

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Senate Budget Estimates, June 2011

Questions on Notice: AusAID

Question No. 1

Senator Abetz asked on notice

- a) How many countries attended the Climate Change Conference in Apia, Samoa from 23 to 26 May 2011?
- b) What were the outcomes?
- c) Could you please provide the cost of the conference?

Answer:

- a) The 'Lessons for Future Action: Lessons learned from climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in small island developing states' conference held in Apia, Samoa from 23-27 May 2011 was attended by delegates from 27 countries.
- b) The conference brought together experts and practitioners from the Pacific, Indian Ocean and Caribbean regions to share their experiences in responding to the impacts of climate change and disasters. The conference agreed to future collaboration by establishing research networks and developing exchange programs between the regions, and better sharing and distribution of information on climate change impacts and responses.

At the conclusion of the conference, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) and the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding to formalise and strengthen their partnership. This will support the collaborative work agreed at the conference.

Further details are available on the SPREP website: <http://www.sprep.org/>.

- c) The Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE) provided \$460,300 to SPREP to manage arrangements for the conference, including international flights, accommodation, meals and venue hire. For further detailed information on conference costs, please refer to DCCEE Senate Estimates Questions on Notice No. 67.