the Department regarding the change in Australia's position? Did the Department give any advice?***
- (F) How was the change in position transmitted to the Foreign Minister? What was his response?***

Answer

With respect to questions (A), (B), (C) and (F), the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not comment on discussions between Ministers or between their offices.

With respect to questions (D) and (E), the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provided advice to the then-Foreign Minister concerning the Palestinian application to join UNESCO. As this was the first time that UNESCO's General Conference had been called upon to vote on the Palestinian application for UNESCO membership, Australia did not have an earlier position on the matter.

Question No. 125

Program: DFAT

Topic: Saudi Arabia

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Questions

- (A) *Is DFAT aware of the Australian International Islamic College who is seeking legal action against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in an attempt to recover more than \$2 million in unpaid fees? Has DFAT been briefed on the matter?***
- (B) *Has the school sought assistance or advice from DFAT as to resolving the matter?***
- (C) *Has the school sought consular assistance in Riyadh?***
- (D) *Have meetings been held either in Australia or Saudi Arabia to resolve the matter? If so, when, where and was DFAT involved in these meetings?***
- (E) *While the school is trying to resolve the matter through legal channels is DFAT aware of any diplomatic channels that are trying to resolve the matter?***

Answers

- (A)** DFAT is not aware that the AIIC is seeking legal action against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in attempt to recover more than \$2 million in unpaid fees.
- (B)** The AIIC Chairman, Mr Abdul Quddoos Azhari, wrote to the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Rudd on 8 October 2010 and 24 January 2011 notifying him of the financial issues faced by the AIIC and seeking Mr Rudd's assistance.
- (C)** DFAT has no record of the AIIC seeking consular assistance in Riyadh on this matter.
- (D)** DFAT is aware through correspondence received from the AIIC Chair that AIIC representatives met the Executive Director of Independent Schools Queensland on 7 October 2010. The Department is unaware of other meetings that may have taken place and has not been involved in any meetings.
- (E)** Yes, DFAT received in April and May 2010 diplomatic notes from the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Canberra and a letter in June 2010 from the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia on this matter. DFAT wrote to the AIIC Chair in November 2010 advising him that the Saudi Embassy in Australia had sought advice on whether the Australian Government would object to the Embassy assisting the AIIC, and that DFAT had advised the Embassy that the Department had no objection to the Saudi Embassy proposal. DFAT subsequently followed up with the Saudi Embassy and was advised that the AIIC request for financial assistance was under active consideration.

Question No. 126

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iranian wide web

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- (A) *Is DFAT aware of reports that Iran is developing an 'in-nation' web for Iranians?***
- (B) *What is DFAT's analysis of the impact this would have on Iranians?***
- (C) *If so, is DFAT aware of the stage of its development?***
- (D) *Is DFAT aware of any other nations considering this nation exclusive approach?***

Answer

(A) Yes.

(B) and (C) The Iranian Ministry of Communications and Technology has announced plans to launch a 'national internet' later this year. According to the Ministry, the national internet would run alongside, rather than replace, current internet services. On 29 February 2012, the Iranian Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Reza Taghipour, said 'the existence of security threats as well as cultural, social and moral threats, has led many countries to launch a parallel internet network alongside the World Wide Web'. He added that the internet could not be trusted. This is a commonly held view within the Iranian Government, as illustrated by the Supreme Leader's directive of 7 March 2012, ordering the establishment of the Supreme Council for Virtual Space with the goal of 'the complete and up-to-date supervision of cyber space both inside the country and globally'.

As the 'in-nation' web initiative is not yet implemented, DFAT is not in a position to assess its impact.

(D) DFAT is aware that a number of countries are considering in-nation webs as a potential strategy to deal with a range of cyber safety and cyber security challenges.

Question No. 127

Program: DFAT

Topic: Nauru policy briefing on Off-Shore Processing

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- (A) Could the Department please confirm if Mr Marles contacted Nauru's recently elected President, Sprent Dabwido, in order to discuss the possibility of re-opening the Nauru off shore processing centre.*
- (B) Has DFAT been asked by either Mr Rudd or Mr Marles (or their office) to organise further preliminary discussions or meetings about off-shore processing in Nauru?*
- (C) Has DFAT been approached by Nauru officials in relation to this issue? If so, what is the nature of this contact?*

Answer

- (A) Yes. Mr Marles contacted Nauru President Dabwido on 23 December 2011 to ensure the Nauru Government was aware of the change in the Australian Government's position regarding Nauru as a possible location for an offshore processing centre.
- (B) No.
- (C) There has been no approach to DFAT by Nauru officials in relation to this issue.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 128

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG paedophiles

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- (A) Is DFAT aware of recent reports that Papua New Guinea's Foreign Minister Jamie Graham has ordered the Immigration Department to request foreign missions to provide a list of convicted paedophiles residing in the country?***
- (B) Does DFAT share the Government's apparent concern that Papua New Guinea could become a regional location for paedophiles?***
- (C) What evidence is there to suggest this?***

Answer

DFAT is aware of reports but has not received any such request.

DFAT is concerned about paedophilia in any country / region and supports efforts to combat paedophilia internationally.

Question No. 129

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG-AFL Taskforce

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

On 26 September 2011, Mr Marles announced the establishment of a Papua New Guinea AFL Taskforce, a partnership between the Australian Government and the AFL.

- (A) Will the Department please outline who will be the Government's representative on this taskforce?***
- (B) What will be the frequency of the taskforce's meetings? Where will the meetings be located? Who will be invited to attend?***
- (C) Will the Department please provide a breakdown of costs associated with implementing this taskforce? What will the costs be of travel associated with this taskforce?***

Answer

(A) The Government's representatives on the Taskforce are:

- The Hon Richard Marles MP
Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs/Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Islands Affairs
- Mr Ian Kemish
Australian High Commissioner to PNG
- Mr Jeremy Bruer
Assistant Secretary, PNG and Fiji Branch, DFAT Canberra
- Mr Bruce Lendon
Counsellor Political-Economic, Australian High Commission,
- Mr Tim Bryson
First Secretary, Australian High Commission

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

(B) The Taskforce has met three times, once via teleconference and twice in Port Moresby to coincide with Mr Marles's visits. The Taskforce will continue to meet on an ad hoc basis. Members of the Taskforce are invited to attend Taskforce meetings. Other members include:

- The Hon Ano Pala MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration
- Mr Loi Bakani
Governor, Bank of PNG
- Mr John Kali
Secretary, Department of Personnel Management
- Mr Ian Clyne
CEO Bank South Pacific and Chairman, POM AFL Supervisory Board
- Mr Kenneth Sumbuk
Pro Vice Chancellor, University of PNG
- Mr Scott Reid
Chairman, AFL PNG Board
- Mr Tony Woods
AFL International Development Manager
- Mr Andrew Cadzow
AFL Asia Pacific Development Manager
- Mr Walter Yangomina
AFL PNG Operations Manager
- Mr Veari Maha
First Secretary, Office of Foreign Minister Pala
- Mr Ross Evans
Coordinator, PNG-Australia Taskforce Secretariat

(C) AusAID has allocated \$55,000 to the taskforce from 2011-2013. Of this, \$50,000 is for the salary of the coordinator of the PNG-Australia Taskforce, of which \$3,141 has been spent to date. The travel allocation is \$5,000. There have been no travel costs associated with the Taskforce to date and there is no specific Taskforce-related travel currently planned.

Separate to AusAID funding, room hire and hospitality associated with the taskforce meetings have cost a total of \$2,220.

Question No. 130

Program: DFAT

Topic: Migrant Worker Rights

Question in Writing

Page: 2

Senator Rhiannon

- (A) *Why has the Australian Government decided not to ratify the Convention on Migrant Worker Rights?
Has the Government undertaken any analysis of the implications of ratifying for Australian domestic legislation?***
- (B) *What changes are needed to ensure Australia complies with the Convention?***
- (C) *If it has not been done, are there any plans for the government to undertake this analysis?***
- (D) *What communication has DFAT or the Minister had with the Minister for Immigration or Dept regarding this convention?***
- (E) *Has DFAT / Minister provided any advice to Immigration or received any advice from Immigration about proceeding or not with the convention?
Please detail any communication and advice.***

Answer

(A) Following detailed analysis of the Migrant Workers Convention in 2009, the Government determined in 2010 that the Convention was incompatible with domestic migration policies.

The Government also determined that the human rights of migrants and temporary entrants to Australia were protected under existing domestic and international law, including the human rights conventions to which Australia is already a party.

(B) The Australian Government does not intend to become a party to the Convention on the Human Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families for the reasons noted in (A) above.

(C) As noted above, the Government has analysed the Convention.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

(D) Following consultations between officers of DIAC and DFAT, Senator Chris Evans, former Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, wrote to Mr Stephen Smith, the then Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, seeking his agreement not to sign, accede or become a party to the Convention. Mr Smith agreed to Mr Evans's recommendation.

(E) See D above.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 131

Program: DFAT

Topic: Annual Report

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In annual report (p24/25), EFIC provides a list of facilities signed in 2010-2011. Please provide details of individual projects under each bonding line, including the project/s, name, location, amount provided, terms of the facility and the environmental category (if you provide one) ?

- a. Brookfield Australian Investments (construction category)***
- b. Clough Groups (Construction)***
- c. Leighton Holdings (Construction)***
- d. McConnell Dowell Corporation (Construction)***
- e. Transfield Services (Engineering services)***
- f. UGL Ltd (Construction)***

Answer

- a. Brookfield Australian Investments Limited (Construction Category)***

There is one project currently under this bonding line. The following bond was underwritten in 2007 but is now captured under the bonding line limit.

Details are as follows:

Project	Beneficiary	Location	Amount	Expiry Date	Environmental Category
Redevelopment of Wembley Stadium	Wembley National Stadium Limited	United Kingdom	GBP11,306,700	31 May 2013	Category C (Considered under 2005 Environment Policy)

- b. Clough Limited (Construction)***

EFIC has provided bonds for two projects under this bonding line. Details are as follows:

Project	Beneficiary	Location	Amount	Expiry Date	Environmental Category
Gorgon Downstream LNG Project	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Barrow Island, Western Australia	A\$10,000,000	16 May 2016 but subject to annual review	Category B (Considered under 2005 Environment Policy)

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

PNG LNG – Subcontract for LNG Jetty Marine Works and LNG Jetty Topside Works	Chiyoda-JGC Joint Venture	Papua New Guinea	The maximum aggregate amount available under the bonding line for this Project is A\$40,000,000	2 March 2013 (1 bond) 2 March 2014 (2 bonds) 8 February 2015 (17 bonds)	Considered part of the PNG LNG Project and not separately categorised.
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Note the Gorgon bond was issued earlier than the bonding line commencement. The bond is, however, now captured under the bonding line limit.

c. Leighton Holdings Limited (Construction)

EFIC has provided bonds for one project under this bonding line. Details are as follows:

Project	Beneficiary	Location	Amount	Expiry Date	Environmental Category
Iraq Crude Oil Export Expansion Project	Standard Chartered Bank	Iraq	Two bonds issued – total amount of US\$36,650,000	13 February 2013 (1 bond) 13 February 2014 (1 bond)	Category B (Considered under 2005 Environment Policy)

d. McConnell Dowell Corporation Limited (Construction)

EFIC has provided bonds for two projects under this bonding line. Details are as follows:

Project	Beneficiary	Location	Amount	Expiry Date	Environmental Category
Provision of civil works on the Ambuklao and Binga hydro-electric projects located in the Philippines	SN Aboltiz Power-Benguet Inc	Philippines	US\$3,986,490	30 September 2013	Category B (Considered under 2005 Environment Policy)
Construction of the Komo Airfield and associated Infrastructure including roads and bridges.	1) Esso Australia Pty Ltd 2) Esso Highlands Limited	Papua New Guinea	Two bonds issued – total amount of US\$24,000,000	9 December 2013 for both bonds	Considered part of the PNG LNG Project and not separately categorised.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

e. Transfield Services Limited (Engineering Services)

No bonds have been issued under this bonding line.

f. UGL Limited (Construction)

Project	Beneficiary	Location	Amount	Expiry Date	Environmental Category
FMG Solomon Iron Ore expansion Project	FMG Solomon Pty Ltd	Pilbara Region, Western Australia	4 separate Bonds totalling A\$8,975,000	15 Oct 2014	Under the revised Environment Policy 2011, bonding transactions are not categorized. However an assessment was undertaken and the project was considered as having low potential for environmental or social impacts.

Question No. 132

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trans-Pacific FTA

Question in Writing

Senator Brown

Question

Australia is currently involved in negotiations over the Trans-Pacific Free Trade Agreement. Is the Department aware of any good evaluations of the US-Australia free trade agreement, and other bilateral agreements? If so, what were the conclusions?

Answer

The Department is aware of two comprehensive reviews that have evaluated Australia's bilateral free trade agreements, including the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA):

1. The Independent Review of Export Policies and Programs (the 'Mortimer Report') released on 22 September 2008, which concluded that the three FTAs it reviewed (AUSFTA, Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement and Thailand-Australia Free Trade Agreement) were of a "world class standard and provide a strong basis for further expansion of trade and investment in the future" (page 99 of the review).
2. The Productivity Commission's Research Report on Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements (BRTA) released on 13 December 2010. The Productivity Commission's Findings and recommendations are set out at pages xxxiv to xxxix of the report.
3. Further information in relation to the Government's position on Australia's Free Trade Agreements can be found in the Government's response to the Productivity Commission's findings and recommendations, as attached to the Gillard Government Trade Policy Statement: *Trading our Way to More Jobs and Prosperity* (<http://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/trade/trading-our-way-to-more-jobs-and-prosperity.html#attachment>).

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 133

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

With whom has Ms Williams met both within and external to Government since her appointment?

Answer

In the months following her appointment on 13 September 2011, Ms Williams has met with as many people as possible who have an interest in gender equality, both domestically and internationally. She has consulted broadly and regularly across government and the development community in establishing and pursuing her agenda, position priorities and program. She has had meetings and represented the government at events in Canberra, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, as well as the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, US, and Vanuatu.

It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to provide the details of everyone with whom Ms Williams has met since her appointment.

Question No. 134

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

Where has Ms Williams travelled, with whom and for what purposes?

Answer

- Ms Williams accompanied Mr Rudd and other members of an Australian delegation to the US (San Francisco and New York) from 14 September to 25 September 2011. In San Francisco, Ms Williams attended the APEC Women and the Economy Summit and in New York she attended UNGA side events on women's political participation, and met with key multilateral contacts (such as UN Women, YWCA, the World Bank).
- Ms Williams travelled to Vanuatu from 10-12 October 2011 to meet with government, non-government and civil society interlocutors and conduct a field visit to AusAID funded projects targeting the needs of women and girls
- Ms Williams travelled to Papua New Guinea from 22-26 November 2011 to participate in activities in the lead up to and during White Ribbon Day and to conduct a field visit to AusAID funded projects targeting the needs of women and girls
- Ms Williams travelled to Solomon Islands, FSM, Tuvalu and Samoa, 13-16 December 2011 with a parliamentary delegation led by Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs, the Hon Richard Marles and including the Hon Julie Bishop, Mr Bernie Ripoll and the Hon Teresa Gambaro. Ms Williams' participation gave the trip a particular focus on gender equality and gender-based violence.
- Ms Williams travelled to New York from 25 February to 4 March 2012 as a member of Australia's delegation to the 56th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women. She delivered Australia's national statement at the Commission, spoke at government and NGO-hosted side events and completed an extensive program of bilateral meetings with other delegation heads, UN organisations and civil society representatives.
- Ms Williams travelled to Fiji (7-9 March 2012) for International Women's Day. She met with interim government representatives and civil society, visited aid projects, launched an AusAID report, conducted an extensive media program, and co-chaired a Pacific Leadership Program Roundtable focusing on issues of women's political participation and eliminating violence against women.

Question No. 135

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

The Ambassador's position has been described as her being 'responsible for high-level advocacy to promote Australian Government policies and activity regarding gender equality and the social, political and economic empowerment of women and girls, particularly in the Asia Pacific region.' What activities has Ms Williams undertaken to achieve this since she took up her post?

Answer

Ms Williams has engaged in high level international advocacy to promote Australian Government policies and activity regarding gender equality during her trips to the Pacific, and through her participation, in Australia and aboard, in multilateral conferences (APEC, UNGA, CHOGM, and the Commission on the Status of Women) to promote the social, economic and political empowerment of women and girls.

Ms Williams has travelled to the Pacific on four occasions, visiting seven countries, meeting with senior level interlocutors to prosecute Australia's gender priorities, and conducting extensive media outreach. In Australia, she has met with representatives of international organisations, other governments and heads of civil society organisations to improve cooperation on gender programs.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 136

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

In the Administrative Circular on the AWG it is outlined that 'staff should ensure the office of the Global Ambassador for Women and Girls is kept informed of, and where relevant consulted regarding, all departmental activity to promote gender equality internationally'. What advice and information have staff at the Office for Women provided to Ms Williams since she took up the position in September 2011?

Answer

As a matter of course, the Office for Women regularly provides briefings on domestic and international issues and developments to the Global Ambassador for Women and Girls.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 137

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

Part of Ms Williams' job is 'domestic consultation and liaison through bilateral, regional and multilateral advocacy'. With whom has Ms Williams consulted and liaised with since she took up the position?

Answer

In the months following her appointment on 13 September 2011, Ms Williams has consulted broadly and regularly across government and civil society in Australia and has liaised with bilateral, regional and multilateral contacts and organisations to promote gender equality.

It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to provide the details of everyone with whom Ms Williams has consulted and liaised since her appointment.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 138

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

Ms Williams continues to hold the position of Executive Director of the Australian Passport Office. How is she expected to divide her time between these roles?

Answer

It is common for senior Canberra-based Ambassadors to perform other responsibilities in addition to their ambassadorial role, such as our Ambassador for HIV/AIDS and our Ambassador for ASEAN. In the same way, Ms Williams divides her time effectively and efficiently between her roles as Global Ambassador for Women and Girls and Executive Director of the Australian Passport Office.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 139

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

What kind of concessions or extra leave arrangements does Ms Williams have with her Passport Office job to allow her to fulfil her Ambassadorial role?

Answer

No concessions or extra leave arrangements are required. During Ms Williams' travel in performance of her ambassadorial duties, standard arrangements apply for senior staff to assume Ms Williams' delegations as Executive Director of the APO.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 140

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

Ms Williams has an adviser, Felicity Volk. Is that adviser position a full-time position? What is Ms Volk's job description? What is Ms Volk's salary band?

Answer

Ms Williams' adviser is a 0.8FTE, EL2 officer. She manages the Office of the Global Ambassador for Women and Girls, provides high level policy advice, and develops and implements outreach programs in support of the work of the Ambassador.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 141

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

Please provide a schedule of meetings Ms Williams has attended with the Office for Women.

Answer

Since her appointment in September 2011, Ms Williams has met regularly and frequently with the Office for Women (OfW) both through a formal schedule of quarterly meetings (involving OfW, AusAID and DFAT) and through meetings and teleconference consultations organised as required.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2011–2012; 16 February 2012

Question No. 142

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

At the Estimates hearing in October 2011, Ms Carroll advised that regular meetings would be set up with Ms Williams' adviser. Has this been done? Please provide a copy of the schedule.

Answer

Ms Williams' adviser has met with the Office for Women on a monthly basis since Ms Williams was appointed as Global Ambassador for Women and Girls in September 2011. Ms Williams' adviser attends the quarterly SES level meetings which Ms Williams holds with the Office for Women and AusAID.