

Question No. 1

Program: DFAT

Topic: UNSC Campaign

Question on Notice

Page: 6

Senator Eggleston

Question

Were there additional costs to the Department because of increased activities directly related to the UNSC campaign that you can quantify?

Answer

The Department fully utilised new funding provided by the 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 \$10.5m over two years to the bid. These funds were provided from existing department resources.

Question No. 2

Program: DFAT

Topic: UNSC Campaign

Question on Notice

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Senator Eggleston

Question

Also what were the additional costs to the UN Mission in New York?

Answer

Please refer to Question 1, where the New York costs were included.

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Question No. 3

Program: DFAT

Topic: UNSC Campaign

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Do you have the costs of the recent reception in New York hosted by the PM?

Answer

The total cost of the reception hosted by the Prime Minister during UN General Assembly Leaders' Week was \$46,820.87.

Question No. 4

Program: DFAT

Topic: UNSC Campaign

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Can you also provide details of hospitality that may have been provided by the Embassy in the last three months in the lead-up to tomorrow's decision?

Answer

The cost of hospitality additional to the above provided by the UN Mission in New York in the three months leading up to the UN Security Council election was \$83,269.20.

In addition to this, over that period the Mission hosted a number of policy-focused events (for example in relation to the protection of women in conflict zones and global disarmament negotiations) and Commonwealth chair activities, where catering was provided. These costs totalled \$21,296.56.

It is possible that the final costs will change slightly but not significantly on the basis of incoming invoices.

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Question No. 5

Program: DFAT

Topic: SES staff

Question on Notice

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Senator Eggleston

Question

Is it possible to provide the Committee with a list of SES staff?

Answer

SES staff by level and location as at 30 September 2012

Category	Canberra	State & Territory Offices	Overseas	TOTAL
SES Band 1				
SES Band 1	52	1	25	78
HoM Band 1	0	0	35	35
SES Specialist Band 1	3	0	0	3
SES Band 2				
SES Band 2	18	1	2	21
HoM Band 2	0	0	22	22
SES Specialist Band 2	2	0	0	2
SES Band 3				
SES Band 3	4	0	0	4
HoM Band 3	0	0	10	10
SES Off-Line	30	0	0	30
Director of Safeguards	1	0	0	1
Secretary	1	0	0	1
Total	111	2	94	207

Question No. 6

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question on Notice Page: 10/11

Senator Fawcett

Question

- A. With your moving contractors to full-time APS staff—and I am happy for you to take this on notice—could you detail for the committee how you have approached the issue of the task-specific competence of the people?***
- B. Have the APS people you have brought on board had both the qualifications and the range of experience?***
- C. Over a longitudinal view of the value to ICT, can you assure the committee that you are getting the same work value out of the people and that we are not going to find in five years time that we need a remediation program, as has been the case in some other departments, because the short-term savings have actually led to long-term cost?***

Answer

- A. Consistent with the Gershon Review recommendations 5.4 'Enhancement of APS ICT skills base' and 5.4.2 reduction of contractors by 50% over the next 2 years, DFAT has undertaken contractor conversions from within the Information Management and Technology Division. This has brought in-house ICT skills that were previously provided by contractors.

DFAT identifies the role-specific elements and the abilities needed to perform them by reviewing what core skills, qualifications and experience are required to perform the work to a good level of proficiency. The recruiting process then seeks applicants that have the necessary qualities and capabilities to satisfy the current and future ICT needs of the department.

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- B. DFAT recruits through a merit-based selection process which includes Selection Advisory Committees. The APS brought on board were assessed as having the appropriate qualifications and experience to meet the current and future requirements of the positions to be filled.

- C. The work DFAT performs in identifying the role-specific elements of the position, developing duty statements and the merit base recruitment process are assurances that this conversion program is a sustainable solution. Further to this the existing workplace supervision and performance management framework of DFAT ensure the selected staff continue to be effective into the future.

Question No. 7

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question on Notice

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Senator Kroger

Question

Could you provide a breakdown of the levels of officers taking Voluntary Retirement packages?

Answer

31 Officers separated from the department through voluntary redundancy in 2011-12.

As at 30 September 2012, 15 officers had been granted approval to separate from the department through voluntary redundancy in 2012-13.

The breakdown of these officers by level is as follows –

Level	Actual VRs in 2011-12	Approved VRs in 2012-13 (at 30 September 2012)
BB1/2	10	0
APS6/EL1	11	9
EL2	7	4
SES	3	2
Total	31	15

Question No. 8

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question on Notice

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Senator Kroger

Question

How many former employees are engaged in unfair dismissal suits against the department across the board both in Australia and overseas?

Answer

There are no current unfair dismissal suits in Australia against the department. There are currently eight unfair dismissal suits against overseas posts. All eight matters have been brought by Locally Engaged Staff.

Question No. 9

Program: DFAT

Topic: No. of Trade Lawyers

Question on Notice

Page: 14

Senator Kroger

Question

How many trade lawyers does DFAT employ?

Answer

Currently the department has 21 lawyers working in the trade law areas of the Office of Trade Negotiations and Free Trade Agreement Division.

Question No. 10

Program: DFAT

Topic: Costs of new embassies in Bangkok and Jakarta

Question on Notice

Page: 17

Senator Fawcett

Question

Do you have figures in forward estimates for what you expect to be the costs of land purchases and building costs in Bangkok and Jakarta?

Answer

The estimated project cost of the Jakarta compound project, comprising chancery, head of mission residence and 32 staff houses, is \$407 million. The cost of the land was \$45 million.

The estimated cost of the Bangkok chancery and head of mission project is \$190.8 million. The land is on a long-term lease (30 years plus a 30 year option to extend) from the Thai Crown Property Bureau. Cost of the lease is of the order of \$30 million for the first 30 years, to be paid at completion of project construction.

Question No. 11

Program: DFAT

Topic: Interagency Agreements

Question on Notice

Page: 17

Senator Fawcett

Question

How much effort in terms of number of people or percentage of time and costs is dedicated to intra-agency agreements and cost recovery activities?

Answer

The department performs cost recovery activities, across a range of services, including property, IT and other corporate services. Cost recovery occurs on a mixture of monthly, quarterly and yearly basis and is done through the department's electronic financial management systems. Cost recovery activities are performed by DFAT staff both in Australia and at posts overseas.

To quantify the effort in terms of number of people or percentage of time and costs would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 12

Program: DFAT

Topic: Chinese students

Question on Notice

Page: 21

Senator Kroger

Question

Do you have an indication of the percentage increase in student numbers from China choosing to study in Australia over the last two to three years?

Answer

Chinese student enrolments in Australia peaked at 169,888 in 2010, and fell to 159,827 in 2011 (a fall of 5.9 per cent). This compared to a fall of 10 per cent in total international student enrolments.

Question No. 13

Program: DFAT

Topic: Tibet

Question on Notice

Page: 22

Senator Hanson-Young

Question

What is the department's up-to-date information about the high military presence, arbitrary arrests and international media blackout in the Tibetan region?

Answer

The Chinese Government has typically enforced tighter restrictions in the Tibetan Autonomous Region than in other parts of China, including on media, communications, freedom of expression and association, and travel. These measures were intensified around May 2012, as outlined in a Human Rights Watch report of 13 July, and have not abated. Our embassy in Beijing has received mixed messages from media and government sources about whether Tibet has been closed off to foreigners. Reports of arbitrary detentions, arrests, excessive use of force by authorities and a pronounced military presence continue but are difficult to verify.

Question No. 14

Program: DFAT

Topic: Tibet / Dalai Lama

Question on Notice

Page: 23

Senator Hanson-Young

Question

Has the department had any formal notification of the visit by the Dalai Lama or request for discussions while the Dalai Lama is in Australia?

Answer

The department has not received formal notification of the Dalai Lama's visit nor have we received a request to meet him.

Question No. 15

Program: DFAT

Topic: China

Question on Notice

Page: 23

Senator Fawcett

Question

What is the total cost of 40th anniversary activities (of Australia-China diplomatic relations), both one-off and ongoing?

Answer

There has been no specific or additional budget allocation for 40th anniversary events, including for the Prime Minister's 40th anniversary gala dinner to be held in Canberra in December, and the Deputy Prime Minister's 40th anniversary dinner which was held in Beijing in July. These were paid for out of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's hospitality budget. Those activities organised by the Commonwealth Government have been managed within existing budget. The great majority of 40th anniversary activities have been undertaken by non-government organisations.

Question No. 16

Program: DFAT

Topic: Antarctic

Question on Notice

Pages: 24

Senator Fawcett

Question

Chinese officials are quoted in a number of papers saying that they are looking to increase their leadership in the Antarctic administration and determine 'the potential of resources and how to use those resources'. I would be interested in you taking on notice to tell us of any specific work that DFAT intends to do to look at shaping what is quite a strategic area of interest for Australia.

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) works closely with the Australian Antarctic Division of the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) on Antarctic policy both multilaterally and bilaterally. DFAT intends to continue its active engagement in providing legal and policy advice on Australia's involvement in Antarctica, including maintaining and enhancing relations with the Antarctic Treaty Parties and also advising on Australia's international obligations.

The Antarctic Treaty system (ATS) plays a key role in protecting Australia's national interests in Antarctica by providing a framework for international cooperation under which parties active in the continent consult on its uses and management. DFAT leads the Australian delegation to the annual Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings (ATCM). The ATCM is the primary forum for discussion of Antarctic matters and for ensuring that Parties engage in cooperation on environmental protection, peaceful use and scientific research in conformity with the Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol on Environmental Protection.

DFAT has consistently been at the forefront of efforts under the ATS to facilitate Antarctic cooperation as well as to maintain Antarctica as demilitarised and protect its environment in line with our strong strategic and security interests. DFAT works with all parties, including China, within the existing arrangements for the conservation and use of resources such as marine living resources under the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CAMLR). DFAT intends to continue to work through the ATS to give strategic direction to future ATCM activities and to build links to enable cutting edge Antarctic research to feed into the comprehensive

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protection of the Antarctic environment and dependent and associated ecosystems.

Australia, together with France and Spain, are continuing, through representations in capitals, to encourage States which are Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, but not yet Parties to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (Madrid Protocol), to become Party to the Protocol.

In recent years Consultative Parties, including China, have reaffirmed their commitment to the Madrid Protocol. In 2012, at ATCM XXXV Parties encouraged “Parties to the Antarctic Treaty that are not yet Parties to the Madrid Protocol to accede”. In 2011 at ATCM XXXIV, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Entry into Force of the Antarctic Treaty, Parties reaffirmed “their commitment to upholding the Antarctic Treaty and all other elements of the Antarctic Treaty system” and appealed to Parties “that are Antarctic Treaty but not yet Party to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, to become Party to the Protocol”. In 2009 at ATCM XXXII on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty, Parties reaffirmed “their commitment to Article 7 of the Environmental Protocol, which prohibits any activity any activity relating to mineral resources, other than scientific research”. Consultative Parties also underlined “the importance of cooperation related to the conservation of living marine resources and strengthened implementation under the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources”.

Bilaterally, DFAT is working with China and other Antarctic partners to promote ongoing cooperation on environmental protection, peaceful use and scientific research. During ATCM XXXVI in Hobart in June 2012, Australia signed three new international arrangements covering science, logistics and environmental management to deepen bilateral collaboration and cooperation on-the-ground in Antarctica:

- A Memorandum of Understanding on Antarctic Cooperation between the Australian Antarctic Division and the Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration of the People’s Republic of China on 13 June;
- A Memorandum on Antarctic Cooperation between the Australian Antarctic Division and the French Polar Institute Paul Emile Victor on 19 June; and
- A Schedule of Action on Antarctic Cooperation between the Australian Antarctic Division and the Russian Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute on 19 June, pursuant to the bilateral Memorandum of Understanding on Antarctic Cooperation between Australia and the Russian Federation signed on 31 January 2012.

Question No. 17

Program: DFAT

Topic: South Korea/Self-propelled howitzer program

Question on Notice

Page: 26

Senator Abetz

Question

- A. Was the disappointment (of the South Korean Government about the cancellation of the self-propelled howitzer program) communicated to DFAT in any way, shape or form by South Korea, and to what extent?***
- B. Did you, having received the notice of the disappointment, pass that on to Defence?***

Answer

- A. DFAT has no record of disappointment at the howitzer decision being conveyed directly to it by the Republic of Korea.**
- B. Not applicable.**

Question No. 18

Program: DFAT

Topic: Treaties

Question on Notice

Page: 29

Senator Di Natale

Question:

What is the difference between an agreement and an arrangement?

Answer

An agreement is an instrument which creates rights and obligations between States, and which the parties intend to be binding at international law, such as a treaty.

An arrangement is an instrument of less than treaty status which the parties intend to be morally and politically, but not legally, binding.

The determinant of whether an instrument is an agreement or an arrangement is the intention of the parties – if they intend to create legal obligations the instrument will be an agreement and if they do not intend to create legal obligations the instrument will be an arrangement.

Question No. 19

Program: DFAT

Topic: Death of Papuan Independence Leader Mako Tabuni

Question on Notice

Page 30

Senator Di Natale

Question

As I said, I think there might be differences of opinion about the view of the Indonesian government, particularly when their defence minister states that he believes it is legal and does not require investigation. I am still a little concerned about that, but I am reassured that the department is pursuing that actively with the Indonesian authorities. Has the department received any communication outlining further allegations of intimidation of activists in West Papua, most recently from the Australia West Papua Association, who wrote to Minister Carr?

Answer

Embassy officials in Jakarta engage with the Papuan provincial governments, civil society groups, church leaders, NGOs and other groups that add to our understanding of the situation in the Papuan provinces. The Department has received the letters from the Australia West Papua Association dated 17 and 24 October. We have responded to their correspondence. When credible allegations of human rights violations in other countries are brought to our attention, our concerns are made known through a range of channels, including ministerial meetings, diplomatic representations and in appropriate multilateral forums. Australian embassy officials in Jakarta raise specific cases with the Indonesian Government and register our concern that alleged human rights abuses be investigated thoroughly and promptly by the Indonesian authorities. Just as the Indonesian Government would have no authority to investigate alleged incidents of this nature in Australia, we have no authority to investigate such incidents in any other country.

Question Numbers: 20

Program: DFAT

Topic: Philippines: Tenix

Question on Notice

Page: 31

Senator Milne

Question

How many of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade representatives attended meetings with Tenix executives and Philippines government representatives regarding that bid to supply 16 search and rescue vessels to the coastguard between, say, 1996 and 2004?

Answer

DFAT's discussions with Tenix representatives and Philippine officials about Tenix's contract to supply search and rescue vessels to the Philippine Coast Guard were consistent with DFAT's normal role in assisting Australian companies to advance their commercial interests abroad. While we can confirm that meetings involving DFAT representatives took place, determining the requested details of those meetings would require extensive file searches which, particularly given the passage of time, we consider would involve an unreasonable diversion of DFAT's resources.

Question Numbers: 21

Program: DFAT

Topic: Philippines: Tenix

Question on Notice

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Senator Milne

Question

How many meetings took place, where did they occur, and who attended them?

Answer

DFAT's discussions with Tenix representatives and Philippine officials about Tenix's contract to supply search and rescue vessels to the Philippine Coast Guard were consistent with DFAT's normal role in assisting Australian companies to advance their commercial interests abroad. While we can confirm that meetings involving DFAT representatives took place, determining the requested details of those meetings would require extensive file searches which, particularly given the passage of time, we consider would involve an unreasonable diversion of DFAT's resources.

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Question Number: 22

Program: DFAT

Topic: Philippines: Tenix

Question on Notice

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Senator Milne

Question

Did the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade lobby the Philippines government to switch those search and rescue vessels away from the defence department in the Philippines so that the contract could proceed

Answer

No.

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Program: DFAT

Topic: Philippines - Tenix

Question on Notice

Page: 33

Senator Milne

Question

Was the contract with the government or was it with an official of the government? What meetings were held by the Australian Embassy and/or ambassador, after that information was provided in April 2005, to lobby for the lifting of the suspension and the recommencement of the repayments? How many times did the Australian embassy staff in Manila meet with Romela Bengzon, the Philippines based director of Tenix's Philippines subsidiary—and who from the embassy staff met with Ms Bengzon?

Answer

Tenix's contract was with the Philippine Department of Transportation and Communication. DFAT's discussions with Tenix representatives, including Ms Bengzon, and Philippine officials about Tenix's contract to supply search and rescue vessels to the Philippine Coast Guard were consistent with DFAT's normal role in assisting Australian companies to advance their commercial interests abroad. While we can confirm that meetings involving DFAT representatives took place, determining the requested details of those meetings would require extensive file searches which, particularly given the passage of time, we consider would involve an unreasonable diversion of DFAT's resources.

Question Number: 24

Program: DFAT/ILD

Topic: Balibo Five

Question on Notice

Page: 31-34

Senator Xenophon

Question

A. Can the department tell me whether there has been any request for cooperation from the Indonesian government in relation to the AFP investigation?

B. Does DFAT have a role in advising the Attorney-General's office on mutual assistance requests?

Answer

A. There are a range of mechanisms to facilitate international cooperation in support of an Australian criminal matter. These include direct police-to-police channels, as well as formal requests for mutual assistance which are made via the Attorney-General's Department. As DFAT is not responsible for international cooperation in criminal matters, it is not in a position to answer this question.

B. No. The Department serves as the "diplomatic channel" for the transmission of mutual legal assistance requests from foreign governments to the Attorney-General's Department, where the law of the foreign government requires this form of transmission. We do not advise the Attorney-General's Department on the substance of such requests.

Question No. 25

Program: DFAT

Topic: Balibo Five

Question on Notice

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Senator Xenophon

Question

Can we at least go to the issue of process, finally, in relation to this. Perhaps you could take on notice, Ms Bird, what consideration was done as a result of the coroner's findings in November 2007 on the death of the Balibo Five? In other words, what protocols and processes were followed to consider that in the context of whether any advice was given? You do not have to give necessarily the content of the advice but let us know whether advice was given to the Australian government in relation to the coroner's findings and whether there was a need to reconsider the government's position in respect of it.

Answer

On 16 November 2007 NSW Deputy State Coroner, Magistrate Pinch, released her finding on the Inquest into the death of Brian Peters, a journalist killed in Balibo in East Timor in 1975. The Coroner's role was to investigate the manner and cause of death of Mr Peters, make findings regarding the manner and cause of Mr Peters' death and to make recommendations relevant to that death.

The Deputy Coroner found that the five journalists, including Mr Peters, were deliberately killed by Indonesian troops and that an indictable criminal offence may have been committed under the Commonwealth Criminal Code.

The Deputy Coroner referred the possible commission of criminal offences to the Commonwealth Attorney-General for consideration. The Attorney-General's Department referred the matter to the AFP in late January 2008. At the conclusion of its investigation, the AFP will make an assessment as to whether a brief of evidence should be referred to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. It is then a matter for the CDPP to consider, in accordance with the Prosecution Policy of the Commonwealth.

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The Deputy Coroner also found that the remains of the five journalists known as the Balibo Five were buried together in a single grave in Jakarta and that the remains were co-mingled. One of the Coroner's recommendations was that the Australian Government liaise with the next of kin to determine whether they wished the remains of the five journalists to remain interred in Jakarta. The then Prime Minister, Mr Howard, and the then Opposition Leader, Mr Rudd, each committed to repatriating the remains to Australia if all the families agreed to this. The Government remains committed to facilitating the repatriation of the remains if that is the wish of the families. At present we do not have the agreement of all the families.

The Deputy Coroner also recommended the development of a national safety code for journalists. DFAT would welcome the opportunity to contribute to an industry-wide national safety code for journalists.

Question No. 26

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular assistance provided during ‘schoolies week’ 2011

Question on Notice

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Senator Kroger

Question

How many Australians required consular support in relation to arrest or detention over schoolies week last year (2011)?

Answer

The most effective way to address this question is to use the example of Bali, as figures from across DFAT’s global network would be too diffuse to have any real utility. Bali is the predominant ‘schoolies’ destination outside Australia.

A total of 16 Australians under the age of 25 required consular assistance in Bali between 19 November and 11 December 2011. Of these, there were four arrests and two hospitalisations.

Question No. 27

Program: DFAT

Topic: Smartraveller program

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Kroger

Question

Is there any demographic analysis of the usage of the Smartraveller website, particularly in relation to schoolies week? Is it possible to conduct such analysis?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not conduct specific analysis of the usage of the Smartraveller website in relation to schoolies week. The Department's experience is that the reliability of analytical tools that seek to provide analysis by demographic groups is limited.

More broadly, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade uses a number of different methods to track the effectiveness of the Smartraveller campaign, including usage of the Smartraveller website. As is required for all government information campaigns, we have commissioned independent research to assess the effectiveness of the overall campaign. This includes breakdowns by different demographics and the usability and accessibility of the website, including specifically with younger travellers. We also use analytical tools to provide statistics on numbers of users of the website over time.

Question No. 28

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mali

Question on Notice

Senator Kroger

Question

Can you provide an update on the situation on the ground in Mali?

Answer

Food security, political instability and opportunism of armed groups have created a security vacuum and humanitarian crisis in the north of Mali (and broader Sahel region) which threatens regional and global security. The ongoing instability in northern Mali is of growing concern to the international community, with the 'Afghanisation' of the Sahel (the establishment of a terrorist safe-haven) a chief concern.

Taking advantage of insecurity following a coup in Bamako (March 2012), rebel groups (including Al Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb – AQIM, Ansar al Dine, The National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad – MNLA and the Movement for Unity and Jihad in Western Africa – MUJWA / MUJAO) seized regional capitals in northern Mali and began implementing *sharia* law and destroying cultural sites. These rebel groups are well-resourced and well-funded.

In addition to security concerns, a food and nutrition crisis is gripping the Sahel region, with the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimating that more than 5 million people are affected. The Australian Government remains committed to supporting humanitarian assistance and long-term recovery in the Sahel. Thus far in 2012 we are the fourth largest country donor to the crisis, providing A\$42 million in humanitarian assistance.

Australia is also providing A\$12 million in funding to a collaboration on agricultural research between CSIRO and the West and Central African Council for Agricultural research and Development (CORAF/WE CARD).

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Since the coup in Mali in March 2012, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has been instrumental in the progress towards restoring constitutional normalcy, including the negotiation of a transitional government in Bamako. In early October 2012, ECOWAS sought UNSC approval for a military intervention in northern Mali.

UNSC resolution 2071 was adopted on 12 October 2012 and mandates UN Secretariat support to military planning and the appointment of a UN Secretary General's special envoy (Romani Prodi). It also encourages negotiation between rebel groups, traditional leaders and the transitional government.

An October 2012 meeting of key players (including ECOWAS and the African Union (AU)) attempted to address planning shortfalls and developed a *strategic concept* for an intervention in northern Mali. This concept is still awaiting ratification by the AU and UNSC.

DFAT travel advice for Mali urges Australians not to travel to Mali (level four: "do not travel"). The Australian High Commission in Accra, Ghana is accredited to Mali.

Question No. 29

Program: DFAT

Topic: Somali pirates

Question on Notice

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Senator Kroger

Question

You say the actual number of ships that have been intercepted by pirates in Somalia has reduced? Do you have the figures for that?

Answer

The report of the UN Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 2020 (2011) quoted the International Maritime Organization (IMO) which reported a significant decline in the number of attacks and hijackings in 2012 compared to 2011. In the first nine months of 2012, there were 99 attacks against ships resulting in the hijacking of 13 ships. This compares with 269 reported attacks and 30 ships hijacked during the same period in 2011.

Question No. 30

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mining in Africa

Question on Notice

Page: 43

Senator Rhiannon

Question

An Australian listed mining company, Mineral Commodities Limited or MRC, is attempting to develop a mineral sands deposit in South Africa. What involvement or association has DFAT had with this project?

Answer

DFAT has had no involvement or association with ASX-listed Minerals Commodities Limited (MRC) or its South African subsidiary, Transworld Energy and Minerals Resources.

Question No. 31

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mining companies operating overseas

Question on Notice

Page: 40

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Could you provide further detail of the outreach programs run to address expectations that the Australian Government has with regard to mining companies adhering to local laws and the OECD and UN guiding principles? When have these events been held and who has attended?

Answer

The Australian Government undertakes a range of outreach activities to encourage Australian mining companies overseas to comply with local and Australian laws.

Through the Australian National Contact Point within Treasury, the Government provides copies of the OECD Guidelines to most major Australian companies and mining corporations. The National Contact Point website (www.ausncp.gov.au) includes a copy of the Guidelines, statements by the National Contact Point and links to corporate social responsibility websites.

The Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry (LPSD) is administered by the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (DRET). The LPSD provides practical guidance through a handbook series. There are 15 titles in the series, covering leading practice in mine management and workshops on the whole of mine life, from exploration through to closure and rehabilitation. Over 112,000 copies have been circulated to date.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has run regular seminars on 'Trading with Integrity' since 2007. The seminar aims to inform industry about their obligations in relation to foreign bribery, anti-corruption and extraterritorial offences.

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Events are hosted either by DFAT or in partnership with other organisations, including law firms and the UN Global Compact Network Australia.

Austrade runs similar domestic outreach. At the Africa Australia Infrastructure Conference, held in Sydney on 3 September 2012, Austrade delivered a speech entitled 'Australian Government Regulatory Framework for International Business.' The speech detailed the Government's expectations for Australian companies operating overseas.

Australian diplomatic missions overseas also actively reach out to mining companies. Some illustrative examples are shown in the work of the Australian High Commission in Accra and the Australian Embassy in Manila.

The Australian High Commission in Accra has participated in formal meetings with the Australia Africa Mining Industry Group since 2009. This includes the annual mining Indaba in Capetown, organised by the Australian High Commission in Pretoria. Austrade staff in Accra regularly distribute information to Australian mining companies regarding their legal obligations vis-à-vis foreign bribery of officials. Most recently, Austrade briefed Australian mining companies of their obligations ahead of the West Africa Mining Mission to Ghana and Burkina Faso, held 12-23 November 2012.

The Australian Embassy in Manila presented at an Embassy Mining Roundtable on 8 June 2012 in which they provided information about the Voluntary Principles on Human Rights and Security to eight Australian mining companies active in the Philippines. At the Baguio Mine Safety Conference, held 8-11 November 2011, the Australian Head of Mission in Manila presented on Australian mining, noting the Government's expectation that Australian mining companies operating in the Philippines adhere to both local and Australian laws. The Embassy also distributed RET booklets on corporate, social and environmentally responsible mining at the conference. The event was attended by 700 industry representatives.

Question No. 32

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mining in Africa

Question on Notice

Page: 43

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Have any Briefings been provided to DFAT about the issues surrounding the operations of (mining company) Paladin in Malawi?

Answer

DFAT has met with representatives of Paladin in Australia, and officials from Australia's mission in Zimbabwe routinely meet Paladin representatives during visits to Malawi.

As a significant foreign investor in Malawi and major contributor to its economy Paladin's work is regularly raised in meetings with the Malawi Government. There is a strong recognition of Paladin's contribution to this developing country's economy.

Further to DFAT's response to a previous question about Paladin asked by Senator Ludlum in May 2012, we note that the Commission of Inquiry into the death of Robert Chasowa (a prominent civil society and student activist) delivered its findings in October. It found that Mr Chasowa had been murdered and had not committed suicide.

The article published by the Marvai Post on 26 October 2011, which made the allegation that Paladin was linked to this matter, was later corrected and the allegation withdrawn.

During a recent visit to Malawi by Australia's High Commissioner (Mr Matthew Neuhaus) in October 2012, Ambassador Sophie Kalinde, the Chair of Malawi's Human Rights Commission, confirmed there was no substance to such allegations. Action is now being taken against those held responsible for Mr Chasowa's death.

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Question No. 33

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mining in Africa

Question on Notice

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Senator Rhiannon.

Question

(A) *When did Informal Meetings between the Australian Africa Mining Interest Group (AAMIG), DFAT and AusAID occur, where, and who attended?*

(B) *Was support of any kind provided to AAMIG by DFAT, AusAID or any other government body in the creation of AAMIG?*

Answer

(A) DFAT and other Government agencies have met representatives of AAMIG on the following occasions:

Date	Location	Government Agencies Represented
30 August 2012	Perth, Australia	AusAID, Austrade, DFAT
8 February 2012	Cape Town, South Africa	AusAID, Austrade, DFAT
22 November 2011	Canberra, Australia	AusAID, Austrade, DFAT, DRET (and NGOs)
12 October 2011	Canberra, Australia	AusAID, Austrade, DFAT
September 2011	Perth, Australia	AusAID, Austrade, DFAT
February 2011	Cape Town, South Africa	AusAID, Austrade, DFAT
October 2010	Perth, Australia	AusAID, Austrade, DFAT

(B) The Australian Government welcomed the formation of AAMIG but did not play a direct role in supporting its creation.

Question No. 34

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question on Notice

Page: 46

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Are you aware whether there was a representative of the Australian government present when Dayan Anthony was deported from Australia to Sri Lanka and was held for 16 hours while interrogated by the Sri Lankan government officials?

Answer

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) has advised that a DIAC officer was present at the interview of Mr Anthony.

Question No. 35

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question on Notice

Page: 46

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Is Australia involved in any specific projects promoting human rights in Sri Lanka?

Answer

In 2011-12, Australia provided \$100,000 in funding to the Human Rights PLUS project, run by the Sri Lankan organisation Home for Human Rights, to develop legal services and collect information on reported human rights violations in order to contribute to domestic advocacy of human rights.

In 2009-10, Australia provided \$97,765 to private Sri Lankan policy institute Council for Public Policy for legal services to secure evidence of land ownership in order to facilitate the return of war-affected persons. In the same year, Australia provided \$99,625 to Sri Lankan organisation Women in Need for counselling and legal services for victims of domestic violence and for community awareness-raising programs on domestic violence.

Question No. 36

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question on Notice

Page 47

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: Is DFAT aware of the recent phenomenon of political dissidents, and successful Tamil businessmen, being abducted in white vans?

Mr Robilliard: I am not aware of a phenomenon involving white vans, no.

Senator RHIANNON: This has been widely reported in Sri Lanka and it has been taken up in a number of areas. Could you take it on notice to ascertain if there have been any briefings supplied at any level within DFAT about this phenomenon of people being abducted off the streets in Sri Lanka?

Answer

Reporting and briefing has referred to a range of human rights concerns and issues.

Question No. 37

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question on Notice

Page: 47

Senator Kroger

Question

Have you received any communications, written or otherwise, from Australian citizens within the Tamil community who may have been from Sri Lanka in relation to any concerns relating to family or friends who may be caught up in continuing destabilising scenarios?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade regularly receives correspondence from members of the Tamil community citing a range of concerns about the situation in Sri Lanka.

Question No. 38

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question on Notice

Page: 47

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Is DFAT working with any NGOs who are endeavouring to highlight human rights abuses in Sri Lanka?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has regular discussions on human rights with NGOs and Sri Lankan community groups in Australia. AusAID has funded NGO projects promoting human rights in Sri Lanka, as outlined in question 35, under the Human Rights Small Grants Scheme.

Question No. 39

Program: DFAT

Topic: NAM meeting in Iran

Question on Notice

Page: 50

Senator Kroger

Question

Can the department confirm whether the US, Canada, New Zealand or any member state of the European Union attended the NAM meeting held recently in Iran?

Answer

New Zealand was represented at the NAM Summit. Member states of the European Union present at the meeting included Austria, Finland and Ireland. Canada and the US were not present.

Question No. 40

Program: DFAT

Topic: Antarctic

Question on Notice

Page: 59

Senator Fawcett

Question

Do you make recommendations to other agencies within Government about surveillance systems in Antarctic so that Australia can participate in inspection programs as part of the treaties program but also in respect to its own national security interests?

Answer

DFAT consults other relevant agencies within Government, as appropriate, on Australia's activities in Antarctica consistent with the Antarctic Treaty system. The continued success of the ATS, including the commitment to peaceful use enshrined in the Antarctic Treaty, the open and cooperative exchange between Treaty Parties and the conduct of inspections, helps to ensure the protection of Australia's national interests.

The Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol on Environmental Protection provide for Consultative Parties to designate observers, and for observers to have complete freedom of access at any time to any or all areas of Antarctica, including all stations, installations and equipment within those areas, and all ships and aircraft at points of discharging or embarking cargoes or personnel in Antarctica. In addition, consistent with Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty, aerial observation may be carried out at any time over any or all areas of Antarctica by any of the Contracting Parties having the right to designate observers.

Recently, Australia exercised its rights as a Consultative Party by conducting inspections in the 2009/10 and 2010/11 seasons of Antarctic stations and facilities of Japan, the Russian Federation and Germany. These inspections and aerial observations were conducted by appropriately designated observers, in person.

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In order to fulfil Australia's obligations under the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) System of Inspection, there is a whole of government process in place for designing and implementing Southern Ocean surveillance patrols. The CCAMLR System of Inspection allows CCAMLR Member countries to inspect vessels flagged to Contracting Parties to determine whether the vessels have engaged in scientific research or harvesting of marine living resources. Annually, Australia appoints Australian Fisheries Management Authority officers as inspectors under the System who are duly authorised to undertake boardings and inspections.

Australia has a Southern Ocean surveillance program to prevent, detect, deter and eliminate illegal fishing inside the Heard Island and McDonald Islands exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and also illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing inside the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CAMLRL) Area. This surveillance program is administered by Customs and Border Protection in conjunction with French authorities.

Question No. 41

Program: DFAT

Topic: Antarctic

Question on Notice

Page: 59

Senator Fawcett

Question

When the whole of government is saying, 'What are our requirements for remote sensing and surveillance systems?' do you actually identify the Antarctic as a requirement?

Answer

Australia attaches a high priority to protecting the Antarctic and Southern Ocean environment, having regard to its special qualities and effects on our region.

With regard to surveillance, Australia exercises its rights under the Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol with regard to inspections and aerial observations. See response to Question 40.

On the issue of remote sensing, remote sensing is an important tool in the conduct of Antarctic and Southern Ocean science. The Australian Antarctic Division and other agencies engaged in research in the region seek to ensure that appropriate access to remote sensing products and services is available to deliver on Australia's Antarctic science objectives.

Australia undertakes remote sensing of the subantarctic Heard Island and McDonald Islands to monitor glacial changes and decay of heritage artefacts on an opportunistic basis. The Australian Government has also identified this region as an area where surveillance is required to prevent, detect, deter and eliminate illegal fishing inside Australia's EEZ, and regular surveillance is conducted in this area.

Question No. 42

Program: DFAT

Topic: Membership of International Organisations

Question on Notice

Page: 60/61

Senator Fawcett

Question

Looking over forward estimates, what is the cost to the Australian tax payer of our relationship with international organisations. What are additional costs (above the \$240 million membership fee)? (including staff salaries, overseas allowances, how many people travel for each organisation). What is the cost-benefit for the taxpayer?

Answer

The department expects to make payments to international organisations totalling around \$240 million per year, consisting of payments to 30 international organisations and international treaty secretariats, including the United Nations, and payments to 15 United Nations peacekeeping operations. Over the forward estimates the department expects membership costs to remain consistent with minor fluctuations associated with foreign exchange. Appendix 10 (pages 227-229) of the 2011-12 Annual Report lists all payments made to international organisations.

Information of additional costs is maintained across DFAT's overseas network. However, to provide the detailed information required would entail a significant diversion of resources which cannot be justified.

Australia is firmly committed to effective global cooperation, including through the United Nations (UN) and other international organisations. Engaging with the multilateral system enables Australia to pursue its foreign, trade and economic and security objectives in the national interests.

Question No. 43

Program: DFAT

Topic: How many Australians have been detained in Dubai for the previous 12 months (2010-2011)?

Question on Notice

Senator Kroger

Question

On another matter, have you got an indication of how many Australians have been detained in Dubai for the previous 12 months (2010-2011)?

Answer

In the 12 month period July 2010 to June 2011, 33 Australians were detained in Dubai. This figure includes those arrested, sentenced, imprisoned and granted bail.

Question No. 44

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular Dubai

Question on Notice

Page: 44

Senator Kroger

Question

I'm mindful of not identifying individuals because it is a very tricky judicial system, but have those that were actually detained in detention been charged with anything yet?

Answer

As at 30 June 2012, one Australian was in detention in the UAE and had been charged. Another 13 Australians were not detained but were prevented from leaving the UAE due to ongoing legal processes. Of the 13, 10 had been charged and one had charges dismissed.

Question No. 45

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular Dubai

Question on Notice

Page 62

Senator Kroger

Question

Of the total 15 arrests of Australians in Dubai, can you give any indication of the nature of the arrests?

Answer

The majority of the arrests are related to either financial or commercial matters.

Question No. 46

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ambassador's residence in Rome

Question on Notice

Page: 64

Senator Kroger

Question

Could you give me an update as to when the Ambassador's residence in Rome was last painted, refurbished, recarpeted? Are you aware if the residence was repainted or recarpeted before the new Ambassador arrived in Rome? Could you also provide the costs of the work done to the residence? Could you provide details of what problems currently exist with the residence? When did the Ambassador move out of the residence? Could you provide details of work done to the residence in the past, including structural work? What size property is it?

Answer

There has been no recent major refurbishment of the building. As with all owned overseas properties the building is maintained under an ongoing repairs and maintenance program, including staged repairs and replacement of worn fittings and services along with scheduled minor capital works. The main items of work carried out in the residence in 2009-10 – apart from repairs relating to movement of the building (see below) - were upgrading the kitchen, replacing windows, repainting and re-tiling the basement and replacing carpet in some areas. These works were part of the regular budget program initiated in 2008, with the exception of the carpet item which was created in May 2010 in accordance with standard practice for out of budget items. The cost of these items overall was \$426,229. Other work in the program included some internal painting and repairs to the parquet floors.

Repairs were made in 2009 following damage resulting from building movement, at a cost of \$159,000. In 2010 a structural engineer was engaged to investigate cracks appearing in the library and study walls and floors. Ongoing destabilisation was evident in the footings of the annex, which was damaging the connection between the original building and the annex, causing damage to the floor, flooring and walls both internally and externally. In July 2010 micro-piling was undertaken at the residence in an attempt to prevent further structural movement, and repairs were made to the internal and external walls.

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Further destabilisation occurred on adjoining the property and neighbouring road, damaging the front and rear retaining walls. An engineering report indicated a risk of collapse of the retaining wall into the residence garden. Following advice from the Rome municipal authorities that they proposed to carry out stabilization works to the hillside below the residence, planned strengthening of the rear wall and upgrade and repair works at the residence were put on hold until after completion of the stabilisation works. The Ambassador relocated to temporary residential accommodation in mid July 2012.

The building is a five bedroom, four storey brick structure located on approximately 1,900 square metres of land. It was purchased by the Commonwealth in 1950.

Question No. 47

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indian tariffs

Question on Notice

Page: 67/68

Senator Fawcett

Question

What is the maximum tariff that you are aware of that India charges on Australian fruit and vegetables?

Answer

The highest tariff rate India currently applies to its fruit and vegetable imports is 100 per cent.

Question No. 48

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indian tariffs

Question on Notice

Page: 68

Senator Fawcett

Question

The Prime Minister has just been in India and one of the headlines of her visit was 'better trade relations with India'. Was the topic of tariffs on Australian imports on raised?

Answer

Details of discussions between the Prime Minister and her Indian counterparts are confidential. As per their publicly-released joint statement, Prime Minister Gillard and Prime Minister Singh renewed the commitment of both countries to achieving an equitable, comprehensive and high-quality Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement.

Question No. 49

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indian tariffs

Question on Notice

Page: 68

Senator Fawcett

Question

Did the department provide advice, as part of the briefing for the visit, as to that differential between 100 per cent on Australian products and zero per cent on Indian products?

Answer

DFAT provided input into the Prime Minister's brief compiled by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet on a range of trade issues in advance of her visit. That briefing is confidential.

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Question No. 50

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade surplus nations

Question on Notice

Page: 70

Senator Nash

Question

What are the top 10 nations we trade with that we have a trade surplus with?

Answer

The table below provides data on Australia's top trade surpluses by partner country for goods and services trade for 2011. For trade in *goods and services* only the top five countries can be ranked with certainty, due to the limited data published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on trade in services by partner country.

However, the top ten trade surpluses by partner country for *goods trade only* can be calculated and this data has also been included in the table below.

Australia's trade surplus by partner country - Top 10 (a)						
1. Goods and services	2011		2. Goods only	2011		
	A\$m	Rank		A\$m	Rank	
China	33,168	1	Japan	32,436	1	
Japan	32,263	2	China	29,307	2	
Republic of Korea	17,309	3	Republic of Korea	16,112	3	
India	14,434	4	India	13,020	4	
Taiwan	5,692	5	Taiwan	5,355	5	
Not available (b)		6	Netherlands	1,972	6	
Not available (b)		7	Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1,908	7	
Not available (b)		8	Saudi Arabia	1,144	8	
Not available (b)		9	Philippines	1,101	9	
Not available (b)		10	United Kingdom	810	10	
(a) Excludes selected confidential items of trade						
(b) The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) only publishes regional services data for 34 selected countries (w hich are not necessarily our largest services trading partners). Therefore a meaningful ranking in terms of <i>both goods and services</i> can only be made to top five.						
Based on ABS trade data on DFAT STARS database & ABS catalogue 5368.0.55.004						

Question No. 51

Program: DFAT

Topic: Beef Exports

Question on Notice

Page: 73

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What has the Government done, and how has it worked with the industry to promote Australian beef across Asia? I would also be interested in the figures that show the growth in [the meat] trade, as well as your tactics to help grow that trade?

Answer

Beef is one of Australia's most valuable agricultural exports, contributing 13.2 per cent to the total value of agricultural exports in 2011. Asia is the key market for Australian beef, with Japan and Korea being two of the biggest export markets.

The Government works closely with the beef and red meat industries in seeking to improve market access opportunities. As with all food and agriculture exports, this is a comprehensive approach, covering engagement at the multilateral, regional and bilateral levels.

The Government continues to explore new approaches and workable options to facilitate a return to meaningful engagement in the WTO agriculture negotiations and is actively seeking to conclude bilateral FTA negotiations with Australia's two key beef export markets – Japan and Korea.

Malaysian tariffs on Australian beef were already bound at zero as an outcome of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement. However, the Malaysia Australia Free Trade Agreement provides for strengthened consultation arrangements, where market access issues, such as Halal recognition for meat establishments, can be addressed. This will augment the arrangements already in place through the Malaysia-Australia Agricultural Cooperation Working Group.

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The government works closely with industry to promote growth in meat exports. This includes close consultation with industry representatives, both on an ad hoc basis and as part of regularly scheduled meetings such as of the Red Meat Market Access Committee (RedMMAC). There are also extensive exchanges with industry to help inform Australia's position during FTA negotiations.

Overseas, industry is able to leverage Australia's network of diplomatic posts for assistance in bilateral issues, including to address technical barriers to trade. In addition, posts work with Meat & Livestock Australia, state offices, and other partners to help promote Australian meat in local markets – often in conjunction with relevant Ministerial visits.

Austrade is focusing on identifying trade opportunities in growth and emerging markets and, following market analysis, has prioritised agribusiness, food and consumer opportunities as one of Austrade's six trade priorities for 2012-14. Australia's highly regarded food safety, security and supply credentials will be promoted as a point of differentiation and competitive advantage to generate opportunities across export priority markets which include Asia.

The value of Australia's meat and edible offal exports have increased from just under \$6.3 billion in 2001 to just over \$7 billion in 2011.

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Question No. 52

Program: DFAT

Topic: Live Animal Trade

Question on Notice

Page: 73

Senator Back

Question

Has there been any Minister-to-Minister or government-to-government engagement with Bahrain, above the bureaucratic level regarding live animal trade?

Answer

Yes, there have been a significant number of contacts at Ministerial and Ambassadorial level on issues surrounding the live animal trade. These include:

Date	Nature of engagement
27.09.12	Minister Ludwig spoke by telephone to counterpart - Minister of Municipal Affairs Dr Juma Bin Ahmed Al-Ka'abi.
1.09.12	Australian Ambassador to Riyadh (accredited to Bahrain) spoke to Bahraini Ambassador in Riyadh about Ocean Drover issue.
31.08.12	Australian Ambassador to Riyadh called Deputy Undersecretary responsible for agriculture about Ocean Drover issue.
24.8.12	Letter from Australian Chief Veterinary Officer to the Bahraini Undersecretary, Animal Health Directorate, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning on unloading of sheep aboard the Ocean Drover.
24.08.12	Letter from Minister Ludwig to Bahrain Minister of Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning on unloading of sheep aboard the Ocean Drover.
13.2.2012	Letter from Minister Ludwig to Bahrain Minister of Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning, thanking him for the opportunity to meet and discuss the livestock trade with Bahrain.
31.01.12	Minister Ludwig visited Bahrain and met with Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Khaled Bin Abdulla Al-Khalifa; Minister of Municipal Affairs Dr Juma Bin Ahmed Al-Ka'abi; Shawqi Abdulrahman Al Mannai, Director of Agriculture, Engineering and Water Resources and Dr Salman A Nabi Alkuzaei, Assistant Under Secretary for Agriculture Affairs.
22.12.11	Letter from Minister Ludwig to Bahrain Minister of Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning on the implementation of the new Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System.

Question No. 53

Program: DFAT

Topic: WTO Plain Packaging case

Question on Notice

Page: 77

Senator Kroger

Question

- A. *What is the composition of the Department's taskforce on the WTO action against plain packaging?***
- B. *What is the budget for the taskforce, including staff wages?***

Answer

- A. Resources are allocated to the Tobacco Plain Packaging Taskforce according to the requirements of the WTO disputes. The Taskforce currently comprises officers at the SES, Executive and APS levels.
- B. The Taskforce's budget will depend on specific developments in the disputes initiated in the WTO.

Question No. 54

Program: DFAT

Topic: Tariffs on steel imports

Question on Notice

Page: 79

Senator Eggleston

Question

My next question relates to tariffs on steel imports.

(A) Has the department received any representations from foreign governments that an increase in tariffs on steel imports would lead to retaliatory action against Australian exporters?

(B) If so, from what countries?

Answer

(A) We are not aware of any such representations.

(B) Not applicable.

Question No. 55

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vegetable and Fruit Exports

Question on Notice

Page: 79-80

Senator Colbeck

Question

We are getting a lot of pressure and comments from organisations such as AUSVEG about the growth in incoming trade—product coming in from New Zealand—but is there any push from our local industry to actually engage with those markets? How active are we in those markets in promoting the opportunities and attempting to get access; and what is the push coming from industry in Australia?

Answer

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and DFAT work closely with the horticulture industry to identify and pursue new market access opportunities. Departments pursue new markets through bilateral negotiation, as well as through bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral trade agreements. Where market access is established for Australian fruit and vegetable exports, Austrade works proactively to deliver demand driven trade opportunities for capable Australian suppliers.

The Australian horticulture industries, through Horticulture Australia Limited's Office of Horticulture Market Access, provide advice to DAFF and DFAT on their market access concerns and priorities on a regular basis. In addition, individual commodity groups are consulted and provide technical and commercial information to DFAT and DAFF in support of Australian Government efforts in pursuit of market access.

Question No. 56

Program: EFIC

Topic: Monitoring of borrowers

Question on Notice

Page: 83

Senator: Rhiannon

Question

- A. *Does EFIC, when appropriate, instruct the borrowers to amend their mitigating and monitoring measures when the environmental and social impact of the program is different from what was anticipated when the borrower submitted their impact assessment?***
- B. *Have you required the borrowers to amend their mitigating and monitoring measures? Have you ever required that to happen? I am interested in any examples where that has been done.***

Answer

- A. Adapting a project's mitigation and monitoring measures to changing circumstances is an essential part of any environmental and social management system. International Finance Corporation Performance Standard 1 (the Performance Standards are EFIC's usual benchmark) explains this in paragraphs 13 to 22 but summarises this at the end of Paragraph 16 with the statement:

“Recognising the dynamic nature of the project, the management program will be responsive to changes in circumstances, unforeseen events, and the results of monitoring and review.”

As a result, EFIC does not usually need to instruct our clients when amendments are required as their management programs will have already responded.

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- B. EFIC has supported the PNG LNG Project in Papua New Guinea. EFIC and the other Project Lenders have the support of an Independent Environmental and Social Consultant (IESC) in monitoring the Project's performance against its environmental and social commitments. The IESC prepares a report following each of its compliance monitoring visits and these reports are made public. Section 2 of each report, "Issues Table", tabulates a summary of non-conformances raised by the IESC and assigns each a non-conformance level. There are four levels ranging from a simple IESC Observation through to the highest, Level III critical non-conformance, which represents a potential material non-compliance. The issue table explains the non-conformance and suggest a possible response. The IESC then tracks the non-conformance until there is a satisfactory response by the Project. The IESC reports are available at: http://pnglng.com/quarterly_reports/e_s_reports.htm.

Question No. 57

Program: EFIC

Topic: Grievance mechanisms

Question on Notice

Page: 84

Senator: Rhiannon

Question

You said that there were a number of templates covering [Equator Principles] grievance mechanisms. Could you take it on notice to supply those, please?

Answer

The following are guides to grievance or complaints mechanisms that EFIC has found useful:

- IFC Publications, *Stakeholder Engagement: A Good Practice Handbook for Companies Doing Business in Emerging Markets* May 2007 and *Addressing Grievances From Project-Affected Communities* September 2009. Both documents are available from the IFC website:

http://www1.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/Topics_Ext_Content/IFC_External_Corporate_Site/IFC+Sustainability/Publications

- The Oxfam publication, *Community-company grievance resolution: A guide for the Australian mining industry*. Available from the Oxfam website:

<http://resources.oxfam.org.au/pages/view.php?ref=506>

- The publication, *Community grievance mechanisms and Australian mining companies offshore: An industry discussion paper* October 2008. This is available from the Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining at:

<http://www.csr.m.uq.edu.au>

- The International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) has several relevant documents including *Human Rights in the Mining & Metals Industry Handling and Resolving Local Level Concerns & Grievances*. These are available on the ICMM website at:

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<http://www.icmm.com/library>.

- The Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, John Ruggie, *Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework*. This is available at:

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/SpecialRepPortal/Home/Protect-Respect-Remedy-Framework/GuidingPrinciples>.

Question No. 58

Program: DFAT

Topic: Dutch fishing vessel

Question on Notice

Page: 86

Senator Colbeck

Question

What contacts have there been in relation to the issue of the Dutch fishing vessel? What contacts have been made by the Dutch Government on that matter – I understand there was a direct approach to the Minister for Agriculture? I just want to quantify what other contacts have been made with the Australian government in relation to that matter. Did you provide any advice in relation to this matter as part of the contacts that were made between the Dutch government and Minister Ludwig? Can you also take on notice to give me some advice as to the nature of the contacts that were made and the concerns that were raised by the Dutch government as part of that process? And particularly whether or not they raised any concerns about the government ignoring the current science around that fishery and, particularly, making a political decision which overrode the science.

Answer

The then Dutch Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, Maxime Verhagen, spoke by telephone with Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Ludwig, on 11 September.

In organising the call, there were various contacts between our post in The Hague and the Dutch Government, and between the Dutch Embassy in Canberra with DFAT and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). The Dutch Government did not raise concerns with DFAT in these contacts. DFAT's role was to facilitate the phone contact.

DFAT did not provide any advice on this matter as part of the contact between Deputy Prime Minister Verhagen and Senator Ludwig. The issue is a portfolio responsibility of DAFF and the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

The Dutch Ambassador-designate to Australia mentioned the issue in her introductory call with FAS, Europe Division on 20 September. No specific concerns were raised.

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Question No. 59

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Does Australia recognise that persecution against the Tamil population in Sri Lanka is ongoing?

Answer

Australia recognises continuing concerns about aspects of the human rights situation in Sri Lanka.

Question No. 60

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What actions is the Australian government taking to prevail upon the Rajapaksa government to desist in such action?

Answer

Australia makes regular representations on human rights to Sri Lanka in Colombo, Canberra and Geneva. Most recently, on 1 November 2012, Australia presented questions in advance and made recommendations for improving human rights at Sri Lanka's Universal Periodic Review at the UN Human Rights Council.

In addition, Australia referred to Sri Lanka in our statement on situations that require the UN Human Rights Council's attention (Item IV statement) on 17 September 2012 and co-sponsored a resolution on promoting reconciliation and accountability in Sri Lanka in the UN Human Rights Council, which was adopted in March 2012.

Question No. 61

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

When asked what measures are in place for DFAT to monitor and secure the safety of Tamils and Sinhalese that are going to be deported back to Sri Lanka, I was advised that where any allegations of abuse are raised by a returnee, the high commission would follow that up with the Sri Lankan authorities. Has this occurred and if so, can you provide details of how many instances and the nature of the allegations?

Answer

No follow-up has occurred as our High Commission in Colombo has not received any claims of mistreatment from returnees since 2010.

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Question No. 62

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Does Australia support any NGOs that are working to expose human rights abuses perpetrated against Tamils?

Answer

Australia supports NGOs and Sri Lankan community groups that are working to improve human rights for all Sri Lankans. AusAID has funded specific projects promoting human rights in Sri Lanka under the Human Rights Small Grants Scheme.

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Question No. 63

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Are we supporting any NGOs that are working to prevent current discrimination against the Tamil population?

Answer

Australia supports NGOs and Sri Lankan community groups that are working to improve human rights for all Sri Lankans. AusAID has funded specific projects promoting human rights in Sri Lanka under the Human Rights Small Grants Scheme.

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Question No. 64

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Have there been any briefings supplied at any level within DFAT about the phenomenon of people being abducted off the streets in Sri Lanka in white vans, such as political dissidents, and successful Tamil businessmen?

Answer

Reporting and briefing has referred to a range of human rights concerns and issues.

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Question No. 65

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel advice

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Before travel advice on the DFAT website is publicly released what sources are accessed to determine what that travel advice should be?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade uses a range of information sources in the preparation of its travel advisories, including: assessments from Australian missions overseas about local security conditions; our experience of the common or recurring consular problems Australians experience overseas; intelligence reports, and in particular threat assessments by the National Threat Assessment Centre; the advisories prepared by our consular partners (United States, United Kingdom, New Zealand and Canada); and, when necessary, we liaise with other Government departments and agencies to ensure that the information we provide is as accurate and useful as possible for Australian travellers.

Question No. 66

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel advice

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What factors are taken into account before DFAT changes travel advice?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade keeps all information in the travel advice under review for accuracy, relevance and currency. All country travel advice is reissued at periodic intervals or more frequently if required by developments. There is no strict formula for determining a travel advice level. We consider a number of factors, including the threat of terrorism, the political situation and the possibility of violence, crime levels. The extent to which these could affect travellers and the capacity of local authorities to respond are also taken into account.

Question No. 67

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel Advice

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

How often was the travel advice on the DFAT website changed in the past year? What dates did the advice change?

Answer

Individual country travel advisories and issues and events bulletins on the DFAT website were updated and reissued 880 times in 2011-12.

The travel advice changed on each of the following dates: 1/07/2011, 4/07/2011, 5/07/2011, 6/07/2011, 7/07/2011, 8/07/2011, 10/07/2011, 11/07/2011, 12/07/2011, 13/07/2011, 14/07/2011, 15/07/2011, 18/07/2011, 19/07/2011, 20/07/2011, 21/07/2011, 22/07/2011, 23/07/2011, 24/07/2011, 25/07/2011, 26/07/2011, 27/07/2011, 28/07/2011, 29/07/2011, 30/07/2011, 1/08/2011, 2/08/2011, 3/08/2011, 4/08/2011, 5/08/2011, 7/08/2011, 9/08/2011, 10/08/2011, 12/08/2011, 15/08/2011, 17/08/2011, 18/08/2011, 19/08/2011, 20/08/2011, 22/08/2011, 23/08/2011, 24/08/2011, 25/08/2011, 26/08/2011, 27/08/2011, 29/08/2011, 30/08/2011, 1/09/2011, 2/09/2011, 5/09/2011, 6/09/2011, 7/09/2011, 8/09/2011, 9/09/2011, 10/09/2011, 15/09/2011, 16/09/2011, 17/09/2011, 19/09/2011, 20/09/2011, 21/09/2011, 23/09/2011, 24/09/2011, 26/09/2011, 27/09/2011, 28/09/2011, 29/09/2011, 30/09/2011, 4/10/2011, 5/10/2011, 6/10/2011, 7/10/2011, 8/10/2011, 11/10/2011, 12/10/2011, 15/10/2011, 17/10/2011, 18/10/2011, 19/10/2011, 20/10/2011, 21/10/2011, 23/10/2011, 24/10/2011, 25/10/2011, 26/10/2011, 27/10/2011, 28/10/2011, 29/10/2011, 31/10/2011, 1/11/2011, 2/11/2011, 3/11/2011, 4/11/2011, 5/11/2011, 6/11/2011, 7/11/2011, 8/11/2011, 9/11/2011, 10/11/2011, 14/11/2011, 15/11/2011, 16/11/2011, 17/11/2011, 18/11/2011, 20/11/2011, 21/11/2011, 22/11/2011, 23/11/2011, 24/11/2011, 25/11/2011, 27/11/2011, 28/11/2011, 29/11/2011, 30/11/2011, 2/12/2011, 5/12/2011, 6/12/2011, 7/12/2011, 8/12/2011, 12/12/2011, 13/12/2011, 14/12/2011, 15/12/2011, 16/12/2011,

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19/12/2011, 20/12/2011, 22/12/2011, 30/12/2011, 3/01/2012, 5/01/2012, 6/01/2012, 7/01/2012, 9/01/2012, 10/01/2012, 11/01/2012, 12/01/2012, 13/01/2012, 14/01/2012, 16/01/2012, 17/01/2012, 18/01/2012, 19/01/2012, 20/01/2012, 21/01/2012, 23/01/2012, 24/01/2012, 26/01/2012, 27/01/2012, 31/01/2012, 1/02/2012, 2/02/2012, 3/02/2012, 6/02/2012, 7/02/2012, 8/02/2012, 9/02/2012, 10/02/2012, 11/02/2012, 14/02/2012, 15/02/2012, 17/02/2012, 20/02/2012, 21/02/2012, 22/02/2012, 23/02/2012, 24/02/2012, 27/02/2012, 29/02/2012, 1/03/2012, 2/03/2012, 6/03/2012, 8/03/2012, 9/03/2012, 12/03/2012, 14/03/2012, 15/03/2012, 16/03/2012, 17/03/2012, 19/03/2012, 20/03/2012, 21/03/2012, 22/03/2012, 23/03/2012, 27/03/2012, 28/03/2012, 29/03/2012, 30/03/2012, 31/03/2012, 1/04/2012, 2/04/2012, 3/04/2012, 4/04/2012, 5/04/2012, 6/04/2012, 9/04/2012, 11/04/2012, 12/04/2012, 13/04/2012, 16/04/2012, 17/04/2012, 18/04/2012, 19/04/2012, 20/04/2012, 23/04/2012, 24/04/2012, 26/04/2012, 27/04/2012, 30/04/2012, 1/05/2012, 3/05/2012, 4/05/2012, 8/05/2012, 9/05/2012, 10/05/2012, 11/05/2012, 15/05/2012, 16/05/2012, 17/05/2012, 18/05/2012, 22/05/2012, 23/05/2012, 25/05/2012, 28/05/2012, 29/05/2012, 30/05/2012, 31/05/2012, 1/06/2012, 3/06/2012, 5/06/2012, 7/06/2012, 8/06/2012, 11/06/2012, 15/06/2012, 21/06/2012, 22/06/2012, 23/06/2012, 26/06/2012, 27/06/2012, 29/06/2012, 30/06/2012.

Question No. 68

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel advice

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

What was the information and what was the source of the information that resulted in a change to travel advice to Sri Lanka?

Answer

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade reissued its travel advice for Sri Lanka on 31 July 2012 removing the separate, higher level for Northern Province. The decision to remove the separate level for Northern Province was based on information from a range of sources, including reports and assessments by the Australian High Commission in Colombo, threat assessments by the National Threat Assessment Centre (NTAC), media and other open source reporting, and the travel advisories of our consular partners (United States, United Kingdom, New Zealand and Canada).

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Question No. 69

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

Since Ms Williams' appointment as Global Ambassador for Women and Girls in 2011, she 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, the development community and with other organisations in establishing and pursuing Australia's agenda for the empowerment of women and girls. She has had meetings and represented the government at events in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, as well as Brazil, Cambodia, the Cook Islands, Timor Leste, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, 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.

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Question No. 70

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, World 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

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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.
- Ms Williams travelled to Indonesia, 30 April-4 May 2012. She had high level meetings with government officials and civil society representatives to discuss violence against women, women in leadership, sexual and reproductive health. She had roundtable meetings on migrant worker, trafficking, servitude, access to education and health services, and interfaith issues. Ms Williams visited AusAID health, education and income generation projects.
- Ms Williams travelled to Brazil, 18-24 June 2012, to participate in the UN Women-hosted Women Leaders' Forum at Rio+20.
- Ms Williams travelled to Cambodia, 10-15 July 2012, to participate in a US-Cambodia-hosted Lower Mekong Initiative Gender Policy Dialogue. Ms Williams was a moderator of a panel on Gender-Based Violence.
- Ms Williams travelled to the Cook Islands, 28 August – 1 September 2012, to participate in side events on gender issues at the Pacific Islands Forum and assist in the promotion of the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development initiative announced by the Prime Minister at the forum.
- Ms Williams travelled to Timor Leste, 19-22 September 2012. She had high level meetings with government and civil society representatives and conducted field visits to aid projects, raising awareness (including through media coverage) of Australia's engagement on issues including violence against women, maternal and child health and nutrition, education, women's political participation and economic empowerment.
- Ms Williams travelled to Laos, 17-19 October 2012, to represent Australia at the first ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women and to extend Australia's engagement with ASEAN organisations promoting gender equality.
- Ms Williams travelled to Trinidad and Tobago, 19-25 October 2012, as announced by the Prime Minister during CHOGM in Perth, 2011, to promote cooperation on women's leadership. She presented at a civil society conference on women's political participation and at a university seminar on Australia's agenda to promote gender equality.
- Ms Williams travelled to Fiji (11-15 November 2012) to present at two conferences (themed on issues of gender-based violence and promotion of women business entrepreneurs). Her visit generated significant media coverage of issues such as violence against women, women's economic empowerment and Australia's partnership with the region to advance gender equality.

Question No. 71

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 Asia-Pacific region, to North and South America and to the Caribbean, and through her participation, in Australia and aboard, in multilateral and regional conferences (APEC, UNGA, CHOGM, the Commission on the Status of Women, Rio+20, the Pacific Islands Forum and the first ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women).

Ms Williams has travelled to the Pacific on six occasions, visiting eight countries, meeting with senior level interlocutors to prosecute Australia's gender priorities (including at the Pacific Islands Forum in August 2012), and conducting extensive media outreach. During site visits to Australian aid projects across the region, she has promoted gender equality as a critical issue in Australia's aid program to local media. Ms Williams has also used her outreach program and meetings to promote the objectives of the *Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development* program launched by Prime Minister Gillard at the Pacific Islands Forum in August 2012.

She has travelled to Trinidad and Tobago to promote cooperation on women's leadership. She has promoted women's empowerment during visits to Asia (Timor Leste, Cambodia, Indonesia and Laos) and has participated in ASEAN meetings and gender events in the margins of major regional meetings. In Brazil, she participated in a Rio+20 women's leadership forum. In Australia, she has met with representatives of international organisations, other governments and heads of civil society organisations to improve cooperation on gender programs.

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Question No. 72

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

Since her appointment in 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.

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Question No. 73

Program: DFAT

Topic: Global Ambassador for Women and Girls

Question in Writing

Senator Cash

Question

At the October 2011 Senate Estimates hearing Ms McKenzie stated that Ms Williams' role was "An advocacy role, but also one of working with other delegations to agree joint positions on work which may be able to be done in the future". Please advise which delegations Ms Williams has worked with and what joint positions have been agreed on work that may be able to be done in the future.

Answer

Ms Williams works across agencies to develop Australian policies and programs to promote gender equality. She collaborates particularly closely with the Office for Women and AusAID, but also consults with Attorney General's Department, the Department of Defence, the Australian Federal Police and the Department of Immigration to promote the development of consistent whole of government policy relating to Australia's work internationally for the empowerment of women and girls. As a matter of course, Ms Williams also works with other governments and entities.

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Question No. 74

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How many ongoing staff have been 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. Between 1 July 2012 and 30 September 2012, the department had recruited 7 ongoing officers. A breakdown of these officers by level is as follows –

Broadband	Ongoing Officers Recruited in 2011-12
BB1/2 (including Graduates)	4
APS6/EL1	2
EL2	0
SES	1
Total	7

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- B. On 30 September 2012, there were 85 officers working on a non-ongoing basis within the department. A breakdown by level is as follows –

Level	Non-Ongoing Officers at 30 Sept 2012
BB1/2	58
APS6/EL1	14
EL2	9
SES	4
Total	85

- C. As at 30 September 2012, there were 312 contractors engaged by the Department through contracting agencies and panel arrangements. The average length of these contracts is six months.

Question No. 75

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?**
- B. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?**
- C. How many contract staff left department/agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?**

Answer

- A. In 2011-12, 159 ongoing APS staff separated from the department. A breakdown of these officers by level is as follows –

Broadband	2011-12
BB1/2	48
APS6/EL1	74
EL2	26
SES	11
Total	159

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- B. In 2011-12 there were 95 instances of non-ongoing APS staff separating from the department. It should be noted that non-ongoing officers may separate several times during a year. A breakdown of these separations by level is as follows –

Level	Separations by Non-Ongoing Officers in 2011-12
BB1/2	54
APS6/EL1	27
EL2	12
SES	2
Total	95

- C. Due to the differing mechanisms by which contractors are engaged and therefore terminated (through contracting agencies, panel arrangements or service contracts), the department does not record this information centrally. Contractors are not engaged at specific APS classifications.

Question No. 76

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How many ongoing staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?**
- B. How many non-ongoing staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?**
- C. How many contract staff left were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff? What is the average length of their employment period?**

Answer

- A. In 2011-12, the department recruited 149 ongoing officers. A breakdown of these officers by level is as follows –

Broadband	Ongoing Officers Recruited in 2011-12
BB1/2 (including Graduates)	100
APS6/EL1	42
EL2	4
SES	3
Total	149

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- B. In 2011-12, there were 83 new non-ongoing contracts comprising 41 hires and 42 rehires. A breakdown by level is as follows –

Level	Hires and Rehires of Non-Ongoing Officers in 2011-12
BB1/2	46
APS6/EL1	26
EL2	9
SES	2
Total	83

- C. As at 30 September 2012, there were 312 contractors engaged by the Department through contracting agencies and panel arrangements. The average length of these contracts is six months. Contractors are not engaged at specific APS classifications

Question No.77

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.***
- B. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.***

Answer

- A. The department is aiming to achieve budget savings through staff reductions in Australia through a combination of natural attrition and voluntary redundancies.
- B. Staff reductions form part of the department's response to the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook savings measures announced in November 2011.

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Question No. 78

Program: DFAT

Topic: Making the Public Service more efficient

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Please detail how the department/agency will achieve savings over the forward estimates through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State of 25 September 2012). In addition, please provide the following detail:

A. How will reductions in air travel spending be achieved? What is the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

B. What restrictions will be implemented for business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

C. How will the use of external consultants and contractors be reduced? How will this impact on the Department/agency? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

D. How will the department/agency manage moving recruitment advertising online? Will all future recruitment advertisement be online only? If not, explain why. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

E. How will printing costs be reduced? Explain if and how the department/agency will reduce its printing costs by five per cent, or if it will not, why not? How will it be determined what documents will no longer be printed? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

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Answer

A, B, C & E

The Department operates a devolved budget management framework as it considers that work units are best placed to adjust their spending to suit their particular business needs. To achieve the various savings announced over the last twelve months, work unit budgets have been reduced accordingly. Savings initiatives will vary according to the specific business priorities of each work unit. There is no requirement for work units to report on how reductions are being achieved or provide savings estimates in particular spend categories across the forward estimates. To collect this data would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

D.

The department moved recruitment advertising online on 1 July 2012 in line with the Department of Finance and Deregulation's 'Non-campaign Recruitment Advertising Policy' of June 2012. All recruitment advertising since 1 July 2012 has been online. Future recruitment advertisements will be online only, except in rare instances where a particular print media is identified as the most appropriate means of attracting applicants with highly specialised skills. It is difficult to estimate savings over the forward estimates due to natural fluctuations in the volume and type of recruitment advertising conducted year to year.

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Question No. 79

Program: DFAT

Topic: Recruitment Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *How much was spent on recruitment advertising in 2011-12? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?***
- B. *Please list where recruitment advertising was listed online and in print media.***
- C. *How much has been spent on recruitment advertising this financial year to date? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?***
- D. *Please list where recruitment advertising was listed online and in print media.***

Answer

A.

Total: \$93,422.51

Online: \$35,621.44

Print: \$57,801.07

Notes: Subscriptions to APS Jobs (\$12,462.90) and Grad Connection (\$9,405.00) are included in above online figures.

B.

Online: Seek.com, Indigenous Jobs Australia, APS Jobs, Career.one.com.au, Gurus.com.au, IT Jobs, Psychxchange, Horizon Employment

Print: The Australian, The Canberra Times, The Financial Review, Koori Mail, National Indigenous Times, Sun Herald Newcastle

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C.

Total: \$18,784.33

Online: \$18,784.33

Print: Nil to date

Notes: Indigenous Jobs (\$3,349.50) and GradConnection (\$10,972.50) subscriptions are included in above online figures.

D.

Online: Seek.com, Indigenous Jobs Australia, APS Jobs

Print: N/A

Question No. 80

Program: DFAT

Topic: Printing costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *How much was spent on printing 2011-12? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?***
- B. *How many documents (include the amount of copies) were printed in 2011-12? How many of these printed documents were also published online?***
- C. *Of the documents that were printed in 2011-12, where were they delivered and what was the cost?***
- D. *How much has been spent on printing this financial year to date? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?***
- E. *How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?***

Answer

As printing falls under the responsibility of each individual area in the Department, to provide details of all documents and quantities printed would entail significant diversion of resources, and in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

The Department's public website contains further information on DFAT publications.

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Question No. 81

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

A. How much has been spent on 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.

B. Has any travel been incurred for 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.

Answer

A. The total cost for recruiting the 2013 Policy and Corporate Graduate intake was \$295,713.28 (including GST). The breakdown of costs is as follows:

Advertising (online ads)	12,676.17
Outsourced recruitment services (including administrative support, scribing etc)	80,716.36
Online cognitive and behavioural testing	61,800.08
Selection committee costs	95,700.00
Accommodation and travel (airfares)	44,820.67

B. The total cost for travel incurred for the 2013 Policy and Corporate Graduate intake was \$44,820.67 (including GST). The breakdown of the costs is as follows:

Travel (airfares)	30,156.67
Accommodation	14,664.00

Question No. 82

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *How much is estimated to be spent on 2013 Graduate Training?***
B. *Provide details of what training is to be provided, why and the estimated cost for each*

Answer

- A. Course planning for the 2013 graduate intake is yet to be finalised. Based on spending for the 2012 graduate intake, we estimate expenditure in the order of \$545,000 in 2013.
- B. Graduates undertake a two-year training program which includes on-the-job training, professional skills development and academic gap-filling courses. Training is either provided in-house or by an external provider. Contracts for externally provided courses have not yet been finalised for 2013 so costs are not yet known.

Courses may include:

APSC Graduate Events

Australia's Strategic Interests

Australian Identity and Values

Consular Training

DFAT Writing Skills

Human Rights

Induction Training

International Relations

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Introduction to Australian Foreign Policy

Introduction to Economics

Introduction to Export

Introduction to Financial Management

Introduction to International Law

Modern Diplomacy and Representation Skills

Negotiation Skills

Presentation and Networking Skills

Trade Policy

World Trading System

Question No. 83

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government Advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?***
- B. Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.***
- C. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.***
- D. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.***
- E. 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.***
- F. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.***
- G. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?***

Answer

- A. The total cost of advertising for the Department for the financial year to date is \$375,450.**

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- B. \$299,149 of advertising expenditure as at 31 October 2012 was for Smartraveller campaign advertising. The businesses that provided the services were The Campaign Palace, JWT, Universal McCann, Professional Public Relations and Etcom.
- C. The Department of Finance and Deregulation provided advice on Smartraveller campaign advertising throughout its development.
- D. Yes, in relation to the Smartraveller campaign.
- E. The Department's policies comply with the "Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by the Australian Government Departments and Agencies" as set by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.
- F. There was no other communications program.
- G. Non-campaign expenditure is expected to remain consistent. The Smartraveller campaign will continue in 2012-13.

Question No. 84

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government Advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. What was the total cost of all advertising for 2011-12?***

- B. Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.***

- C. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.***

- D. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.***

- E. 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.***

- F. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services that was undertaken in 2011-12.***

Answer

- A.** Details of all contracts valued at or over \$10,000 can be found on AusTender – the Commonwealth’s procurement reporting system.

The Department’s 2011-12 Annual Report includes information on advertising expenditure, refer Appendix 9 page 226.

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- B. \$4,107,284 of advertising expenditure in 2011-12 was for Smartraveller campaign advertising. The businesses that provided the services were The Campaign Palace, Universal McCann, Professional Public Relations and Ecom.
- C. The Department of Finance and Deregulation provided advice on Smartraveller campaign advertising throughout its development.
- D. Yes, in relation to the Smartraveller campaign.
- E. The Department's policies comply with the "Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by the Australian Government Departments and Agencies" as set by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.
- F. There was no other communications program.

Question No. 85

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/Agency'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.**
- I. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?**

Answer

- A. For the period 1 July 2012 to 31 October 2012, the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on hospitality and entertainment was \$1.754 million.**

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Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across DFAT's domestic and 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.

B. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's year to date expenditure on hospitality and entertainment for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office is nil.

C. Refer (A)

D. Refer (B)

E. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's planned hospitality and entertainment expenditure for 2012-13 is expected to be similar to expenditure patterns in 2011-12 (\$4.886 million).

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.

F. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's planned expenditure for 2012-13 on hospitality and entertainment for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office is nil.

G. Refer (E)

H. Refer (F)

I. The amount each work unit spends on hospitality and entertainment is at the discretion of the work unit and will depend on their particular business needs.

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Question No. 86

Program: DFAT

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.***
- B. *For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for 2011-12. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.***
- C. *What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.***
- D. *For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for 2011-12. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.***

Answer

- A. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's expenditure on hospitality and entertainment for the financial year 2011-12 was \$4.886 million.

Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across DFAT's domestic and 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.

- B. For the 2011-12 financial year, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's expenditure on hospitality and entertainment for each Minister's and Parliamentary Secretary's Office was as follows:

Date 28 March 2012

Location Senator Carr's Office, Suite M1-27, Parliament House

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Purpose Morning tea with the Indonesian Foreign Minister

Cost \$40.00

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

C. Refer (A)

D. Refer (B)

Question No. 87

Program: DFAT

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 this financial year to date.***

Answers

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 39.1 per cent female (not including ex officio members).

C. Appointments to each board for the financial year to date (FYTD) are listed below.

Australia Awards

A. Title: Australia Awards.

Terms 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 (part-time) with the possibility of re-appointment.

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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	
CEO ACIAR (new 19/09/2012)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 40 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. No new board members in FYTD, but there was a new ex officio appointment of CEO ACIAR (ongoing).

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 and Competitiveness.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair) and 3 years (members).

Members:

The Hon. Warwick Smith AM	Chair	9/09/2011	8/9/2016
Mr Kevin Hobgood-Brown	Dep 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	Member	1/02/2011	31/01/2013
FRACS AM			
Dr Heather Smith (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

*proposed new appointments replacing Mr Cleary and Mr Clark have not yet been confirmed by Ministers

B. Gender ratio: 42.86 per cent female (not including ex officio)

C. No new board appointments for the FYTD.

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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 (part-time) with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

Mr John McCarthy, AO	Chair	14/12/2009	13/12/2012
Ms Suzanne Davies	Member	1/08/2010	31/07/2013
Professor Brien Holden OAM	Member	7/09/2012	6/09/2013
Ms Payal Mahindroo	Member	1/08/2012	6/09/2015
Professor Gillian Whitlock	Member	7/09/2012	6/09/2015
**Mr Paul Robilliard (DFAT Division Head responsible for India)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 60 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. One board appointment for the FYTD (Ms Payal Mahindroo) and two re-appointments (Professor Brien Holden OAM and Professor Gillian Whitlock).

** Mr Paul Robilliard was ex officio as at 18 October 2012. Ms Jennifer Rawson, however, replaced Mr Robilliard as Division Head on 5 November.

Australia-Indonesia Institute (AII)

A. Title: Australia-Indonesia Institute

Terms of appointment: The Chair 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).

Members:

Professor Tim Lindsey	Chair	9/02/2011	8/02/2013
Mr Andrew Donovan	Member	26/06/2012	25/06/2015
Professor Bruce Robinson	Member	26/06/2012	25/06/2015
Mr Greg Sheridan	Member	26/06/2012	25/06/2015
Professor Julia Day Howell	Member	10/02/2011	9/02/2014

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Professor David Hill	Member	10/02/2011	9/02/2014
Dr James Bradfield Moody	Member	10/02/2011	9/02/2014
Ms Rufiath Yousuff	Member	10/02/2011	9/02/2014
Professor Clare Martin	Member	5/10/2011	4/10/2014
Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

- B. Gender ratio: 33.33 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, had expired by mid-March 2011. No new members have been appointed.

Ex officio members:

Ms Sally Bassar, 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 for the Arts	Ex officio
Mr Peter Grey, Chief Executive Officer, Austrade	Ex officio
Mr Andrew McEvoy, Managing Director, Tourism Australia	Ex officio
Ms Katherine Hough, Director, Arts Tasmania	Ex officio

- B. Gender ratio: 62.5 per cent female, all ex officio.
- C. No board appointments for the FYTD.

Australia-Japan Foundation (AJF)

- A. Title: Australia-Japan Foundation.

Terms of appointment: The Chair shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Members of the Board, other than the Chair 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.

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Members:

Mr Murray McLean OAM	Chair	1/01/2012	31/12/2016
Mr Peter Yates AM	Member	1/02/2010	1/02/2013
Mr Tim Lester	Member	1/02/2010	1/02/2013
Professor Kate Darian-Smith	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Mr Greg Earl	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Ms Melanie Brock	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Dr Chiaki Ajioka	Member	1/10/2012	1/10/2015
Dr Heather Smith (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 42.86 per cent female (not including ex officio).

C. One board appointment for the FYTD (Dr Chiaki Ajioka).

Australia-Korea Foundation (AKF)

A. Title: Australia-Korea Foundation.

Terms of appointment: The Chair 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 David Palmer	Chair	17/07/2008	16/07/2013
Dr Bronwen Dalton	Member	15/09/2009	14/09/2014
Professor Chung-Sok Suh	Member	12/07/2008	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
Ms Jacquie Riddell	Member	11/10/2012	14/09/2015
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 (Ms Jacquie Riddell), and one re-appointment (Dr Bronwen Dalton).

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Australia-Malaysia Institute (AMI)

A. Title: Australia-Malaysia Institute

Terms 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:

Professor Lance Twomey AO	Chair	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Mr Christian Bennett	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Ms Geraldine Doogue AO	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Ms Rechelle Hawkes OAM	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Dr Gaik Cheng Khoo	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Ms Kathe Kirby	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Mr Kee Wong	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 57.14 per cent female (not including ex officio)

C. No board appointments for the FYTD.

Australia-Thailand Institute (ATI)

A. Title: Australia-Thailand Institute.

Terms 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:

Mr Mike Courtnall	Chair	9/04/2012	8/04/2013
Dr Kaye Eldridge	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Mr John Hancock	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Mr Michael Laverty	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Mr Jim Middleton	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Ms Dusadee Coulson	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Ms Annette Ellis	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Ms Margaret West AM	Member	1/11/2009	30/10/2012
Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

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- B. Gender ratio: 50 per cent female (not including ex officio).
- C. No board appointments for the FYTD.

Council for Australian-Arab Relations (CAAR)

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

Terms 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: Part-time basis for 3 years.

Members:

Mr Ahmed Fahour	Chair	31/01/2011	30/12/2013
Dr Glen Simpson	Deputy Chair	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
Ms Jennifer Rawson (delegate of DFAT 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 ex officio board appointment for the FYTD. (Mr Paul Robilliard was ex officio as at 18 October 2012. Ms Jennifer Rawson, however, replaced Mr Robilliard as delegate of the DFAT Secretary on 5 November.)

Council on Australia Latin American Relations (COALAR)

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

Terms 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 and Competitiveness. Chair and members may be re-appointed for a term.

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

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Members:

Mr David Luboff	Chair	1/07/2010	30/06/2013
Professor Margaret Gardner AOMs	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 Chris Gale	Member	10/08/2012	30/06/2015
Mr Tim McLennan	Member	10/08/2012	30/06/2015
Ms Heather Smith (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	
Mr David Landers (General Manager, Growth and Emerging Markets, Austrade)	Ex officio	Ongoing	
Mr Colin Walters (Head of International Education Division, DIISRTE)	Ex officio	Ongoing	
Ms Jane Madden (Head of Tourism Division, RET)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

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

C. Mr Chris Gale and Mr Tim McLennan were appointed on 10 August 2012.

Editorial Advisory Board (EAB)

A. Title: Editorial Advisory Board

Terms of appointment: The Editorial Advisory Board is appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 4 years.

Members:

Mr Kim Jones	Chair	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Ms Ann Capling	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Mr Ian Hancock	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Mr Peter Edwards	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Ms Marilyn Lake	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Ms Leanne Piggott	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Mr David Lowe	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015

B. Gender Ratio: 42.86 per cent female.

C. There were no appointments in the FYTD.

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Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

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

Terms 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 Chair.

Members:

Mr Angus Armour	Managing Director	31/10/2003	By Board decision
Mr Andrew Mohl	Chair	9/12/2011	8/12/2014
Ms Sally Pitkin	Deputy Chair	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 Bruce Gosper (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Alternate Government Member ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 37.5 per cent female (not including ex officio members).

C. No new board appointments in the FYTD.

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.

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Members:

Ms Anthea Tinney	Chair	16/06/2009	15/06/2013
Mr Martin Hadlow	Deputy Chair and specialist member	9/04/2012	8/04/2016
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 Chrissy Grant	Specialist member	9/04/2012	8/04/2016
Mr Benson Saulo	Youth member	9/04/2012	8/04/2016
Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP	Parliamentary Observer		
Senator Marise Payne	Parliamentary Observer		

Departmental Representatives:

DFAT	Ex officio	Ongoing
DBCDE	Ex officio	Ongoing
SEWPaC	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: 42.86 per cent female (not including ex officio or Parliamentary Observers).

C. No board appointments have been made in the FYTD.

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.

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Members:

Professor Beth Woods OAM	President	21/03/2011	20/03/2014
Dr Subbanna Ayyappan	Member	19/07/2010	18/07/2013
Mr Brown Bai	Member	22/08/2011	21/08/2014
Dr Monthathip Chanphengxay	Member	22/08/2011	21/08/2014
Dr Patricio Faylon	Member	22/08/2011	21/08/2014
Dr Haryono	Member	4/09/2012	3/09/2015
The Hon. Professor Ruth Oniang'o SS DSM	Member	7/07/2010	6/07/2013
Dr Jimmie Rodgers	Member	4/09/2012	3/09/2015
Dr Muhammad Tusneem	Member	22/08/2011	21/08/2014
Dr Nguyen Van Bo	Member	19/07/2010	18/07/2013
Mr Ian Kershaw (nominee of the Director General AusAID)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 30 per cent female.

C. Two new appointments in the FYTD (Dr Haryono and Dr Jimmie Rodgers).

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	31/07/2012	30/07/2014
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	29/10/2012	28/10/2015
Mr Peter Baxter (Director General AusAID)	Commissioner	6/05/2010	5/05/2013

B. Gender ratio: 28.57 per cent female.

C. Two re-appointments in the FYTD (Dr Nick Austin and Dr Joanne Daly).

Question No. 88

Program: DFAT

Topic: Board Appointments

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

- A. List all of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members for 2011-12.
- B. What was the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio for 2011-12?

Answers

- A. All boards, including board titles, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members for 2011-12 are listed below.
- B. The gender ratio for each board follows.

The gender ratio for boards across the department was 37.9 per cent female (not including ex officio members) in 2011-12.

Australia Awards

A. Title: Australia Awards.

Terms 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 (part-time) 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	
CEO ACIAR (new 19/09/2012)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 40 per cent female (not including ex officio).

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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 and Competitiveness.

Tenure of appointment: Part-time basis for 5 years (Chair) and 3 years (members).

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
Prof 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
Prof Fiona Wood FRACS AM	Member	1/02/2011	31/01/2014
Dr Heather Smith (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 42.86 per cent female (not including ex officio).

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 (part-time) with the possibility of re-appointment.

Members:

Mr John McCarthy AO	Chair	14/12/2009
Ms Suzanne Davies	Member	1/08/2010
Professor Brien Holden OAM	Member	7/09/2009
Professor Margaret Sheil	Member	7/09/2009
Professor Gillian Whitlock	Member	7/09/2009
Mr David Stuart (DFAT Division Head responsible for India)	Ex officio	Ongoing

B. Gender ratio: 60 per cent female (not including ex officio).

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Australia-Indonesia Institute (AII)

A. Title: Australia-Indonesia Institute.

Terms of appointment: The Chair shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the nomination of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. A member of the Institute, other than the Chair 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
Mr 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
Professor Clare Martin	Member	5/10/2011	4/10/2014
Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 33.33 per cent female (not including ex officio).

Australia International Cultural Council (AICC)

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

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

Ex officio members for 2011-12:

Ms Sally Basser, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts, Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport	11/12/2008	Ongoing
Ms Gillian Bird, Deputy Secretary DFAT	26/06/2008	Ongoing
Mr Bruce Dover, Chief Executive, Australia Network	17/07/2007	Ongoing
Dr Ruth Harley, Chief Executive Officer, Screen Australia	11/12/2008	Ongoing
Ms Kathy Keele, Chief Executive Officer, Australia Council for the Arts	14/12/2006	Ongoing

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Mr Peter Grey, Chief Executive Officer, Austrade	11/12/2008	Ongoing
Mr Andrew McEvoy, Managing Director, Tourism Australia	1/01/2010	Ongoing
Ms Katherine Hough, Director, Arts Tasmania	31/03/2012	Ongoing
Ms Penny Hutchinson, Director, Arts Victoria	13/08/2011	30/03/2012

B. Gender ratio: 66.67 per cent female, all ex officio.

Australia-Japan Foundation (AJF)

A. Title: Australia-Japan Foundation.

Terms of appointment: The Chair shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Members of the Board, other than the Chair 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	Chair	1/01/2012	31/12/2016
Mr Peter Yates AM	Member	1/02/2010	1/02/2013
Mr Tim Lester	Member	1/02/2010	1/02/2013
Mr Tony Ellwood	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Professor Kate Darian-Smith	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Mr Greg Earl	Member	1/03/2010	1/03/2013
Ms Melanie Brock	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).

Australia-Korea Foundation (AKF)

A. Title: Australia-Korea Foundation.

Terms of appointment: The Chair shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Members of the Board, other than the Chair 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.

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Members:

Mr David Palmer	Chair	17/07/2008	16/07/2013
Dr Bronwen Dalton	Member	15/09/2009	14/09/2012
Professor Chung-Sok Suh	Member	12/07/2008	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: 16.67 per cent female (not including ex officio).

Australia-Malaysia Institute (AMI)

A. Title: Australia-Malaysia Institute

Terms 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:

Prof Lance Twomey AO	Chair	31/3/2009	31/12/11
Mr Christian Bennett	Member	1/1/2009	31/12/11
Ms Geraldine Doogue AO	Member	1/1/2009	31/12/11
Ms Rechelle Hawkes OAM	Member	31/3/2009	31/12/11
Dr Alia Imtoul	Member	1/1/2009	31/12/11
Ms Kathe Kirby	Member	1/1/2009	31/12/11
Prof Anthony Milner AM	Member	1/1/2009	31/12/11
Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

All Board positions expired on 31 December 2011. New appointments in 2011-12:

Prof Lance Twomey AO	Chair	9/04/2012	8/06/2015
Mr Christian Bennett	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Ms Geraldine Doogue AO	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Ms Rechelle Hawkes OAM	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Dr Gaik Cheng Khoo	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Ms Kathe Kirby	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Mr Kee Wong	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015

B. Gender ratio: 57.14 per cent female (not including ex officio).

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Australia-Thailand Institute (ATI)

A. Title: Australia-Thailand Institute.

Terms 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:

Mr Mike Courtnall	Chair	1/01/2009	31/12/2011
Mr Doug Hall AM	Member	1/01/2009	31/12/2011
Mr Sid Myer AM	Member	1/01/2009	31/12/2011
Mr John Hancock	Member	1/01/2009	31/12/2011
Mr Michael Laverty	Member	1/01/2009	31/12/2011
Mr Jim Middleton	Member	1/01/2009	31/12/2011
Prof Abdullah Saeed	Member	1/01/2009	31/12/2011
Ms Margaret West AM	Member	1/11/2009	31/10/2012
Ms Gillian Bird (Deputy Secretary, DFAT)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

New appointments in 2011-12:

Mr Mike Courtnall	Chair	9/04/2012	8/04/2013
Dr Kaye Eldridge	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Mr John Hancock	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Mr Michael Laverty	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Mr Jim Middleton	Member	9/04/2012	8/04/2015
Ms Dusadee Coulson	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Ms Annette Ellis	Member	4/05/2012	3/05/2015
Ms Margaret West AM	Member	1/11/2009	30/10/2012

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

Council for Australian-Arab Relations (CAAR)

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

Terms 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: Part-time basis for 3 years.

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Members:

Mr Ahmed Fahour	Chair	31/01/2011	30/12/2013
Dr Glen Simpson	Deputy Chair	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 Paul Robilliard (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).

Council on Australia Latin American Relations (COALAR)

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

Terms 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:

Mr David Luboff	Chair	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	
Ms Jane Madden (Head of Tourism, RET)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

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

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Editorial Advisory Board (EAB)

A. Title: Editorial Advisory Board

Terms of appointment: The Editorial Advisory Board is appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. (The terms of the Editorial Advisory Board expired on 30 June 2011. The Board was in abeyance from 1 July 2011 to 1 May 2012.)

From 2 May 2012 to 30 June 2012 the Board consisted of:

Mr Kim Jones	Chair	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Ms Ann Capling	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Mr Ian Hancock	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Mr Peter Edwards	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Ms Marilyn Lake	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Ms Leanne Piggott	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015
Ms David Lowe	Member	2 May 2012	30 June 2015

B. Gender ratio: 42.86 per cent female.

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

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

Terms 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 term if the member has been appointed at any time as the Chair.

Members:

Mr Angus Armour	Managing Director	31/10/2003	By Board decision
Mr Andrew Mohl	Chair	9/12/2011	8/12/2014
Ms Sally Pitkin	Deputy Chair	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	Ex officio	Ongoing	
(Secretary DFAT)	Alternate Government	Ongoing	
Mr Bruce Gosper	Member ex officio		
(Deputy Secretary DFAT)			

B. Gender ratio: 37.5 per cent female (not including ex officio members).

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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
Mr Martin Hadlow	Deputy Chair and specialist member	9/04/2012	8/04/2016
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 Chrissy Grant	Specialist member	9/04/2012	8/04/2016
Mr Benson Saulo	Youth member	9/04/2012	8/04/2016
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: 42.86 per cent female (not including ex officio or Parliamentary Observers).

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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	21/03/2011	20/03/2014
Dr Subbanna Ayyappan	Member	19/07/2010	18/07/2013
Mr Brown Bai	Member	22/08/2011	21/08/2014
Dr Monthathip Chanphengxay	Member	22/08/2011	21/08/2014
Dr Patricio Faylon	Member	22/08/2011	21/08/2014
The Hon. Professor Ruth Oniang'o SS DSM	Member	7/07/2010	6/07/2013
Dr Muhammad Tusneem	Member	22/08/2011	21/08/2014
Dr Nguyen Van Bo	Member	19/07/2010	18/07/2013
Mr Ian Kershaw (nominee of the Director General AusAID)	Ex officio	Ongoing	

B. Gender ratio: 33 per cent female.

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.

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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.

Question No. 89

Program: DFAT

Topic: Freedom of Information

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *Has the Department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?***
- B. *What is the total cost to the department /agency to process FOI requests for 2011-2012? How many requests did the department/agency receive in 2011-12? 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?***
- C. *What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date***
- D. *How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? 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? If so, how many and why***

Answer

- A. The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC), 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. From time to time, this advice is updated. In recent months, there have been some updates to these guidelines. The online version represents the most up-to-date version of the advice.

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. There has been no update to this advice since it was issued.

- B. DFAT compiles information on staff-hours and non-labour costs relating to FOI at the end of each financial year. DFAT provides this information to the Office of the Information Commissioner (OAIC) for publication in the usual reporting cycle. The OAIC then uses its own methodology to estimate the cost for each agency. This final cost information is published by the Office of the Information Commissioner on its website in the *Freedom of Information Act 1982 Annual Report*. For 2011-2012, DFAT provided its inputs to the OAIC, including estimated total staff-hours of 13710 and non-labour costs of \$9562. The OAIC methodology indicates an estimated total cost to DFAT of \$938,602.

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In 2011-2012 DFAT received 175 FOI requests. In the same period, 119 requests were granted in full or in part, and 28 were refused.

In terms of processing times, DFAT provided the following data to the OAIC covering the period 1 July 2011 – June 30 2012:

	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	40	36	31	15	25

A range of statutory extensions of time are permitted under the FOI Act. Response times over 30 days do not necessarily indicate that the response is overdue, once statutory extensions are allowed for. Nevertheless, in some cases the Department's response has occurred after the processing time has elapsed. As at 23 November 2012 there are no requests outstanding for which processing time has expired.

Where it occurs, the reason for the delay beyond the processing times allowed under the FOI Act is that the request is large and/or complex, requiring extensive analysis and consultation. The Department has experienced a significant increase in the number of FOI requests since the introduction of the FOI reforms in November 2010, including three times the rate of complex FOI requests.

- 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.

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D. DFAT has provided the following data to the OAIC covering the period 1 July – 30 September 2012:

	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	17	13	6	1	5

A range of statutory extensions of time are permitted under the FOI Act. Response times over 30 days do not necessarily indicate that the response is overdue, once statutory extensions are allowed for. Nevertheless, in some cases the Department's response has occurred after the processing time has elapsed. Where it occurs, the reason for the delay beyond the processing times allowed under the FOI Act is that the request is large and/or complex, requiring extensive analysis and consultation. As at 23 November 2012, some requests received in the period July-September 2012 remain outstanding. However, the statutory timeframes for these requests, allowing for extensions, have not yet been exhausted.

53 FOI requests were received during this period. In the same period, 34 requests were granted in full or in part, and 8 were refused.

Question No. 90

Program: DFAT

Topic: Community Cabinet Meetings

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location.**
- B. 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 date and travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.**
- C. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?**

Answer

- A. Senator Carr attended one Community Cabinet meeting in the 2012-13 financial year to date, held in Ipswich, Queensland, on 10 July 2012.
- B. One departmental officer from State Offices attended each of the Community Cabinet meetings in the 2012-13 financial year to date. Costs were absorbed in the department's operating budget.
- The Director of the Queensland State Office accompanied the Minister to the 10 July 2012 Community Cabinet meeting in Ipswich.
 - The Director of the Western Australia State Office attended the 5 September 2012 Community Cabinet meeting in Orelia, Western Australia.

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- The Acting Director of the Tasmania State Office attended the 3 October 2012 Community Cabinet meeting in Launceston, Tasmania.
- C. The cost to the department of departmental officers attending Community Cabinet meetings in the 2012-13 financial year to date is negligible and has been absorbed as part of normal operations. Information on the domestic travel costs of Ministers and Ministerial Staff is available from the Department of Finance and Deregulation

Question No. 91

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Community Cabinet Meetings

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended in 2011-12? List date and location.**
- B. How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for 2011-12? What was the total cost of this travel? List date and travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.**
- C. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for 2011-12?**

Answer

- A. Three Community Cabinet meetings were attended by a Minister for Foreign Affairs in the 2011-12 financial year.
- Mr Rudd attended the 3 October 2011 Community Cabinet meeting held in Kingston, Tasmania.
 - Mr Rudd attended the 9 November 2011 Community Cabinet meeting held in Werribee, Victoria.
 - Senator Carr attended the 4 April 2012 Community Cabinet held in Parramatta, New South Wales.
- B. One or two departmental officers from State Offices attended each of the Community Cabinet meetings in the 2011-12 financial year to date. Costs were absorbed in the department's operating budget.

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- One departmental officer from the Queensland State Office attended the 1 September 2011 Community Cabinet meeting in Yeronga, Queensland.
 - The Director of the Tasmania State Office accompanied the Minister to the 3 October 2011 Community Cabinet meeting in Kingston, Tasmania.
 - Two departmental officers from the Victoria State Office accompanied the Minister to the 9 November 2011 Community Cabinet meeting in Werribee, Victoria.
 - The Director and Deputy Director of the New South Wales State Office accompanied the Minister to the 4 April 2012 Community Cabinet meeting in Parramatta, New South Wales.
 - One departmental officer from the Victoria State Office attended the 16 May 2012 Community Cabinet meeting in Berwick, Victoria.
- C. The cost to the department of departmental officers attending Community Cabinet meetings in the 2011-12 financial year was negligible and has been absorbed as part of normal operations. Information on the domestic travel costs of Ministers and Ministerial Staff is available from the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

Question No. 92

Program: DFAT

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. Has the Government responded to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not?*
- F. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?*
- G. What reviews are planned?*
- H. When will each of these reviews be concluded?*

Answer

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

Question No. 93

Program: DFAT

Topic: Reviews

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12:

- A. How many Reviews were undertaken?***
- B. For those reviews that 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. Did the Government respond to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not?***
- E. What was the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?***
- F. For any ongoing reviews, when will each of these reviews be concluded?***

Answer

- A. None.**
- B. None.**
- C. Not applicable.**
- D. Not applicable.**
- E. Not applicable.**
- F. Not applicable.**

Question No. 94

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. 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.**
- B. 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 2012-13 to date are available on AusTender – the Commonwealth’s procurement reporting system. When contracts are awarded, the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement are published on AusTender. To provide details of consultancy 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. All details of planned consultancies, including subject matter, estimated date of approach to market, and proposed method of procurement are published in DFAT’s Annual Procurement Plan on the AusTender website. The potential cost of future procurements, and the name of any successful bidder would not be known until the approach to market had been completed. These details are published on AusTender soon after any contract is awarded.

Question No. 95

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

How many consultancies were undertaken in 2011-12? 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.

Answer

Details of all consultancy contracts valued at or over \$10,000 let in 2011-12 are available on AusTender – the Commonwealth’s procurement reporting system. When contracts are awarded, the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement are published on AusTender. To provide details of consultancy 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.

Question No. 96

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

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?

- A. Which agency or agencies provided these services?*
- B. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?*
- C. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?*

Answer

- A. Media Monitors (Sentia Media)
- B. \$123,000
- C. Total media monitoring costs for the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries for the financial year to 31 October is \$13,644.76

Question

What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera provided to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for this financial year to date?

- A. Which agency or agencies provided these services?*
- B. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?*
- C. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?*

Answer

- (A) Media Monitors (Sentia Media)
- (B) \$240,540.00
- (C) Total media monitoring costs for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for the 2013 Financial Year to 19 November 2012 is \$76,911.83

Question No. 97

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for 2011-12?

- A. Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
- B. What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?***

Answer

The total cost for all media monitoring services used by the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries of Foreign Affairs and Trade in financial year 2011-12 was \$88,872.06.

- A. Media Monitors
- B. The estimated budget to provide media monitoring services for the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries of Foreign Affairs and Trade in financial year 2011-12 was \$100,000.

Question

What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for 2011-12?

- A. Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
- B. What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?***

Answer

The total cost for all media monitoring services used by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in financial year 2011-12 was \$295,216.63.

- A. Media Monitors, Factiva and AAP Newswire
- B. The estimated budget to provide media monitoring services for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in financial year 2011-12 was \$255,700.00.

Question No. 98

Program: DFAT

Topic: Social Media

Question in Writing

Senator Eggelston

Question

1. 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 May 2012 Budget Estimates? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue.

2. Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media?

A. If yes, provide details of the usage (for example details could include average hours per employee, hours when usage peaks)

B. If no, will the department/agency monitor usage in the future?

3. Does social media impact on employee productivity? Provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours)

Answer

1. The Department's Conduct and Ethics Manual was updated on 26 June 2012 to reflect guidance from the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) for all APS employees making public comments in a private capacity and using internet social networking tools, blogs and chat rooms. The new guidance aims to help employees better understand the issues they need to take into account when considering making public comment, including online. The Conduct and Ethics Manual is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's website.

2. Yes. We cannot verify actual usage across-the-board.

3. No. The department does not consider that the use of social media is impacting employee productivity.

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Question No. 99

Program: DFAT

Topic: Internet

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Has the Department experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet, or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?

Answer

There have been two major Internet outages in the past six months. The first occurred on Monday the 18 June 2012. This affected all users and lasted 6 hours. The second occurred on the 22 October 2012 and lasted 24 hours. In both cases the problem lay with the user logon process and affected a large section of the user population including the Ministers' office staff.

In the period from 1 August until 30 October 2012 there have been 13 incidents logged reporting problems with accessing the Internet. Further analysis indicates that the majority of these jobs reported periods of 'slowness' accessing particular Internet resources. The most significant factor in the slow access times during these periods has been bandwidth exhaustion. It is probable that the Ministers' offices were also affected on these occasions.

Question No. 100

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staff amenities

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

What amenities are provided to staff? Provide a list.

Answer

At the Department's Head Office in Canberra (RG Casey Building) staff have access to a gymnasium, cafeteria and child care centre within the building. At each State and Territory office the Department provides a working environment which meets Workplace Health and Safety requirements, as it does at posts across the global network.

Question No. 101

Program: DFAT

Topic: Coffee machines

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.***
- B. *Why were coffee machines purchased?***
- C. *Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?***
- D. *Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in 2011-12 and how much this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken Where does the funding for maintenance come from?***

Answer

It is not the Department's practice to purchase coffee machines for staff usage.

Question No. 102

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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- D. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- E. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- F. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- G. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***

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I. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.

J. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

Answer

A. No.

B. No.

C. No.

D. No.

E. No.

F. No.

G. No.

H. No.

I. No.

J. Details of contracts valued at or over \$10,000 let in 2012-13 to date are available on AusTender – the Commonwealth’s procurement reporting system. When contracts are awarded, the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement are published on AusTender. 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.

Question No. 103

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contractors

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12

- A. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- D. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- E. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- F. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- G. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***

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I. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.

J. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

Answer

A. No.

B. No.

C. No.

D. No.

E. No.

F. No.

G. No.

H. Yes. During financial year 2011-12 DFAT engaged The Boston Consulting Group Pty Ltd to provide management advisory services to the department. Details including the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement are published on AusTender.

I. No.

J. Details of contracts valued at or over \$10,000 let in 2011-12 are available on AusTender – the Commonwealth’s procurement reporting system. When contracts are awarded, the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement are published on AusTender. To provide details of 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.

Question No. 104

Program: DFAT

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *Could the department/agency provide a list of all 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. *Have all grant agreement details been published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.***

Answer

- A. A list of the department's grants for this financial year to date is publicly available on the department's website which includes details of grant recipients, purpose and funding location.
- B. No. As at 31 October 2012 one grant for the current financial year was not reported within the timeframe specified in the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines.

Question No. 105

Program: DFAT

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *Could the department/agency provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for 2011-12? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.***
- B. *Have all grant agreement details been published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.***

Answer

- A. A list of the department's grants for 2011-12 is publicly available on the department's website which includes details of grant recipients, purpose and funding location.
- B. No. In 2011-12 there were 13 instances where grants were not reported within the timeframe specified in the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines.

Question No. 106

Program: DFAT

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

How many Reports were commissioned by the Government in your department/agency in 2011-12? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.

- A. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?***
- B. What is the current status of each report? Did the Government report within the required timeframe? If not, when is the Government intending to respond to these reports?***

Answer

No Reports were commissioned in 2011-12.

- A. Not applicable.**
- B. Not applicable.**

Question No. 107

Program: DFAT

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question 9

How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency 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.

- A. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?***
- B. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?***

Answer

No Reports have been commissioned this financial year to date (18 October 2012).

- A. Not applicable.**
- B. Not applicable.**

Question No. 108

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Question on Notice

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Senator Eggleston

Question

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)?

- A. If not, why not? Provide details, including 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

Government policy in terms of timeliness for payment of accounts is focussed on small business. Agencies are only required to report performance on payments to small business. Consequently DFAT systems are not configured to collect information on the timeframe for payment of accounts to other suppliers.

- A. The 2012-13 statistics relating to payments 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. To collate this data at this stage of the year will entail significant diversion of resources and in these circumstances I do not consider the additional work can be justified.
- B. Departmental practices accord with the requirements outlined in Finance Circular 2012/02 Procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business. The department is aware of late payment interest penalty being paid for the 2011-12 financial year of \$8,263.31. The department is not aware of any late payment interest penalty paid in the current financial year.
- C. The interest charge is calculated in accordance with the Finance Circular 2012/02 Procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business. The penalty interest rate was determined at the General Interest Charge (GIC) daily rate for the applicable quarter as detailed on the Australian Taxation Office website.

Question No. 109

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12, did the department/agency pay its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?

- A. If not, why not? Provide details, including 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/was 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?***
- D. Have all accounts from 2011-12 been paid? If no, why not?***

Answer

Government policy in terms of timeliness for payment of accounts is focussed on small business. Agencies are only required to report performance on payments to small business. Consequently DFAT systems are not configured to collect information on the timeframe for payment of accounts to other suppliers.

- A. In 2011-12, the Department paid 94% of accounts for Small Business within 30 days. This falls within the Government's benchmark of 90% of correctly rendered invoices from small businesses being paid within 30 days of receipt.
- B. Departmental practices accord with the requirements outlined in Finance Circular 2012/02 Procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business. The department is aware of late payment interest penalty being paid for the 2011-12 financial year of \$8,263.31. The department is not aware of any late payment interest penalty paid in the 2010-11 financial year.
- C. The interest charge was calculated in accordance with the Finance Circular 2012/02 Procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business. The penalty interest rate was determined at the General Interest Charge (GIC) daily rate for the applicable quarter as detailed on the Australian Taxation Office website.
- D. The Department is not aware of any outstanding accounts from 2011-12.

Question No. 110

Program: DFAT

Topic: Stationery requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *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?***
- B. *What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date?***

Answer

- A. For the period 1 July 2012 to 13 November 2012, the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on stationery requirements (including paper) supplied by its contracted stationery supplier for portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries was \$3,716.
- B. For the period 1 July 2012 to 13 November 2012, the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on stationery requirements (including paper) supplied by its contracted stationery supplier for departmental use was \$132,975.

Additional spending on stationery from vendors other than the Department's contracted stationery supplier, including local purchases by overseas posts, has not been included in this figure. It would entail a significant diversion of resources to collate this information and, in the circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 111

Program: DFAT

Topic: Stationery requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *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) in 2011-12?***
- B. *What were the department/agency's stationery costs for 2011-12?***

Answer

- A. For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012, the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on stationery requirements (including paper) supplied by its contracted stationery supplier for portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries was \$14,408.
- B. For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012, the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on stationery requirements (including paper) supplied by its contracted stationery supplier for departmental use was \$465,338.

Additional spending on stationery from vendors other than the Department's contracted stationery supplier, including local purchases by overseas posts, has not been included in this figure. It would entail a significant diversion of resources to collate this information and, in the circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 112

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Has there been any change to your pay TV subscription since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?**
- *If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.*
 - *What is the cost for this financial year to date?*
- B. Has there been any change to your newspaper subscriptions since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?**
- *If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers*
 - *What is the cost for this financial year to date?*
- C. Has there been any change to your magazine subscriptions since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?**
- *If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines*
 - *What is the cost for this financial year to date?*
- D. What was the 2011-12 cost for:**
- *Newspaper subscriptions*
 - *Magazine subscription*
 - *TV subscriptions*
- E. Does the department/agency provide any media subscriptions to its Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries? If yes, provide details of what is provided and the cost this FY to date and for 2011-12**

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Answer

- A. B. C. There have been no substantive changes to the arrangements for these subscriptions since the May 2012 Budget Estimates.
- D. Newspaper, magazine and television subscriptions are decentralised and managed and budgeted by individual work units in Canberra, across 95 posts overseas and seven 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. Canberra-based television costs are managed by the Information Management Division (IMD) those costs are as follows:
- Payments to Foxtel for DFAT Canberra IPTV (Internet Protocol Television):
 - \$ 25,406.65.
 - Payments to the Department of Parliamentary Services for access to Parliamentary TV:
 - \$6,572.10 (GST Exclusive).
 - DFAT Canberra TV subscription costs for 2011-12 financial year:
 - \$31,978.85.
- E. The department provides media subscriptions to Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries in the form of newspapers, magazines and internet digital applications.

The financial year 2011-12 subscription costs for Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries were:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| • TV | \$ 957.49 |
| • Newspapers and magazines | \$ 28,311.14 |
| • Total cost: | \$ 29,712.61 |

The cost for subscription costs for Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries this financial year to 31 October 2012 is \$10,185.83.

Question No. 113

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (A) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and / or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).**
- (B) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).**
- (C) Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel**
- (D) (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and the Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel**
- (E) (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is the department/agency following the advice? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, 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 total costs of the lounge memberships.**
- (G) When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the cost of why such support staff travel.**

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Answer

(A)

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 visit.

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 Special Purpose Aircraft 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 where a meal was provided, then that staff member would not be paid travel allowance for that meal).

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. (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.

Details for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 October 2012 are as follows. The costs provided in this response are as at 31 October 2012. Some costs may still not have been finalised.

1. Senator Carr travelled to the USA, France, Japan, Cambodia and Indonesia from 1 to 24 July 2012.

Senator Carr was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Japan, one to Cambodia and one to Indonesia. 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)	4,696.16	(ii)	895.07	(iii)	637.73	(iv)	nil
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Assistant Secretary, Pakistan and Afghanistan Branch

(i)	6,601.24	(ii)	nil	(iii)	1,160.87	(iv)	nil
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Acting Assistant Secretary, South-East Asia Bilateral Branch

(i)	4,905.49	(ii)	973.05	(iii)	354.52	(iv)	nil
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2. Senator Carr travelled to the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian Territories from 30 July to 9 August 2012.

Senator Carr 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)	8,333.74	(ii)	712.38	(iii)	1,442.02	(iv)	90.00	Visas
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3. Senator Carr travelled to Solomon Islands from 17 to 19 August 2012.

Senator Carr 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, Pacific Division

(i)	nil	(ii)	543.15	(iii)	nil	(iv)	nil
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4. Senator Carr travelled to Egypt from 3 to 8 September 2012.

Senator Carr was accompanied by two Canberra-based DFAT staff members. 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)	7,245.30	(ii)	945.85	(iii)	305.43	(iv)	nil
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Assistant Secretary, United Nations Security Council Task Force

(i)	7,876.76	(ii)	1,046.88	(iii)	262.46	(iv)	nil
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5. Senator Carr travelled to France, Switzerland, the USA and Mongolia from 19 September to 5 October 2012.

Senator Carr was not accompanied by any Canberra-based DFAT staff.

6. Dr Emerson travelled to the USA from 14 to 21 July 2012.

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

7. Dr Emerson travelled to Cambodia from 28 to 31 August 2012.

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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:

Deputy Secretary

(i)	8,576.10	(ii)	535.01	(iii)	144.66	(iv)	49.50 Visa
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8. Dr Emerson travelled to Taiwan and Russia from 2 to 10 September 2012.

Dr Emerson was accompanied by one Canberra-based DFAT staff member to Taiwan and one to Russia. 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, Office of Trade Negotiations

(i)	8,205.60	(ii)	1,269.47	(iii)	677.25	(iv)	nil
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Assistant Secretary, East Asia Branch

(i)	7,401.25	(ii)	340.40	(iii)	167.01	(iv)	nil
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9. Dr Emerson travelled to Turkey and Switzerland from 1 to 8 October 2012.

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

Deputy Secretary

(i)	9,976.17	(ii)	1,110.31	(iii)	924.15	(iv)	nil
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First Assistant Secretary, Europe Division

(i)	7,518.61	(ii)	476.38	(iii)	244.73	(iv)	45.00 Visa
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10. Mr Marles travelled to Solomon Islands from 1 to 3 July 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:

Director, Solomon Islands Section

(i)	4,387.87	(ii)	504.94	(iii)	107.56	(iv)	nil
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11. Mr Marles travelled to Ethiopia, Croatia, Romania and Bulgaria from 11 to 21 July 2012.

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

Assistant Secretary, Africa Branch

(i)	8,351.89	(ii)	2,670.96	(iii)	483.44	(iv)	45.00 Visa
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Assistant Secretary, Northern, Southern and Eastern Europe Branch

(i)	13,670.88	(ii)	582.94	(iii)	214.90	(iv)	nil
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12. Mr Marles travelled to Tuvalu and Kiribati from 1 to 3 August 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:

First Assistant Secretary, Pacific Division

(i)	35.96	(ii)	120.00	(iii)	nil	(iv)	nil
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13. Mr Marles travelled to Nepal, Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Korea from 6 to 11 August 2012.

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

Assistant Secretary, South and Central Asia Branch

(i)	6,470.00	(ii)	nil	(iii)	37.78	(iv)	nil
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Director, Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore Section

(i)	3,704.72	(ii)	306.92	(iii)	195.98	(iv)	45.00 Visa
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14. Mr Marles travelled to Cook Islands from 27 August to 2 September 2012.

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

15. Mr Marles travelled to France and Haiti from 3 to 8 September 2012.

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

16. Mr Marles travelled to the USA from 23 to 29 September 2012.

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

17. Mr Marles travelled to the USA and El Salvador from 14 to 21 October 2012.

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

18. Mrs Elliot travelled to Thailand from 16 to 19 July 2012.

Mrs Elliot was not accompanied by any Canberra-based DFAT staff.

(B)

For this financial year (to 31 October 2012) the department has spent \$8.47 million from its Operating Budget, on travel. This figure includes airfares, accommodation, travel allowance (covers meals and incidentals) and other expenses:

F/Y	2012-13 FYTD
Air fares	\$6.92m
Accommodation	\$0.72m
Travel Allow.	\$0.66m
Other	\$0.17m
Total Expenditure	\$8.47m

The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow all travel to be separately captured to provide a breakdown by airfare type. To provide details in this format would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

(C - E)

Yes, the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2012/04) and Best Fare of the Day for International Travel (Finance Circular No. 2012/05) guidelines are followed by DFAT staff and compliance is monitored through the department's Travel Management Company, Carlson Wagonlit Travel (CWT).

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(F)

SES staff, as part of their conditions of service, have a provision for one airline/club membership to be purchased at official expense. 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 record travel data in a way that would readily allow airline/club memberships to be separately captured to provide a breakdown. To provide details in this format would entail significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

(G)

Support staff and administrative staff in DFAT do not travel specifically to accompany or support SES officers. However, there may be a need to deploy support or administrative staff for other reasons not associated with providing SES support.

Question No. 114

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

A. For 2011-12, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).

B. For 2011-12, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).

Answer

A.

Details for travel for the period of 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 were provided in the response to Question on Notice No. 93 from the May 2012 Budget Estimates.

B.

For the 2011-12 financial year, the department spent \$28.12 million from its Operating Budget, on travel. This figure includes, airfares, accommodation, travel allowance (covers meals and incidentals) and other expenses:

F/Y	2011-12
Air fares	\$22.82m
Accommodation	\$2.42m
Travel Allow.	\$2.25m
Other	\$0.63m
Total Expenditure	\$28.12m

The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow all travel to be separately captured to provide a breakdown by airfare type. To provide details in this format would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 115

Program: DFAT Portfolio Overview

Topic: Legal Costs

Questions in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question 15

- A. *What sum did the department spend on legal services for 2011-12? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- B. *What sum did the department spend on legal services 2011-12 from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- C. *What sum did the department spend on legal services with private firms for 2011-12? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- D. *What sum did the department spend on legal services for 2011-12 from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***

Answer

- A. The total expenditure by the department (including both bills paid and payable) on external legal services for the 2011/12 financial year was \$3,088,198.

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 2011/12 financial year was \$1,496,054 broken down as follows: (i) \$940,082 for commercial advice; (ii) \$119,811 for litigation and dispute resolution; and (iii) \$436,161 for general advice.
- C. The total expenditure by the department on legal services from private firms in Australia for the 2011/12 financial year was \$534,145 broken down as follows: (i) \$432,308 for commercial advice; (ii) \$40,963 for litigation and dispute resolution; and (iii) \$60,874 for general advice.
- D. The figures provided above in relation to total expenditure by the department on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor

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and private firms do not include the external legal services expenditure by posts overseas. This additional amount was \$1,057,999 for the 2011/12 financial year.

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. 116

Program: DFAT Portfolio Overview

Topic: Legal Costs

Questions in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question 16

- A. *What sum did the department spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- B. *What sum did the department spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- C. *What sum did the department spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- D. *What sum did the department spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***

Answer

- A. The total expenditure by the department (including both bills paid and payable) on external legal services for this financial year to 31 October 2012 was \$1,458,732.

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 this financial year to 31 October 2012 was \$580,624 broken down as follows: (i) \$285,752 for commercial advice; (ii) \$274,370 for litigation and dispute resolution; and (iii) \$20,502 for general advice.
- C. The total expenditure by the department on legal services from private firms in Australia for this financial year to 31 October 2012 was \$298,429 broken down as follows: (i) \$290,262 for commercial advice; (ii) \$2,512 for litigation and dispute resolution; and (iii) \$5,655 for general advice.

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- 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 \$579,679 for this financial year to 31 October 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.

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Questions on Notice

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Question No: 117

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Education Expenses

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Has there been any change to the department/agency's guidelines on study since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)? If yes, please provide details**
- B. For this financial year to date, 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, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.**

Answer

- A. There has been no change to the Department's guidelines on study since the Budget Estimates in May 2012.
- B. For the financial year to date, 45 DFAT employees are currently enrolled in undergraduate and postgraduate studies under the Department's "Studybank" program in the following disciplines:

Arts
Accounting
Commerce/Business/Economics
Public Policy/Diplomacy
International Relations/International Studies
Law
Strategic Affairs
Science
Translation
Information Systems
Project Management
Internal Audit

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The total cost for the financial year to date has been \$24,914.00. The average cost per participant so far this Financial Year is \$553.00.

A total of 2012 hours of study leave has been granted for financial year to date. The classification of employees receiving study leave ranged from APS3 to Executive Level 2 employees.

Approved study was undertaken to allow officers to develop their professional skills in academic disciplines that are relevant to the department's objectives.

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Question No. 118

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- 1) *In relation to executive coaching and/or leadership training services purchased by each department, please provide the following for this FYTD:*
 - A. *Total spending on these services;*
 - B. *The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification;*
 - C. *The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) and;*
 - D. *The names of all service providers engaged.*

- 2) *For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4) please provide:*
 - A. *The name and nature of the service purchased;*
 - B. *Whether the service is one-on-one or group based;*
 - C. *The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification;*
 - D. *The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification);*
 - E. *The total amount spent on the service; and*
 - F. *A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package.*

- 3) *Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:*
 - A. *The location used;*
 - B. *The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification);*
 - C. *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification); and*

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D. Any costs to the department of agencies incurred to use the location.

Answer

1)

- A. For the financial year to date, \$155,605.00 has been spent on leadership training services. No funding has been spent on dedicated executive coaching;
- B. and (C) No employees were offered and/or took part in dedicated executive coaching services. A total of 53 executive employees (SES, Executive Level 2, Executive Level 1) engaged in leadership training. Study leave was not granted to these employees for their training.
- C. Providers engaged for leadership development services are Harvard University, Lew Kwan Yew School of Public Policy, Yellow Edge; the Australian Public Service Commission; Melbourne Business School and the Australian New Zealand School of Government.

2)

- A. All leadership programs were group based.
- B. Leadership training totalled approximately 1104 hours for all executive employees.

3)

- A. Training locations that were used externally included: the Australian Public Service Commission; and the Australian Government School of Management and Melbourne Business School.
- B. A total of 18 executive employees were trained at external locations.
- C. Training provided at external locations totalled approximately 630 hours.
- D. The department has not paid to utilise any external premises in Canberra for the delivery of leadership training.

Question No. 119

Program: DFAT

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(1) In relation to executive coaching and/or leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for 2011-12

- A. Total spending on these services;***
- B. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification;***
- C. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) and;***
- D. The names of all service providers engaged for each service purchased from a provider listed under (4) please provide:***

(2) For each service purchased from a provider listed under D above, please provide:

- A. The name and nature of the service purchased;***
- B. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based;***
- C. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification;***
- D. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification);***
- E. The total amount spent on the service;***
- F. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package).***

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

- A. The location used;***
- B. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification);***
- C. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification); and***
- D. Any costs to the department of agencies incurred to use the location.***

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Answer

(1)

A. For the 2011-12 financial year \$6930 was spent on executive coaching and \$340,417 on leadership training services;

B and C. Four Executive Level 1 employees were offered and took part in coaching services. A total of 154 executive employees (EL1, EL2 and SES) engaged in leadership training. Study leave was not granted to these employees for their training.

D. The May Group was the provider of the executive coaching services noted at 1 A. Providers engaged for leadership development services were Yellow Edge; the Australian Public Service Commission; the Harvard Kennedy School; Melbourne Business School and the Australian New Zealand School of Government.

(2)

B. Executive coaching services were provided on a one-on-one basis whilst all leadership programs were group based.

D. Executive coaching and leadership training totalled 2921 hours for all executive employees.

(3)

A. Training locations that were used externally were: 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 Graduate School of Management in Sydney.

B. A total of 43 executive employees were trained at external locations.

C. Training provided at external locations totalled 1299 hours.

D. The cost to utilise external premises in Canberra for the delivery of leadership training for DFAT executives was \$800.

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Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates 2011–2013; 31 October 2012

Question No: 120

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Media Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (1) *In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:***
- A. *Total spending on these services***
 - B. *The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification***
 - C. *The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted***
 - D. *The names of all service providers engaged***
- (2) *For each service purchased from a provider listed under D above, please provide:***
- A. *The name and nature of the service purchased***
 - B. *Whether the service is one-on-one or group based***
 - C. *The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification***
 - D. *The total number of hours involved for all employees***
 - E. *The total amount spent on the service***
 - F. *A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)***
- (3) *Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises please provide:***
- A. *The location used***
 - B. *The number of employees who took part on each occasion***
 - C. *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part***
 - D. *Any costs the department or agency incurred to use the location***

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Answer

(1)

- A. \$9,000.
- B. Media skills training is available to SES staff and to specific EL2 staff (the latter where there are specific media duties). DFAT staff belonging to the Emergency Response Team (ERT) cadre also are offered tailored media training.
- C. Seven SES Band 1 and two Executive Level 2 officers have utilised these services. Study leave was not granted to these employees for their training. ERT media training was provided to one SES Band 1, three EL2, nine EL1 and five APS level officers.
- D. Laurie Wilson and Associates were engaged to deliver media training.

(2)

- A. SES Media Skills Workshop and ERT Media Skills.
- B. The training is delivered one-on-one and group based, covering media theory and practical interview skills.
- C. Seven SES Band 1 and two Executive Level 2 officers have utilised these services. ERT media training was provided to one SES Band 1, three EL2, nine EL1 and five APS level officers.
- E. Training provided totalled approximately 63 hours.
- F. The total amount spent on the service is \$9,000.
- G. The fees were charged as a complete package.

(3)

- A. For this FYTD, no external locations have been used for media training.

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Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates 2011–2013; 31 October 2012

Question No: 121

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- (1) *In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for 2011-12:***
- A. *Total spending on these services***
 - B. *The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification***
 - C. *The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted***
 - D. *The names of all service providers engaged***
- (2) *For each service purchased from a provider listed under D. above, please provide:***
- A. *The name and nature of the service purchased***
 - B. *Whether the service is one-on-one or group based***
 - C. *The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification***
 - D. *The total number of hours involved for all employees***
 - E. *The total amount spent on the service***
 - F. *A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)***
- (3) *Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises please provide:***
- A. *The location used***
 - B. *The number of employees who took part on each occasion***
 - C. *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part***
 - D. *Any costs the department or agency incurred to use the location***

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Answer

(1)

- A. \$13,480.
- B. Media skills training is available to SES staff and to specific EL2 staff (the latter where there are specific media duties).
- C. Six SES Band 1 and five Executive Level 2 officers utilised these services. Study leave was not granted to these employees for their training.
- D. Laurie Wilson and Associates were engaged to deliver media training.

(2)

- A. SES Media Skills Workshop.
- B. The training is delivered one-on-one and group based, covering media theory and practical interview skills.
- C. Six SES Band 1 and five Executive Level 2 officers have utilised these services.
- E. Training provided totalled approximately 63 hours.
- F. The total amount spent on the service was \$13,480.
- G. The fees were charged as a complete package.

(3)

- A. Training locations that were used externally were MTAA House Pty Ltd (Canberra) and the National Press Club (Canberra).
- B. A total of three executive employees were trained at external locations.
- C. Training provided at external locations totalled approximately 28 hours.
- D. The cost to utilise external premises in Canberra for the delivery of the media training was \$680.

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Question No. 122

Program: DFAT

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Question on Notice

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 and their classification are in receipt of these payments.**

Answer

- A. For financial year 2012-2013, DFAT has been advised by the Family Assistance Office that 25 employees are eligible for payment under the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme.
- B. For financial year 2012-2013 to -, DFAT has provided 25 employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme. The breakdown of the number of employees by classification is:

<u>Employees</u>	<u>Classification</u>
Nil	APS2
1	APS3
2	APS4
9	APS5
3	APS6
8	EL1
2	EL2
Nil	SES BAND 1
Nil	SES BAND 2
Nil	SES BAND 3

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Question No. 123

Program: DFAT

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Question on Notice

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12 to date which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.

Answer

For financial year 2011-2012, DFAT has provided 42 employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme. The breakdown of the number of employees by classification is:

<u>Employees</u>	<u>Classification</u>
Nil	APS2
1	APS3
3	APS4
12	APS5
7	APS6
16	EL1
3	EL2
Nil	SES BAND 1
Nil	SES BAND 2
Nil	SES BAND 3

Question No. 124

Program: DFAT

Topic: Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries

Question in Writing

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 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. 125

Program: DFAT

Topic: Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

(A) For 2011-12, 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 2011-12, 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 2011-12, how much has been spent on training 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.

Answer

(A) NIL

(B) Details on expenditure on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries for the period of 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 were provided in the response to Question on Notice No 99 from the May 2012 Budget Estimates as follows:

For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on training for staff of portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries was \$484.84.

Date	16 March 2012
Location	Australia Government Solicitor
Purpose	Minister for Trade and Competitiveness: Adviser's attendance at the 2012 AGS Legal Training Program – Introduction to FOI
Cost	\$484.84

(C) NIL

Question No. 126

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate Cars

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):

A. How cars are owned by each department/agency?

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. As at 20 October 2012, the department owns 438 motor vehicles.

B. C. D. E. There have been no changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13.

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Question No. 127

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate Cars

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12:

- (A) *How cars are owned by each department/agency?***
- (B) *Where is the car/s located?***
- (C) *What is the car/s used for?***
- (D) *What was the cost of each car?***
- (E) *How far did each car travel?***

Answer

(A) to (E) Answers to these questions were provided in July 2012 through the Budget Estimates 2011-2012 process (refer to question No. 27), as follows:

- (A) The department currently owns 451 motor vehicles.
- (B) DFAT's vehicles are dispersed across our 95 overseas posts.
- (C) The vehicles are used to perform departmental functions overseas. These range from Head of Mission vehicles used for representation 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.

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Question No. 128

Program: DFAT

Topic: Taxi Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

A. 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.

B. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer

A. 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 into business groups. In the circumstances, I do not consider that additional work can be justified.

B. Refer (A).

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Question No. 129

Program: DFAT

Topic: Taxi Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2011-12? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.***
- B. *What are the reasons for taxi costs?***

Answer

- A. 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 into business groups. In the circumstances, I do not consider that additional work can be justified.
- B. Refer (A).

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Question No. 130

Program: DFAT

Topic: Credit Cards

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.

Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):

- A. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?***
- B. How is corporate credit card use monitored?***
- C. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?***
- D. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken***
- E. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?***

Answer

At 31 October 2012, 422 officers had a corporate credit card. Information on officers' classifications is not maintained centrally. It would entail a significant diversion of resources to collate this information and, in these circumstances; I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

A. B. C. & E. There have been no changes since Budget Estimates 2012-2013

D. In 2011-12 there was one instance of corporate credit card misuse when an official credit card was used for a private fuel purchase. No action was taken because the accounts office was advised of the mistake and the amount repaid.

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Question No. 131

Program: DFAT

Topic: Credit Cards

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

***For 2011-12 how many instances of corporate credit card misuse were there?
List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.***

Answer

See Question No 37.

Question No. 132

Program: DFAT

Topic: Provision of Equipment

Question in writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs.**
- B. For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date? What were the running costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?**
- C. Is electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.**
- D. Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012):**
- E. 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 whom it is provided.**

Answer

A.

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;

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- The Minister for Trade and Competitiveness, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Asian Century Policy;
- The Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs, the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs;
- The Parliamentary Secretary for Trade; and
- Their offices.

Included in this support is the provision of mobile phones to each Minister, Parliamentary Secretary and their staff. The phones are a mix of Blackberry and iPhones, and in one instance a Nokia.

As at 25 June 2012, the cost of purchasing each device is:

Blackberry: \$618.18

iPhone: \$726.36

Nokia C2-01: \$84.54

Ongoing costs vary depending on individual use patterns. Disaggregating costs down to the individual office or individual would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

B.

2009-10: \$551,172

2010-11: \$737,339

2012-13: Oct12 \$170,388

C.

Yes, 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.

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

The provision of additional equipment such as mobile phones, blackberries, USB storage 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.

Device	Cost per device
Standard desktop (pc plus monitor)	\$1359.55 (CAFF and GST Inclusive)
Desktop phone	\$331.18 (ex GST)
Standard laptop (Dell E6430)	\$676.28 (CAFF and GST Inclusive)
Lightweight laptop (Acer TravelMate P633)	\$678.50 (CAFF and GST Inclusive)
iPad	\$843.00
iPhone	\$726.36
Printer multi-function device (Xerox DocuCentre-IV C4470/4475)	\$9,097.94 (CAFF and GST Inclusive)
BlackBerry 9900	\$618.18
Nokia C2-01	\$84.54
USB 4G Modem	\$193.64

Note: All equipment is procured under the Desktop and Major Office Machines (MOM) whole of government panel arrangements.

DFAT's position is that disaggregating ICT costs down to the individual staff and classification level would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

Question No. 133

Program: DFAT

Topic: Provision of Equipment

Question in writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided, the cost and what were the ongoing costs for 2011-12.**
- B. For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of electronic equipment was provided, the cost and what were the ongoing costs for 2011-12.**
- C. Is electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff for 2011-12, provide details of what was provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.**

Answer

A.

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 and Competitiveness, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Asian Century Policy;
- The Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs, the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs;
- The Parliamentary Secretary for Trade; and
- their offices.

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Included in this support is the provision of mobile phones to each Minister, Parliamentary Secretary and their staff. The phones are a mix of Blackberry and iPhones, and in one instance a Nokia.

As at 25 June 2012, the cost of purchasing each device is:

Blackberry: \$618.18
iPhone: \$726.36
Nokia X2: \$84.54

Ongoing costs vary depending on individual use patterns. Disaggregating costs down to the individual office or individual would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

B.

2011-12: \$483,203

C.

Yes, 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, USB storage 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.

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Device	Cost per device
Standard desktop (pc plus monitor)	\$1359.55 (CAFF and GST Inclusive)
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iPad	\$843.00
iPhone	\$726.36
Printer multi-function device (Xerox DocuCentre-IV C4470/4475)	\$9,097.94 (CAFF and GST Inclusive)
BlackBerry 9900	\$618.18
Nokia C2-01	\$84.54
USB 4G Modem	\$193.64

Note: All equipment is procured under the Desktop and Major Office Machines (MOM) whole of government panel arrangements.

DFAT's position is that disaggregating ICT costs down to the individual staff and classification level would represent an unjustifiable diversion of resources.

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Question No. 134

Program: DFAT

Topic: Electricity purchasing

Question in writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Provide details of any update to the departments/agency electricity purchasing agreement if there has been a change since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012)***
- B. What are the department/agency electricity costs for 2011-12?***
- C. What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?***

Answer

- A. Nil
- B. \$1,846,854 (excluding GST)
- C. \$797,065 (excluding GST) for the period 1 July to 31 October 2012.

Question No. 135

Program: DFAT

Topic: Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Have any briefings been provided to the Australian Greens this financial year to date? If yes, please include:

- A. How are briefings requests commissioned?*
- B. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.*
- C. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.*
- D. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.*

Answer

No.

Question

Have any briefings been provided to the Independents this financial year to date? If yes, please include:

- A. How are briefings requests commissioned?*
- B. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.*
- C. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.*
- D. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.*

Answer

No.

Question No. 136

Program: DFAT

Topic: Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Have any briefings been provided to the Australian Greens in 2011-12? If yes, please include:

- A. How are briefing requests commissioned?***
- B. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.***
- C. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.***
- D. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.***

Answer

Yes.

- A. Briefings are arranged through the office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs or the office of the Minister for Trade.
- B. Two confidential oral briefings were provided to Senator Bob Brown's Chief of Staff relating to a sensitive kidnapping case (similar to that provided to the Opposition Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs). One briefing was provided on 6 January 2012 and the second on 14 May 2012.
- C. No.
- D. N/A.

Have any briefings been provided to the Independents in 2011-12? If yes, please include:

- A. How are briefings requests commissioned?***
- B. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.***
- C. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.***
- D. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.***

Answer

No.

Question No. 137

Program: DFAT

Topic: Shredders

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *Did the department/agencies purchase any shredders in 2011-12? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.***
- B. *Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012)? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.***

Answer

Details of the purchase of shredders are maintained on individual files cross DFAT's Australian and overseas network. To provide details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified. Shredders are used by DFAT for shredding classified material.

Question No. 138

Program: DFAT

Topic: Protective Security Policy Framework

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures.

Answer

- DFAT is working to ensure its security policies are in alignment with the Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF), in time to begin formal compliance reporting to the Minister in August 2013.
- DFAT is confident that its level of security compliance meets or exceeds the requirements of the PSPF.
- The comprehensive review of the Department's Security Manual is nearly finalised and it addresses the PSPF's 33 Mandatory Reporting requirements. In line with the mandatory PSPF requirements, the department has:
 - . clearly articulated a security plan as part of the Manual
 - . appointed an Information Technology Security Adviser
 - . put in place a security risk assessment framework
 - . issued the Department Risk Management Handbook
 - . continued to develop a comprehensive security awareness and training regime including online training.

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Question No.139

Program: DFAT

Topic: Office locations and staff

Question in writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Please provide a list of all office locations for all departments and agencies within your portfolio by

- A. Department/Agency.**
- B. Location.**
- C. Leased or owned.**
- D. Size**
- E. Number of staff at each location and classification.**
- F. If rented, the amount and breakdown of rent per square metre.**
- G. If owned, the value of the building.**
- H. Depreciation of buildings that are owned.**
- I. Type of functions and work undertaken.**

Answer

A. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Location B	Leased/ Owned C	Size Net lettable area D	Number of staff and classification E	Rent m² per year (Excl GST) F	Function/ work undertaken I
Canberra RG Casey Building John McEwen Crescent Barton	Leased	45,382m ²	APS1-5: 467 APS6/EL1: 717 EL2: 220 SES: 108	\$412.00	Central Department functions
Canberra Arts House Blackall Street Barton	Leased	916m ²	APS1-5: 2 APS6/EL1: 4 EL2: 1	\$380.00	Communications
Melbourne Casselden Place 2 Lonsdale Street	Leased	2,044m ²	APS1-5: 78 APS6/EL1: 10 EL2: 1 SES: 1	\$450.07	Policy and Passports
Sydney Angel Place 123 Pitt Street	Leased	815m ²	APS1-5: 7 APS6/EL1: 2 SES: 1	\$573.72	Policy
Sydney Gateway House	Leased	1,834m ²	APS1-5: 62 APS6/EL1: 7	\$447.72	Passports

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26 Lee Street			EL2: 1		
Newcastle 77-79 Hunter Street	Leased	217m ²	APS1-5: 7 APS6/EL1: 1	\$364.49	Passports
Darwin NT House 22 Mitchell Street	Leased	314m ²	APS1-5: 7 APS6/EL1: 2	\$490.00	Policy and Passports
Brisbane 295 Ann Street	Leased	1,211m ²	APS1-5: 42 APS6/EL1: 8 EL2: 2	\$600.61	Policy and Passports
Adelaide 55 Currie Street	Leased	608m ²	APS1-5: 15 APS6/EL1: 2 EL2: 1	\$402.35	Policy and Passports
Hobart 111 Macquarie Street	Leased	335m ²	APS1-5: 5 APS6/EL1: 2	\$361 07	Policy and Passports
Perth Level 17 Exchange Plaza, Sherwood Court	Leased	827m ²	APS1-5: 36 APS6/EL1: 5 EL2: 1	\$904.45	Policy and Passports
Thursday Island	Leased	68m ²	APS6/EL1: 1	\$508.76	Policy and Passports

Question No. 140

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:

By department or agency:

- A. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.*
- B. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location*
- C. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location*

Answer

(A-C) Currently the department has 17 ongoing and 1 non-ongoing APS staff undertaking dedicated public affairs/public diplomacy and media work in Australia. A breakdown of these officers by level and location is as follows:

Level	Canberra
Ongoing Staff	
BB1/2	6
APS6/EL1	9
EL2	2
Total Ongoing Staff	17
Non-Ongoing Staff	
BB1/2	0
APS6/EL1	1
EL2	0
Total Non Ongoing Staff	1
Total APS Staff	18

Question No. 141

Program: DFAT

Topic: Grants Pause

Question on Notice

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Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. To date, how much of the 2012-13 budget appropriations has your department received?**
- B. For 2012-13 please list each grant program your department administers, and the total funding of each program.**
- C. Please list each grant program that has not been paused as part of the Government wide grants pause.**
- D. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has not been paused.**
- E. Please list each grant program that has currently been "paused" as part of the Government wide grants pause.**
- F. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has been paused, and the total value of all grants paused?**
- G. On what date did your department receive advice from the government to pause certain grants programs?**
 - i. How was the instruction received, and from whom was it received?**
- H. Please list the dates the Minister for Finance met with senior department officials to discuss the grants pause and the Minister overseeing your department met with senior department officials.**
- I. From what date was your department told to implement the grants pause?**
 - i. When did it do so?**
- J. Has your department been provided with information regarding when the grants pause would end?**
 - i. If so, what was the date?**
 - ii. Was your department advised if it could communicate when the grants pause would end to grant applicants?**
- K. Please provide the advice your department gave to Department of Finance regarding which programs should be included in the grants pause.**
- L. Did your department receive advice/instruction from the Department of Finance regarding how best to communicate the grants pause to grant applicants, the media and other external stakeholders?**
- M. What information has been provided to grant applicants regarding the grants pause? Please provide scripts if these have been given to call centres, or any other information sheets which have been used internally for discussing the grants pause with applicants.**

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- N. Has your department been advised by the Department of Finance of further grants pauses in the future? If so**
- i. When did you receive notification of future grants pauses?**
 - ii. What is the date of future grants to be paused?**
 - iii. Which grants programs will be paused?**
 - iv. What is total value of pauses in future grants programs?**
 - v. When will notification of these future grants pauses be made public?**
- O. How many staff are employed to administer grant programs within the department?**
- P. During the Grants Pause what activities are these staff involved with?**
- i. Have staff been moved to other divisions during the grants pause?**
- Q. During the Grants Pause are decisions on grants being made, but applicants not being alerted?**

Answer

- A. DFAT appropriation information is reported in the 2012-13 Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio Budget Statements and remained unchanged due to the grant pause. Appropriation information will be updated in the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements.
- B. The DFAT International Relations Grants Program (IRGP) was appropriated \$4,594,000 in 2012-13.
- C. Nil.
- D. N/A
- E. DFAT's IRGP was paused as part of the Government wide grants pause.
- F. \$4.594 million was appropriated to IRGP and \$0.768 million of this program was paused under the Government wide grant pause.
- G. On 28 August 2012 the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance) released an Estimate Memorandum informing portfolio departments of the grants pause and sought information on grant rounds and programs in 2012-13 which were not advertised, and advertised rounds which were not finalised.
- H. We are not aware of any meetings between the Minister for Finance and senior departmental officials to discuss the grants pause. Neither Senator Carr nor Dr Emerson met with senior departmental officials to discuss the grants pause.
- I. On 28 August 2012 Finance released an Estimate Memorandum informing agencies of the decision by the Government to pause grant rounds. The grant pause was implemented as per the decision of the Government.
- J. The pause on grant programs ended with the release of the 2012-13 MYEFO. The outcome of the Government's decision was reported in the 2012-13 MYEFO and the Finance Minister's media release of 22 October 2012. Agencies were advised on 22 October 2012 they could communicate the end of the grants pause.

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- K. The information Departments/Agencies provided to the Department of Finance included grant rounds, committed funds, purpose of the grant and recipients of the grants. This information informed the briefing to the Cabinet's Expenditure Review Committee and therefore is not publicly available.
- L. Finance provided standard talking points to all Portfolio Departments to use as necessary.
- M. Grant applicants who enquired about their applications were advised that the department would not make decisions on grant applications during the grants pause. The following information was provided to the Chairs and Board members of the ten DFAT bilateral/regional Foundations, Councils and Institutes (FCI) and departmental staff in relation to the grants pause.

'FCI Chairs and Board members may have seen an article in the Australian on 30 August reporting that the Government has decided to 'freeze and assess' grant programs.

Specifically, the Government has decided that all upcoming grant rounds for 2012-13 which have not been advertised, and advertised rounds which have not been finalised, are to be paused with effect from 27 August 2012.

This applies across the Commonwealth, and includes grants managed by the FCIs under the department's International Relations Grants Program.

In accordance with this Government decision, FCIs are asked for the time being to refrain from finalising any existing grant applications and prospective agreements, and from inviting any new applications.

The Government intends as soon as possible to determine a course of action for all paused grant programs.

The department will keep the FCIs informed of developments. In the meantime, FCIs are asked to handle this information – which relates to an ongoing Government process – with appropriate discretion.

This message will be copied separately to the FCI Secretariats and relevant senior departmental staff.'

- N. No
 - i. N/A
 - ii. N/A
 - iii. N/A
 - iv. N/A
 - v. N/A
- O. No DFAT staff are specifically employed to administer grant programs, however, grant administration is a small part of the duties of staff providing administrative support to the ten DFAT FCIs who make most of the grants under the IRGP.
- P. No staff were reassigned to other duties during the grants pause as DFAT has no dedicated staff engaged in grant administration.
- Q. During the Grants Pause no decisions were made on grant applications.

Question No. 142

Program: EFIC

Topic: Category A transaction under Consideration – OyuTolgoi Mines

Question in Writing

Senator: Rhiannon

Question

The EFIC website states that the OyuTolgoi Mining Project is under consideration at the moment.

- A. Not considering the submissions that can be made about the project, does the EFIC do any review of the consultation processes done by the OyuTolgoi mines or does the EFIC only read their assessment and take that at face value? If so, how?*
- B. If not done directly by the EFIC, can you name the independent advisers you mentioned dealing with that will look and report back to the EFIC on the Assessment by the OyuTolgoi mines?*
- C. Also, are you aware of concerns that the submissions date provided for Civil Society Organisation to make a submission is too short? Will the EFIC extend it after the additional time given?*
- D. Will the EFIC amend its direction to ensure that it is capable of measuring its success to be in line with macroeconomic goals mentioned by the Productivity Commission – namely that its success is measured by how much GDP growth its transaction brings about?*
- E. How does the EFIC ensure that its transactions are not against the market? When big export corporations cannot get funding, how does the EFIC find out whether it is due to market failure or it is just the market's way of saying that financing is supposed to be at that particular rate? Please explain the procedures.*

Answer

- A. EFIC undertakes its own review of the environmental and social issues associated with transactions. Those issues would include examining the consultation undertaken as part of a project's stakeholder engagement. Stakeholder engagement by a project is a requirement of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards, EFIC's usual benchmark for environmental and social matters. As part of our review we would also consider any reports provided to lenders such as an environmental and social review by an independent adviser.

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- B. EFIC undertakes its own review of the environmental and social issues associated with transactions. In the case of the Oyu Tolgoi Project the potential lenders have also received advice from an independent environmental and social consultant (IESC). EFIC has contractual obligations of confidentiality relating to this project, but notes that there is information publicly available stating that Environmental Resources Management (ERM) is acting as the IESC for the Oyu Tolgoi Project.
- C. Two civil society organisations contacted EFIC regarding EFIC's disclosure period for the Oyu Tolgoi Project to ask for additional time to make a submission on EFIC's potential involvement. Following their request EFIC extended the disclosure period by an additional three weeks (the extension consistent with their requests), making the overall disclosure period about 8.5 weeks.

EFIC's *Procedure for environmental and social review of transactions* states that "disclosure is for at least 30 calendar days before EFIC makes a final decision to provide support". That timing is derived from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) *Recommendation of the Council on Common Approaches for Officially Supported Export Credits and Environmental and Social Due Diligence* (the "Common Approaches").

- D. The Government is currently considering the Productivity Commission's findings and will announce its response in due course.
- E. EFIC's current mandate requires it to facilitate and encourage Australian export trade by providing insurance and financial services in circumstances where private markets are not able, or are unwilling to provide credit and insurance services. This means that EFIC cannot compete with, or 'crowd out' the private market from a transaction. Every submission received from private banks and insurers to the 2011-12 EFIC review confirmed EFIC does not compete with the private market.

There are various information-related market failures affecting export credit and insurance markets causing the private market to finance a sub-optimal level of exports. There may be information failures relating to the credit risk and standing of an exporter, a foreign buyer or a foreign buyer's bank, or the nature of a capital good being exported, or the risk associated with an emerging market. When considering support for an exporter, whether large or small, EFIC considers these information failures and their affect on the private market's ability or willingness to support an Australian exporter. In addition, EFIC applies market-based pricing to all transactions, which means that an appropriate return is achieved for risk. In particular, where private market financiers participate together with EFIC in such transactions, EFIC applies the same pricing structure as those private market participants.

Question No. 143

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How many ongoing staff recruited for 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

EFIC is not an APS body and as such APS employment classifications are not applicable for EFIC staff.

- A. For this financial year to date, EFIC recruited 4 staff – 1 at SES equivalent and 3 non-SES equivalent**
- B. 2 non-SES equivalent positions**
- C. Nil**

Question No. 144

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

A. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency in the year 2011-12?

What classification were these staff?

B. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency in the year 2011-12?

What classification were these staff?

C. How many contract staff left department/agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?

Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and as such APS employment classifications are not applicable for EFIC staff.

A. In the year 2011-12, 12 ongoing staff left EFIC – 5 staff at SES equivalent and 7 non-SES equivalent

B. 1 non-SES equivalent

C. Nil

Question No. 145

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How many ongoing staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?***
- B. How many non-ongoing staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?***
- C. How many contract staff left were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff? What is the average length of their employment period?***

Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and as such APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff.

- A. In the 2011-12 Financial Year, EFIC recruited 15 staff to fulfil 12 existing and 3 new positions. 8 staff at SES equivalent and 7 non-SES equivalent.**
- B. 3 non SES equivalent positions.**
- C. Nil.**

Question No. 146

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.***
- B. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.***

Answer

There are no plans for staff reduction

Question No. 147

Program: EFIC

Topic: Making the Public Service more efficient

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

Please detail how the department/agency will achieve savings over the forward estimates through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State of 25 September 2012 http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html).

In addition, please provide the following detail:

- A. How will reductions in air travel spending be achieved? What is the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?*
- B. What restrictions will be implemented for business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?*
- C. How will the use of external consultants and contractors be reduced? How will this impact on the Department/agency? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?*
- D. How will the department/agency manage moving recruitment advertising online? Will all future recruitment advertisement be online only? If not, explain why. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?*
- E. How will printing costs be reduced? Explain if and how the department/agency will reduce its printing costs by five per cent, or if it will not, why not? How will it be determined what documents will no longer be printed? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?*

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 148

Program: EFIC

Topic: Recruitment Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *How much was spent on recruitment advertising in 2011-12? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?***
- B. *Please list where recruitment advertising was listed online and in print media.***
- C. *How much has been spent on recruitment advertising this financial year to date? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?***
- D. *Please list where recruitment advertising was listed online and in print media.***

Answer

- A. In 2011-12, \$5278 was spent on print recruitment advertising.
- B. Recruitment advertising was listed in the Australian Financial Review newspaper
- C. Nil
- D. Not applicable

Question No. 149

Program: EFIC

Topic: Printing Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How much was spent on printing 2011-12? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?**
- B. How many documents (include the amount of copies) were printed in 2011-12? How many of these printed documents were also published online?**
- C. Of the documents that were printed in 2011-12, where were they delivered and what was the cost?**
- D. How much has been spent on printing this financial year to date? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?**
- E. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?**

Answer

A – C. Details for EFIC reports and papers printed in FY2011-12 are detailed in the table below. Note that this does not include printing of EFIC marketing and promotional materials such as product brochures.

Document	Quantity	Delivery destination	Cost
EFIC 2011 Annual Report	500	EFIC Sydney office	\$7,554.00 (excl. GST)
EFIC 2011 Annual Report (reprint)	500	EFIC Sydney office & Parliament House Canberra	\$7,062.00 (excl. GST)
EFIC Response to the Draft Report for the Productivity Commission's Review of Australia's Export Credit Arrangements.	100	EFIC Sydney office	\$1,585.50 (excl. GST)
Total			\$16201.5 (excl. GST)

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D - E. Printing costs for the financial year to date is \$13,584.07. Details of EFIC's printing are in the table below.

Document	Quantity	Cost
EFIC 2012 Annual Report	520	\$6,955.00
NSW Export Awards 2012 – Promotion Cards	800	\$122.59
Office Stationary	10	\$418.85
Case Studies	3560	\$1355.6
Case Studies (Reprint)	6850	\$4457
Advertising Posters	3	\$158.38
Investor Flyers	100	\$116.65
Total		\$13,584.07

Of these printed documents, the case studies and annual report are also published online.

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Question No. 150

Program: EFIC

Topic: Graduate Recruitment

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. *How much has been spent on 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.***
- B. *Has any travel been incurred for 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

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Question No. 151

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

How much is estimated to be spent on 2013 Graduate Training? Provide details of what training is to be provided, why and the estimated cost for each.

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 152

Program: EFIC

Topic: Government Advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?***
- B. *Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.***
- C. *Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.***
- D. *Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.***
- E. *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.***
- F. *Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.***
- G. *What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?***

Answer

EFIC undertakes general advertising activities to generate awareness of EFIC's products and services for Australian exporters. EFIC has not been involved in any communication of a broader Government message to the public.

- A. Total advertising cost for the financial year to date is \$179,304.57 (excluding GST)**
- B. No campaign advertising was undertaken. In 2011-2012 EFIC ran ongoing print and online advertising designed to increase awareness of EFIC's services to help exporters overcome financial barriers. Creative input for all advertising was provided by the advertising agency, Lavender. EFIC works with the Government appointed media buying agency, Universal McCann, when booking advertising.**

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C. No.

D. No.

E. Not applicable.

F. EFIC has 2 full time equivalent staff who undertake ongoing in-house public relations and communications activities for EFIC.

G. EFIC will continue ongoing non-campaign advertising and in-house communications activities which foster awareness of EFIC's products and services in the export industry.

Question No. 153

Program: EFIC

Topic: Government Advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *What was the total cost of all advertising for 2011-12?***
- B. *Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.***
- C. *Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.***
- D. *Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.***
- E. *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.***
- F. *Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services that was undertaken in 2011-12.***

Answer

EFIC undertakes general advertising activities to generate awareness of EFIC's products and services for Australian exporters. EFIC has not been involved in the advertisement of broader Government messages to the public.

- A. Total advertising cost for FY2011-12 was \$258,381 as at 30 June 2012.
- B. No campaign advertising was undertaken. In 2011-2012 EFIC ran ongoing print and online advertising designed to increase awareness of EFIC's services to help exporters overcome financial barriers. Creative input for all advertising was provided by the advertising agency, Lavender. EFIC works with the Government appointed media buying agency, Universal McCann, when booking advertising.
- C. No.
- D. No.
- E. Not applicable.
- F. EFIC has 2 full time equivalent staff who undertake ongoing in-house public relations and communications activities for EFIC.

Question No. 154

Program: EFIC

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 hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.***
- C. *What is the Department/Agency'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 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 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.***
- I. *Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?***

Answer

A & C. EFIC's total entertainment and hospitality spend for this financial year to date is \$41,384.58

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EFIC's reporting systems do not capture hospitality and entertainment expenditure in such a way that would readily enable the breakdown of hospitality and entertainment expenditure by date, location, purpose and cost of each event. To manually collect this information would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances; I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

This total expenditure captures hospitality and entertainment for EFIC's Australian clients, potential clients, other corporations, companies, institutions, development banks and agencies external to the Corporation, in addition to event hosting expenses associated with client and staff functions. This spending fulfils an important relationship-building role supporting EFIC's mandate to assist Australian companies overcome financial barriers to export.

EFIC is a self-funded corporation with well-established policies on the proper management of hospitality and entertainment expenses. All staff are required to justify the purpose of, and maintain written records for each item of hospitality or entertainment expenditure. All expenditure and supporting documentation is reviewed and must be approved by EFIC's cost centre managers (Head of Department level) to ensure the criteria for expenditure has been met; Department heads' expenditure must in turn receive Executive approval.

B, D, F & I Not applicable.

E, G & I. EFIC's hospitality and entertainment spending for FY12-13 is expected to be \$246,119.92. As this is in line with the entertainment and hospitality budget for FY12-13, there are no plans for reduced spending on these items

Question No. 155

Program: EFIC

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.***
- B. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for 2011-12. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.***
- C. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.***
- D. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for 2011-12. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.***

Answer

A & C. EFIC's total entertainment and hospitality spend for FY2011-12 as at 30 June 2012 was \$132,432.

EFIC's reporting systems do not capture hospitality and entertainment expenditure in such a way that would readily enable the breakdown of hospitality and entertainment expenditure by date, location, purpose and cost of each event. To manually collect this information would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances; I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

This total expenditure captures hospitality and entertainment for EFIC's Australian clients, potential clients, other corporations, companies, institutions, development banks and agencies external to the Corporation, in addition to event hosting expenses associated with client and staff functions. This spending fulfils an important relationship-building role supporting EFIC's mandate to assist Australian companies overcome financial barriers to export.

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EFIC is a self-funded corporation with well-established policies on the proper management of hospitality and entertainment expenses. All staff are required to justify the purpose of, and maintain written records for each item of hospitality or entertainment expenditure. All expenditure and supporting documentation is reviewed and must be approved by EFIC's cost centre managers (Head of Department level) to ensure the criteria for expenditure has been met; Department heads' expenditure must in turn receive Executive approval.

B & D. Not applicable.

Question No. 155

Program: EFIC

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.***
- B. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for 2011-12. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.***
- C. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.***
- D. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for 2011-12. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.***

Answer

A & C. EFIC's total entertainment and hospitality spend for FY2011-12 as at 30 June 2012 was \$132,432.

EFIC's reporting systems do not capture hospitality and entertainment expenditure in such a way that would readily enable the breakdown of hospitality and entertainment expenditure by date, location, purpose and cost of each event. To manually collect this information would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances; I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

This total expenditure captures hospitality and entertainment for EFIC's Australian clients, potential clients, other corporations, companies, institutions, development banks and agencies external to the Corporation, in addition to event hosting expenses associated with client and staff functions. This spending fulfils an important relationship-building role supporting EFIC's mandate to assist Australian companies overcome financial barriers to export.

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EFIC is a self-funded corporation with well-established policies on the proper management of hospitality and entertainment expenses. All staff are required to justify the purpose of, and maintain written records for each item of hospitality or entertainment expenditure. All expenditure and supporting documentation is reviewed and must be approved by EFIC's cost centre managers (Head of Department level) to ensure the criteria for expenditure has been met; Department heads' expenditure must in turn receive Executive approval.

B & D. Not applicable.

Question No. 156

Program: EFIC

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. 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.

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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 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. No new board appointments in the FYTD (2012-13 FY)

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Question No. 157

Program: EFIC

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 for 2011-12.**
- B. What was the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio for 2011-12?**

Answer

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

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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).

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Question No. 158

Program: EFIC

Topic: Freedom of Information (FOI)

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?***
- B. *What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12? How many FOI requests did the department/agency receive in 2011-12? 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?***
- C. *What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?***
- D. *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 and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?***

Answer

- A.** EFIC has not received (nor requested) any updated general advice on how to respond to FOI requests. EFIC generally only requests advice in relation to specific FOI requests.
- B.** For the 2011-2012 financial year, EFIC's non-staff costs attributable to FOI requests were approximately \$80,000.00.
For the 2011-2012 financial year, EFIC received one FOI request for access. Access was granted in part.
The applicant was notified of EFIC's decision after the statutory time period of 30 days. However, the statutory time period to notify the applicant of EFIC's decision was extended by the Office of Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) under section 15AC of the Freedom of Information Act 1982. EFIC responded within the extended time period granted by the OAIC.
There are no outstanding requests.
- C.** EFIC has not incurred any costs in processing FOI requests since 1 July 2012.
- D.** EFIC has not received any FOI requests since 1 July 2012.

Question No. 159

Program: EFIC

Topic: Community Cabinet Meetings

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location.***
- B. 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, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.***
- C. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 160

Program: EFIC

Topic: Community Cabinet Meetings

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. How many Community Cabinet meetings did the Minister attend in 2011-12? List date and location.***
- B. How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for 2011-12? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.***
- C. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for 2011-12?***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 161

Program: EFIC

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. Has the Government responded to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not?*
- F. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?*
- G. What reviews are planned?*
- H. When will each of these reviews be concluded?*

Answer

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

Question No. 162

Program: EFIC

Topic: Reviews

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12:

- A. How many Reviews were undertaken?*
- B. For those reviews that 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. Did the Government respond to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not?*
- E. What was the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?*
- F. For any ongoing reviews, when will each of these reviews be concluded?*

Answer

- A. None.
- B. None.
- C. Not applicable.
- D. Not applicable.
- E. Not applicable.
- F. Not applicable.

Question No. 163

Program: EFIC

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *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.***
- B. *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. Under the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, EFIC as a relevant CAC Act body, is required to report details of Australian procurement contracts awarded on AusTender, the Government's tender and procurement reporting system where the total contract value is above \$400,000 or above \$9 million for construction contracts. To provide details of consultancy contracts below this reporting threshold would entail significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.
- B. In terms of reporting requirements for CAC Act bodies under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, EFIC has no further consultancies planned for this calendar year.

Question No. 164

Program: EFIC

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

How many consultancies were undertaken in 2011-12? 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.

Answer

Under the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, EFIC as a relevant CAC Act body, is required to report details of Australian procurement contracts awarded on AusTender, the Government's tender and procurement reporting system where the total contract value is above \$400,000 or above \$9 million for construction contracts. To provide details of consultancy contracts below this reporting threshold would entail significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 165

Program: EFIC

Topic: Media Monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

(A) *What is 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?*

- i. Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
- ii. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?***
- iii. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?***

(B) *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?*

- i. Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
- ii. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?***
- iii. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?***

Answer

(A) Not applicable.

(B)

- i. EFIC have a contract with Dow Jones Factiva for a range of services including media monitoring and company search functions.**
- ii. Estimated budget for the media monitoring component of EFIC's contract with Dow Jones Factiva was \$10,000 excluding GST for 2012-13.**
- iii. As at 29 November 2012 the media monitoring component of EFIC's contact with Dow Jones Factiva cost approximately \$10,464.50 excluding GST.**

Question No. 166

Program: EFIC

Topic: Media Monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

(A) What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for 2011-12?

- i. Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
- ii. What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?***

(B) What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for 2011-12?

- i. Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
- ii. What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?***

Answer

(A) Not applicable.

(B)

- i. EFIC have a contract with Dow Jones Factiva for a range of services including media monitoring and company search functions.**
- ii. Estimated budget for the media monitoring component of EFIC's contract with Dow Jones Factiva was \$10,000 for 2011-12.**

Question No. 167

Program: EFIC

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 usage of YouTube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since May 2012 Budget Estimates? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issued.***
- a) *Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media?***
 - b) *If yes, provide details of the usage (for example details could include average hours per employee, hours when usage peaks)***
- B. *If no, will the department/agency monitor usage in the future?***
- C. *Does social media impact on employee productivity? Provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours)***

Answer

- A. There have been no changes since May 2012 Budget Estimates
- a) EFIC only monitors individual usage of social media in circumstances where a manager raises a concern. EFIC's monitoring of social media usage has not resulted in any adverse findings
 - b) Not applicable
- B. Yes, usage will be monitored in the future
- C. Social media does not impact on employee productivity and internet usage is at an acceptable level.

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Question No. 168

Program: EFIC

Topic: Internet

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

Has the Department experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet, or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

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Question No. 168

Program: EFIC

Topic: Internet

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

Has the Department experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet, or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

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Question No. 169

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staff Amenities

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

What amenities are provided to staff? Provide a list

Answer

The following amenities are provided to staff:

- Bike store room
- 3 hired coffee machines
- Showers

Question No. 170

Program: EFIC

Topic: Coffee Machines

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.***
- B. Why were coffee machines purchased?***
- C. Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?***
- D. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in 2011-12 and how much this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken Where does the funding for maintenance come from?***

Answer

EFIC has not purchased coffee machines for staff usage.

Question No. 171

Program: EFIC

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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- D. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- E. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- F. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- G. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).***
- I. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.***
- J. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).***

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Answer

A - I. EFIC has not employed the contractors identified in parts A) to I) in the 2012-13 financial year.

J. There have been no significant changes to the contractors employed by EFIC since the 2011-2012 financial year.

Question No. 172

Program: EFIC

Topic: Contractors

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12:

- A. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).**
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).**
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).**
- D. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).**
- E. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).**
- F. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).**
- G. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).**
- 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost).**
- I. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.**
- J. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).**

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Answer

- A- I. EFIC has not employed the contractors identified in parts A) to I) in the 2011-12 financial year.
- J. In the 2011-12 financial year, EFIC employed a number of contractors to undertake building and refurbishment works to EFIC's Export House office in Sydney.

Under the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, EFIC as a relevant CAC Act body, is required to report details of Australian procurement contracts awarded on AusTender, the Government's tender and procurement reporting system where the total contract value is above \$400,000 or above \$9 million for construction contracts.

To provide details of consultancy contracts below this reporting threshold would entail significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Question No. 173

Program: EFIC

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. Could the department/agency provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.***
- B. Have all grant agreement details been published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 174

Program: EFIC

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. Could the department/agency provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for 2011-12? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.***
- B. Were all grant agreement details published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 175

Program: EFIC

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

How many Reports were commissioned by the Government in your department/agency in 2011-12? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.

- A. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?***
- B. What is the current status of each report? Did the Government report within the required timeframe? If not, when is the Government intending to respond to these reports?***

Answer

Nil.

Question No. 176

Program: EFIC

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency 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.

- A. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?***
- B. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?***

Answer

Nil.

Question No. 177

Program: EFIC

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

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)?

- A. If not, why not? Provide details, including 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. Yes. EFIC's policy is to make payments three times per month.**
- B. Not applicable.**
- C. Not applicable.**

Question No. 178

Program: EFIC

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12, did the department/agency pay its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)?

- A. If not, why not? Provide details, including 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/was 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?***
- D. Have all accounts from 2011-12 been paid? If no, why not?***

Answer

- A. Yes. EFIC's policy is to make payments three times per month.**
- B. Not applicable.**
- C. Not applicable.**
- D. Not applicable.**

Question No. 179

Program: EFIC

Topic: Stationery Requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *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?***
- B. *What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date?***

Answer

- A. Not applicable
- B. Stationery costs for the financial year to date is \$9,146.60

Question No. 180

Program: EFIC

Topic: Stationery Requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *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) in 2011-12?***
- B. *What were the department/agency's stationery costs for 2011-12?***

Answer

- A. Not applicable.
- B. As at 30 June 2012 stationery costs for FY11-12 (including paper, EFIC letter head paper and envelopes and other miscellaneous stationery) totalled \$18,282.

Question No. 181

Program: EFIC

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Has there been any change to your pay TV subscription since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)**
- a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.**
 - b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?**
- B. Has there been any change to your newspaper subscriptions since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)**
- a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.**
 - b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?**
- C. Has there been any change to your magazine subscriptions since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)**
- a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.**
 - b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?**
- D. What was the 2011-12 cost for:**
- a) TV subscriptions**
 - b) Newspaper subscriptions**
 - c) Magazine subscriptions**
- E. Does the department/agency provide any media subscriptions to its Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries? If yes, provide details of what is provided and the cost this financial year to date and for 2011-12.**

Answer

A.

- a) EFIC's pay TV subscription has changed since May 2012. Following a review of pay TV usage, the number of set-top boxes was reduced as usage was not high enough to warrant the additional boxes.
- b) Pay TV subscription costs for the year to date is \$1,300.

B - C. EFIC's newspaper and magazine subscriptions have not changed substantially since February 2012. Existing subscriptions have been renewed.

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EFIC's newspaper and magazine subscription expenses for the financial year to date are as follows:

Media Subscription	Year to Date Costs
Newspaper subscriptions	\$8,020
Magazine subscriptions	\$2,775

D. EFIC's pay TV, newspaper and magazine subscription expenses for FY11-12 are as follows:

Media Subscription	Total cost FY2011-12
Pay TV	\$5,638
Newspaper subscriptions	\$16,717
Magazine subscriptions	\$23,894

E. N/A

Question No. 182

Program: EFIC

Topic: Travel Costs

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).***
- B. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).***
- C. Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel***
- D. (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel***
- E. (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is the department/agency following the advice? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, 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 total costs of the lounge memberships.***
- G. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an 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.***

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Answer

- A. Not applicable.
- B. EFIC's systems do not record travel data in a way that would readily allow total expenditure to be broken down into the level of detail sought. To attempt to extract this data manually would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, the additional work cannot be justified. EFIC records total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.
- C, D & E. EFIC is not subject to the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997, and is not a participating CAC Act body to the Whole of Australian Government travel arrangements (WoAG). However, the guidelines on domestic and international travel arrangements including the 'best fare of the day' and 'lowest logical airfare' policy are embedded in EFIC's own Corporate Travel Policy and travel arrangements, commensurate with the value for money objectives within EFIC's Procurement Policy.
- F. Yes. EFIC provides Qantas Club memberships to employees who frequently fly overseas or interstate for business purposes, so that they may conduct that business effectively. Memberships are provided on a needs basis and require executive approval. EFIC currently incurs costs for 8 Qantas Club scheme memberships at a total cost of \$2,080 per annum.
- G. EFIC is not an APS body and as such APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff. Support or administrative staff such as Executive Assistants do not accompany members of EFIC's Executive or other SES level equivalent staff when travelling.

Question No. 183

Program: EFIC

Topic: Travel Costs

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. For 2011-12, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).**
- B. For 2011-12, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).**

Answer

- A. Not applicable.
- B. EFIC's systems do not record travel data in a way that would readily allow total expenditure to be broken down into the level of detail sought. To attempt to extract this data manually would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, the additional work cannot be justified. EFIC records total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.

Question No. 184

Program: EFIC

Topic: Legal Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- B. *What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- C. *What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- D. *What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***

Answer

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

Please note:

- All costs are as at 30 June 2012.
 - Gross costs are provided noting some of EFIC's legal spend for transactions is recoverable from EFIC's clients.
 - Costs are inclusive of legal spend associated with EFIC's Commercial Account and the National Interest Account which EFIC administers on behalf of Government.
 - Approximate breakdowns have been provided, a list of each legal service and individual cost cannot be provided as this would constitute a significant diversion of EFIC resources.
- A. EFIC has an in-house legal department of 7 full-time and 2 part-time staff which provide legal services across EFIC's business. Internal legal services are not recorded in such a way that would readily enable a full list of services and costs

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to be provided. In these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

- B. For the 2011-2012 financial year, EFIC's gross spend for legal services (inclusive of payable disbursements such as barristers' invoices) from the Australian Government Solicitor was approximately \$102,500.

The services the Australian Government Solicitor provided and the approximate costs for each service expressed as a percentage of the gross spend are as follows:

- | | | |
|------|--------------|-------------|
| i. | Litigation - | approx. 29% |
| ii. | Advisory - | approx. 40% |
| iii. | Secondment - | approx. 32% |

- C. For the 2011-2012 financial year, EFIC's gross spend for legal services (including any payable disbursements) from private firms is approximately \$730,000. Approximately 48% of this gross spend is recoverable from EFIC's clients. These legal costs are generally incurred in connection with transactions pursuant to which EFIC provides financial or insurance products and services to its clients. The balance of this gross spend relates to non recoverable legal costs for legal services obtained in connection with general corporate matters such as corporate governance.
- D. Nil.

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Question No. 185

Program: Portfolio overview

Topic: Legal Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- B. *What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- C. *What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***
- D. *What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.***

Answer

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

Please note:

- All costs are as at 31 October 2012.
- Gross costs are provided noting some of EFIC's legal spend for transactions is recoverable from EFIC's clients.
- Costs are inclusive of legal spend associated with EFIC's Commercial Account and the National Interest Account which EFIC administers on behalf of Government.
- Approximate breakdowns have been provided, a list of each legal service and individual cost cannot be provided as this would constitute a significant diversion of EFIC resources.

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A. EFIC has an in-house legal department of 7 full-time and 2 part-time staff which provide legal services across EFIC's business. Internal legal services are not recorded in such a way that would readily enable a full list of services and costs to be provided. In these circumstances, I do not consider the additional work can be justified.

B. For the 2012-2013 financial year, as at 31 October 2012, EFIC's gross spend for legal services (inclusive of payable disbursements such as barristers' invoices but excluding any GST) from the Australian Government Solicitor was approximately \$45,000.

The services the Australian Government Solicitor provided and the approximate costs for each service expressed as a percentage of the gross spend are as follows:

- | | | |
|------|--------------|-------------|
| i. | Litigation - | approx. 15% |
| ii. | Advisory - | approx. 32% |
| iii. | Secondment - | approx. 53% |

C. For the 2012-2013 financial year, as at 31 October 2012, EFIC's gross spend for legal services (including any payable disbursements but excluding any GST) from private firms is approximately \$105,000. Approximately 25% of this gross spend is recoverable from EFIC's clients. These legal costs are generally incurred in connection with transactions pursuant to which EFIC provides financial or insurance products and services to its clients.

D. Nil.

Question No. 186

Program: EFIC

Topic: Education Expenses

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *Has there been a change to the department/agency's guidelines on study since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)? If yes, please provide details.***
- B. *For this financial year to date, 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, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.***

Answer

A. No

B. For this financial year to date, EFIC's education related expenditure has been \$64,625. A breakdown of individual courses would constitute a significant diversion of EFIC resources. The following summary has been provided:

18 employees have participated in development courses that have ranged in length from one to three days. Each course has been signed off by the manager and Human Resources as a development objective for the individual's role. These courses include trade finance, project finance, performance management, first aid, media training, presentation skills, and loan management courses. Most participants are at the non-SES equivalent levels.

Question No. 187

Program: EFIC

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:**
- i. Total spending on these services**
 - ii. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification**
 - iii. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - iv. The names of all service providers engaged**
- B. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide;**
- i. The name and nature of the service purchased**
 - ii. Whether the service is one on one or group based and their employment classification**
 - iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - iv. The total amount spent on the service**
 - v. 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:**
- i. The location used**
 - ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**

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iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and as such APS employment classifications are not applicable for EFIC staff.

A.

- i. \$18,638
- ii. 8 staff, 6 SES equivalent and 2 non-SES equivalent
- iii. 8 staff, 6 SES equivalent and 2 non-SES equivalent
- iv. Aspirall and Women in Banking and Finance

B. A breakdown cannot be provided for each provider. The following summary information is available:

- All training was leadership and professional development coaching for SES equivalent and non-SES staff
- All training sessions were held on a one-on-one basis
- The total number of hours for each individual is not available and confidential coaching is not tracked on an hourly basis
- Complete packaged fixed costs were charged for services from both Aspirall and Women in Banking and Finance
- See response to part A i) for total amount spent on these services.

C.

- i. One external room was used for training provided by Aspirall at an offsite hotel room
- ii. 6 SES equivalent (on one-on-one basis or with the staff member's manager invited)
- iii. 6 hours were involved
- iv. Cost incurred for the use of the external room was \$2,900

Question No. 188

Program: EFIC

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

A. Executive Coaching and Leadership Training

In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for 2011-12:

- a) *Total spending on these services*
- b) *The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification*
- c) *The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
- d) *The names of all service providers engaged*

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

- a) *The name and nature of the service purchased*
- b) *Whether the service is one-on-one or group based*
- c) *The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification*
- d) *The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
- e) *The total amount spent on the service*
- f) *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:

- a) *The location used*
- b) *The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
- c) *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
- d) *Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location*

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Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and as such APS employment classifications are not applicable for EFIC staff.

A.

- a) \$75,195
- b) 9 staff in total (6 SES equivalent and 3 non-SES equivalent)
- c) 9 staff in total (6 SES equivalent and 3 non-SES equivalent)
No study leave was granted.
- d) Aspirall
Stephenson & Mansell Group
Women in Banking and Finance

B.

Provider (a)	Service (a) provided	Structure (b)	Hours (d)	Total cost (e)	Description of fees (f)
Aspirall	Leadership & professional development training	Mixed – one-on-one and group sessions.	Approximately 40 hours. (6 SES equivalent staff)	\$41,710	Fixed, complete package fee.
Stephenson & Mansell Group	Leadership & professional development training	One-on-one.	Approximately 60 hours (1 SES equivalent staff)	\$32,010	Fixed, complete package fee.
Women in Banking and Finance	Professional development mentoring	Mixed – one-on-one and group based.	No fixed training hours. (Participants schedule time with the mentor as needed over the course duration.)	\$1,475	Fixed, complete package fee.

C.

- a) One external room was used for training provided by Aspirall. (Other training occurred at EFIC offices, or service providers' premises with no cost.)
- b) Aspirall training – 6 SES equivalent staff (one-on-one basis)
- c) A breakdown of individual hours for each employee is unavailable.
- d) Cost for use of external room was \$2,400.

Question No. 189

Program: EFIC

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:

- i. Total spending on these services**
- ii. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification**
- iii. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
- iv. The names of all service providers engaged**

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

- i. The name and nature of the service purchased**
- ii. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based**
- iii. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
- iv. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
- v. The total amount spent on the service**
- vi. 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:

- i. The location used**
- ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion**
- iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
- iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location**

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Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and as such, APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff.

A.

- i. \$11,550
- ii. 6 staff
- iii. 6 staff. No study leave was granted for these training purposes.
- iv. Mediaways Pty Ltd

B.

Provider	Service (i)	Structure (ii)	No. of employees (iii)	Total hours (iv)	Total spend (v)	Description of fees (vi)
Mediaways	Media interview training	One-on-one and group	10 full time staff – 4 executive and 6 non-executive	Approx. 44 hours across all employees	\$11,550	Mediaways is held on retainer for a monthly fee. Costs were a mixed combination of hourly and normal fixed rates

C. N/A – no location other than EFIC’s own premises were used

Question No. 190

Program: EFIC

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 2011-12:**
- a) Total spending on these services**
 - b) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification**
 - c) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - d) The names of all service providers engaged**
- B. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:**
- a) The name and nature of the service purchased**
 - b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based**
 - c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - d) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - e) The total amount spent on the service**
 - f) 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:**
- a) The location used**
 - b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion**
 - c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location**

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Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and as such, APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff.

A.

- a) \$24,115.
- b) 8 staff
- c) 8 staff. No study leave was granted for these training purposes.
- d) Mediaways
Templeman Consulting

B.

Provider	Service (a)	Structure (b)	No. of employees (c)	Total hours (d)	Total spend (e)	Description of fees (f)
Mediaways	Media messaging & skills training	One-on-one	2 full-time executive staff	Approx. 15 hours across both employees	\$7,505	Mixed – combination of hourly rate and fixed half day fees.
Templeman Consulting	On-camera presentation skills coaching.	One-on-one	6 full-time staff (2 executive and 4 non-executive staff)	Executive: 1-3 hours per employee Non-executive: 1 hour per employee	\$7,810	Fixed package fee.
Total Spend					\$15,315	

C. N/A – no location other than the EFIC’s own premises were used.

Question No. 191

Program: EFIC

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Question in Writing

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 and their classification are in receipt of these payments.***

Answer

A. 1 non-SES equivalent.

B. 1 non-SES equivalent.

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Question No. 192

Program: EFIC

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12 to date which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.

Answer

1 non-SES equivalent.

Question No. 193

Program: EFIC

Topic: Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries

Question in Writing

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

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 194

Program: EFIC

Topic: Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. *For 2011-12, 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 2011-12, 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 2011-12, how much has been spent on training 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

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 195

Program: EFIC

Topic: Corporate Cars

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Please update if there has been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):

- A. How 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. 11
- B. Sydney
- C. Personal use
- D. Fully costed to personal employment package
- E. Unknown at the stage as these figures will only be provided by the drivers on 1 April 2013

Question No. 196

Program: EFIC

Topic: Corporate Cars

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For 2011-12:

- A. How many cars are owned by each department/agency?***
- B. Where is the car/s located?***
- C. What is the car/s used for?***
- D. What was the cost of each car?***
- E. How far did each car travel?***

Answer

- A. 12
- B. Sydney
- C. Part of personal employment package.
- D. Fully costed to personal employment package.
- E. As at end 2011-12 FBT year (1 April – 31 March 2012)
 - Car 1 – 14,186 kms
 - Car 2 – 2,703 kms
 - Car 3 – 12,067 kms
 - Car 4 – 8,807 kms
 - Car 5 – 25,071 kms
 - Car 6 – 28,642 kms
 - Car 7 – 2,222 kms
 - Car 8 – 27,198 kms
 - Car 9 – 29,500 kms
 - Car 10 – 12,055 kms
 - Car 11 – 25,095 kms
 - Car 12 – 12,422 kms

Question No. 197

Program: EFIC

Topic: Taxi Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. 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.***
- B. What are the reasons for taxi costs?***

Answer

EFIC's systems do not readily enable the separation of this information from other total travel expenses. To manually breakdown records to supply the information required would constitute a significant diversion of resources and I do not believe that the additional work can be justified.

EFIC records its total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.

Question No. 198

Program: EFIC

Topic: Taxi Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2011-12? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.***
- B. What are the reasons for taxi costs?***

Answer

EFIC's systems do not readily enable the separation of this information from other total travel expenses. To manually breakdown records to supply the information required would constitute a significant diversion of resources and I do not believe that the additional work can be justified.

EFIC records its total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.

Question No. 199

Program: EFIC

Topic: Credit Cards

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card**
- a. Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):**
 - b. What action is undertaken if there corporate credit card is misused?**
 - c. How is corporate credit card use monitored?**
 - d. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?**
 - e. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.**
- B. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?**

Answer

EFIC is not an APS body and therefore APS employment classifications do not apply to EFIC staff

- A. Total of 61 EFIC staff have a corporate credit card.
- SES-equivalent: 32
 - Non-SES equivalent: 27
 - Miscellaneous: 2
- B. EFIC has an established corporate credit card policy with guidelines for use and monitoring of credit card expenditure. This policy and procedures has not changed since May 2012. There have been no instances of credit card misuse in this time.

Question No. 200

Program: EFIC

Topic: Credit Cards

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

***For 2011-12 how many instances of corporate credit card misuse were there?
List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.***

Answer

There were no instances of corporate credit card misuse

Question No. 201

Program: EFIC

Topic: Electronic Equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. For departments / agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/ or Parliamentary Secretaries and / or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs.**
- B. For departments / agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/ or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date? What were the running costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?**
- C. Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department / agency staff? If yes, provide details of:**
- a. what is provided,**
 - b. the purchase cost,**
 - c. the ongoing cost**
 - d. and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.**
- D. Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012)**
- E. 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.**

Answer

A. Not applicable.

B. Not applicable.

C. Yes. EFIC provides the following electronic equipment to staff for both temporary and/or ongoing use:

Equipment	Purchase cost
Home desktop	\$10,000

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Home printer	\$2,000
iPad	\$6,300
Smart phone	\$47,300
Wireless cards	\$1,300
Laptops	\$45,500
Thumb drives	\$500
Satellite phone	\$1,300
Total	\$115,000

Total ongoing cost for this equipment is \$4,000 (covering repair, consumables and monthly minimum phone and data usage).

All EFIC's staff are entitled to the ongoing use of IT equipment for work purposes pending approval from EFIC's executive. All EFIC's staff are also entitled to borrow IT equipment on loan for short periods of time (usually less than two weeks) for work purposes. EFIC is not an APS body, as such APS employment classifications do not apply to EFIC staff: The number of staff (both executive and non-executive staff) with ongoing use of EFIC IT equipment are detailed below.

Equipment	Staff with ongoing use
Home desktop	3
Home printer	6
iPad	7
Smart Phone	57
Wireless card	2
Laptops	6

D. There have been no changes since May 2012

E. Not applicable.

Question No. 202

Program: EFIC

Topic: Electronic Equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided, the cost and what were the ongoing costs for 2011-12.**
- B. For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of electronic equipment was provided, the cost and what were the ongoing costs for 2011-12.**
- C. Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) was provided to department/agency staff for 2011-12, provide details of what was provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.**

Answer

- A. Not applicable.
- B. Not applicable.
- C. Yes.

EFIC provided the following electronic equipment to staff for both temporary and/or ongoing use:

Equipment	Purchase cost
Home desktop	\$10,000
Home printer	\$2,000
iPad	\$6,300
Smart phone	\$47,300
Wireless cards	\$1,300
Laptops	\$45,500

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
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Thumb drives	\$500
Satellite phone	\$1,300
Total	\$115,000

Total ongoing cost for this equipment is \$4,000 (covering repair, consumables and monthly minimum phone and data usage).

All EFIC's staff are entitled to the ongoing use of IT equipment for work purposes pending approval from EFIC's executive. All EFIC's staff are also entitled to borrow IT equipment on loan for short periods of time (usually less than two weeks) for work purposes. EFIC is not an APS body, as such APS employment classifications do not apply to EFIC staff: The number of staff (both executive and non-executive staff) with ongoing use of EFIC IT equipment are detailed below.

Equipment	Staff with ongoing use
Home desktop	3
Home printer	6
iPad	7
Smart Phone	57
Wireless card	2
Laptops	6

Question No. 203

Program: EFIC

Topic: Electricity Purchasing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. Provide details of any update of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement if there has been a change since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012).***
- B. What are the department/agency electricity costs for 2011-12?***
- C. What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?***

Answer

- A. There have been no changes to the electricity purchasing agreement since May 2012
- B. Electricity costs for 2011-12 were \$81,693
- C. Electricity costs for this financial year to date are \$30,234

Question No. 204

Program: EFIC

Topic: Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. Have any briefings been provided to the Australian Greens? If yes, please include:**
- a) How are briefings requests commissioned?**
 - b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.**
 - c) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.**
 - d) How long is spent undertaken briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.**
- B. Have any briefings been provided to Independents? If yes, please include:**
- a) How are briefings requests commissioned?**
 - b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.**
 - c) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.**
 - d) How long is spent undertaken briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.**

Answer

Nil.

Question No. 205

Program: EFIC

Topic: Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

A. Were any briefings been provided to the Australian Greens in 2011-12? If yes, please include:

- a) How are briefings requests commissioned?***
- b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.***
- c) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.***
- d) How long is spent undertaken briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.***

B. Were any briefings been provided to Independents in 2011-12? If yes, please include:

- a) How are briefings requests commissioned?***
- b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.***
- c) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.***

How long is spent undertaken briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

Answer

Nil.

Question No. 206

Program: EFIC

Topic: Shredders

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

- A. *Did the department/agencies purchase any shredders in 2011-12? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.***
- B. *Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012)? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.***

Answer

- A. EFIC purchased two shredders in the last 12 months. Each shredder cost \$3,075.00 (incl. GST) at a total cost of \$6,150.00

Shredders were purchased to assist EFIC in meeting its information security obligations.

- B. No

Question No. 207

Program: EFIC

Topic: Protective Security Policy Framework

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures.

Answer

EFIC is not required to comply with the PSPF; however it is used by EFIC as better practice guidance. The physical security risk assessment and action plan is current as at 2012.

General security measures include:

- Onsite security staff,
- Access control systems,
- Master key systems with security door hardware,
- CCTV,
- Offsite alarm monitoring and response plans,
- Duress facilities & alarms,
- Building lock down facilities,
- After hours security patrols and emergency response as required 24 hours.

Question No. 208

Program: EFIC

Topic: Office Locations

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

Please provide a list of all office locations for all departments and agencies within the portfolio by:

- A. Department/Agency.***
- B. Location.***
- C. Leased or Owned.***
- D. Size.***
- E. Number of Staff at each location and classification.***
- F. If rented, the amount and breakdown of rent per square metre.***
- G. If owned, the value of the building.***
- H. Depreciation of buildings that are owned.***
- I. Type of functions and work undertaken***

Answer

- A. Export Finance and Insurance Corporation
- B. EFIC's only office location is Level 10, 22 Pitt St, Sydney. EFIC also has a staff member working out of Austrade offices in Melbourne and Perth.
- C. EFIC's office location is owned by EFIC.
- D. EFIC's office space is 1,938.9 square metres.
- E. EFIC's total staff headcount is 94. 92 staff members are located in Sydney, 1 is located in Melbourne and 1 is located in Perth.
- F. N/A
- G. The value of EFIC's building and land as at 30 June 2012 is \$38.9 million
- H. Depreciation of the building as at 30 June 2012 is \$0 (due to revalue)
- I. All of EFIC's activities are undertaken from this location. Additionally, client service activities are also undertaken from the Melbourne and Perth Austrade offices.

Question No. 209

Program: EFIC

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Eggleston

Question

For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:

By Department or agency:

- a) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.*
- b) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location*
- c) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location*

Answer

- a) 2 non- SES equivalent staff – one Public Relations and one Communications, that are located in EFIC's main office
- b) Nil
- c) Nil

Question No. 210

Program: EFIC

Topic: Grants Pause

Question in Writing

Senator: Eggleston

Question

- A. To date, how much of the 2012-13 budget appropriations has your department received?**
- B. For 2012-13 please list each grant program your department administers, and the total funding of each program.**
- C. Please list each grant program that has not been paused as part of the Government wide grants pause.**
- D. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has not been paused?**
- E. Please list each grant program that has currently been "paused" as part of the Government wide grants pause.**
- F. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has been paused, and the total value of all grants paused?**
- G. On what date did your department receive advice from the government to pause certain grants programs?**
 - a) How was the instruction received, and from whom was it received?**
- H. Please list the dates the Minister for Finance met with senior department officials to discuss the grants pause and the Minister overseeing your department met with senior department officials**
- I. From what date was your department told to implement the grants pause?**
 - a) When did it do so?**
- J. Has your department been provided with information regarding when the grants pause would end?**
 - a) If so, what was the date?**

- b) Was your department advised if it could communicate when the grants pause would end to grant applicants?***
- K. Please provide the advice your department gave to Department of Finance regarding which programs should be included in the grants pause.***
- L. Did your department receive advice/instruction from the Department of Finance regarding how best to communicate the grants pause to grant applicants, the media and other external stakeholders?***
- M. What information has been provided to grant applicants regarding the grants pause? Please provide scripts if these have been given to call centres, or any other information sheets which have been used internally for discussing the grants pause with applicants.***
- N. Has your department been advised by the Department of Finance of further grants pauses in the future? If so***
- a) When did you receive notification of future grants pauses?***
- b) What is the date of future grants to be paused***
- c) Which grants programs will be paused?***
- d) What is total value of pauses in future grants programs?***
- e) When will notification of these future grants pauses be made public?***
- O. How many staff are employed to administer grant programs within the department?***
- P. During the Grants Pause what activities are these staff involved with?***
- a) Have staff been moved to other divisions during the grants pause?***
- b) During the Grants Pause are decisions on grants being made, but applicants not being alerted?***

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 211

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPPA Domestic Stakeholders

Question in Writing

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

Can DFAT provide a list of domestic stakeholders they have consulted with over the TPPA?

Answer

The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) negotiations public consultation process is ongoing and DFAT officials interact on a daily basis with members of the public, community and business organisations on particular issues in the negotiations. DFAT also holds briefings in state and territory capitals. DFAT accepts comments and submissions from the public about the TPP at any time. A list of those stakeholders that have indicated their consent for their submission to be made public is available on the DFAT website: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/fta/tpp/#submissions>

Question No. 212

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPPA Foreign Stakeholders

Question in Writing

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

Can DFAT provide a list of the foreign stakeholders they have met with in consultation over the TPPA?

Answer

At TPP negotiating rounds, host countries provide a number of both formal and informal opportunities for stakeholders from all TPP Parties to interact with negotiators. Australian stakeholders have also attended these events. A list of stakeholders present at the last negotiating round in Leesburg, Virginia, is available on the United States Trade Representative website: <http://www.ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/trans-pacific-partnership/round-14-leesburg>

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Question No. 213

Program: DFAT

Topic: Number of DFAT Staff TPPA

Question in Writing

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

How many DFAT staff are currently working on the TPPA negotiations? Can a list be provided broken down by level?

Answer

17 DFAT officers currently work on the TPP negotiations as part of their duties. This includes 2 SES officers, 3 EL2 officers, and 12 BB3 officers.

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Question No. 214

Program: DFAT

Topic: Secondees from other Federal Departments

Question in Writing

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

Are there secondees from other Federal Departments working in DFAT on the TPPA? If so how many, which Departments are they from and what are their levels?

Answer

There are no secondees from other Federal Departments working in DFAT on the TPP negotiations.

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Question No. 215

Program: DFAT

Topic: USA TPPA Negotiation

Question in Writing

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

How many DFAT staff attended the last negotiation round in the United States and what levels were they?

Answer

20 DFAT officers attended the last negotiating round in Leesburg, Virginia, USA. This included two officers based at the Embassy in Washington DC (1 SES officer and 1 EL2).

The 18 Canberra-based officers included 2 SES officers, 2 EL2 officers, 13 BB3 (EL1 and APS6), and 1 Graduate Trainee.

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Question No. 216

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing

Question in Writing

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

Are there secondees from Foreign Governments working in DFAT, if so how many and which countries are they from?

Answer

As at 30 September 2012, four officers were seconded into the department in Canberra from Foreign Governments: two from the United States, one from Canada and one from the United Kingdom.

Question No. 217

Program: DFAT

Topic: Carbon tax

Question in Writing

Senator McKenzie

Question

A. (i) *For the financial year 2011-2012, how many kilowatt hours of electricity did the department consume?*

(ii) *What was the cost?*

B. *What does this cost work out per employee?*

Answer

A. (i) 14,782,733 kWh

(ii) \$1,846,854 (excluding GST).

B. \$771 (excluding GST).

Question No. 218

Program: DFAT

Topic: Carbon tax

Question in Writing

Senator McKenzie

Question

In reference to QON #68, DFAT has received information indicating that the cost of electricity was to increase by approximately 2.3 cents per kWh due to the carbon tax, for a total expected increase on \$341,000 pa in carbon tax related electricity costs.

- A. (i) Has this advice proved accurate?**
- (ii) What increases in electricity costs has DFAT experienced since the introduction of the carbon tax?**
- B. (i) How has this changed the Department's spending pattern?**
- (ii) What programs or services have been cut to meet the increased costs?**
- C. What measures is the Department taking to reduce its electricity expenditure? When did these commence? What impact have they had?**

Answer

- A. (i)** The actual increase has been 2.07 cents per kWh.
- (ii)** The increase resulting from the carbon tax for the period July to September 2012 has been \$85,922 (excluding GST).
- B. (i) and (ii)** The answers to these questions are as provided in the Department's evidence in Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings on Thursday 18 October 2012 (Hansard page 21).
- C.** The Department follows government energy policies e.g. Energy Efficiency in Government Operations. These measures have been progressively incorporated into the Departments operations after promulgation by regulatory authorities. The Department has reduced its kWh electricity usage by 2.77% over the period 2009-10 to 2011-12.

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Question No. 219

Program: EFIC

Topic: Carbon Tax

Question in Writing

Senator: McKenzie

Question

- A. For the financial year 2011-2012, how many kilowatt hour of electricity did the department consume? What was the total cost?***
B. What does this cost work out to per employee?

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 220

Program: EFIC

Topic: Carbon Tax

Question in Writing

Senator: McKenzie

Question

In reference to QON #68, DFAT had received information indicating that the cost of electricity was to increase by approximately 2.3 cents per kWh due to the carbon tax, for a total expected increase of \$341,000 pa in carbon tax related electricity costs.

- A. Has this advice proved accurate? What increases in electricity costs has DFAT experienced since the introduction of the carbon tax?*
- B. How has this changed the Department's spending pattern? What programs or services have been cut to meet the increased costs?*
- C. What measures is the Department taking to reduce its electricity expenditure? When did these commence? What impact have they had?*

Answer

Not applicable to EFIC.

Question No. 221

Program: DFAT

Topic: Resources to support Australia's temporary seat on the UN Security Council

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- A. *Acting Departmental Secretary, Gillian Bird, said during estimates that the Department would make a budget submission to Government for additional funding to support Australia's temporary seat on the UN Security Council (UNSC) if the bid was successful. What is the proposed budget to support the United Nations Security Council?***
- B. *On what date did the Department present the budget submission to government?***
- C. *Please provide a detailed break-down of the proposed budget.***
- D. *Please provide a break-down of the number of staff which are, or will be, employed to support Australia's temporary seat on the United Nations Security Council, the level these staff are employed at, where the staff are based, and the proposed travel budget for staff.***

Answer

This matter remains under consideration.

Question No. 222

Program: DFAT

Topic: Minister's involvement in overseas projects funded by other departments

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- A. *Is the Minister consulted on, or have input into, overseas projects funded and administered by other Departments?***
- B. *Is the Department consulted on, or have input into, overseas projects funded and administered by other Departments?***
- C. *The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry spent \$270,000 reviewing agriculture and fisheries management in Eritrea between 2008 and 2010. Was the Minister and/or the Department consulted on, or have input into, this project? What was the nature of the Minister and/or Department's involvement?***
- D. *The Department of the Environment spent \$300,000 in 2009 on membership of a convention on biological diversity in Kenya. Was the Minister and/or the Department consulted on, or have input into, this project? What was the nature of the Minister and/or Department's involvement?***
- E. *The Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education provided \$88.4 million of Commonwealth funding in 2010 to the ANU, which is a member of the consortium that constructed a telescope in Chile. Was the Minister and/or the Department consulted on, or have input into, this project? What was the nature of the Minister and/or Department's involvement?***

Answer

- A. Yes, where appropriate.
- B. Yes, where appropriate.
- C. The then Minister for Foreign Affairs (Smith) wrote to his Eritrean counterpart in March 2010 proposing that Australian officials, together with relevant Eritrean agricultural authorities, undertake a joint review of assistance delivered in the agricultural sector prior to 2010. However, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is not aware of the details of any expenditure that the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry might have made in relation to this or any other review of agriculture or fisheries management in Eritrea between 2008 and 2010.
- D. No.
- E. No.

Question No. 223

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular support in Bali during schoolies period

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- A. How many Australians under 25 received consular assistance in Bali during the schoolies period (mid-November to mid-December)? How many of these people were arrested? How many were hospitalised?***
- B. Are consular resources increased in Bali during the schoolies period each year?***
- C. How many people registered as travelling to Bali on the Smartraveller website during the schoolies period in 2011? How many of these people were aged 16 to 25 years?***
- D. How many people are registered as travelling to Bali on the Smartraveller website during 2012's schoolies period? How many of these people are aged 16 to 25 years?***

Answer

- A. A total of 20 Australians under the age of 25 required consular assistance in Bali during the schoolies period (19 November to 11 December) in 2011. Of these, there were four arrests and four hospitalisations.
- B. No additional consular resources are provided to the Consulate-General to assist with the schoolies period in Bali.
- C. During the 2011 schoolies period (19 November to 11 December 2011) in Bali there were total of 4,033 registrations on the Smartraveller website. Of these, 2,098 registrations pertain to the 16-25 year old age group.
- D. During the 2012 schoolies period (17 November to 09 December 2012), the number of registrations at 28 November 2012 was considerably lower than last year. A total of 966 Australians were registered as being in Bali for this period at this time of which 327 pertain to the 16-25 year age group. It is expected that the number of registrations could increase as travel departure dates draw closer.

Question No. 224

Program: DFAT

Topic: Kidnappings of Australians in South America

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- A. Please provide data for 2007-2012 on the number of Australian nationals kidnapped in South America?***
- B. Please provide a break-down of the duration of each kidnapping, whether the person was kidnapped for political or economic reasons, and whether the person's release was secured through consular assistance or independently.***

Answer

- A. The Consular statistical database (CMIS) does not have a specific category for 'kidnapping'. Any data would be included under the heading of 'Welfare/Other Serious Matters' of which there were 357 reported cases in the period July 2007-June 2012.
- B. A manual examination of each of the 357 'Welfare/Other Serious Matters' cases would be required in order to distinguish which ones may have been recorded as a kidnapping and then to provide a break-down of the duration or other details requested. Such an exercise would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

The Department has now taken steps to introduce a new sub-category of 'Kidnapping/Hostage' under the 'Welfare/Other Serious Matters' category.

Question No. 225

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consular resources in Germany during Oktoberfest

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- A. It has been noted in previous years that the Department has sent extra resources to Munich for the duration of Oktoberfest. Were consular resources increased in Munich during Oktoberfest this year?***
- B. How many additional staff were sent to assist during Oktoberfest?***
- C. What was the total cost of the increased resources?***

Answer

- A. Existing consular resources in Germany were used to provide support to the Honorary Consul in Munich during Oktoberfest.
- B. While no additional resources were sent from Australia, one consular officer from both Berlin and Frankfurt (for one week each) assisted the Honorary Consul in Munich for the first two weeks of the festival. Their presence, which was advertised on the post's website, also provided an opportunity for the Australian community in Bavaria to make appointments for consular services not provided by the Honorary Consul.
- C. As noted in (A) and (B), existing consular resources in Germany were used to assist the Honorary Consul in Munich. Costs associated with this totalled \$5,349 and were covered by existing Post budget.

Question No. 226

Program: DFAT

Topic: E-Diplomacy

Question in Writing

Senator Kroger

Question

- A. What is the Department's policy on the use of social media?***
- B. Has the Department changed its policy on social media in 2012? If so, how has the Department's approach changed and what is the rationale for this?***
- C. What level of engagement do our diplomats have with social media?***
- D. Why were the Australian ambassadors to Tokyo and Indonesia the first diplomats permitted to use Twitter?***
- E. How many diplomats are now using Twitter?***
- F. How much is the Department's increased use of social media expected to cost?***
- G. The US State Department reportedly has more than 150 full-time social media employees. How many full-time social media employees does the Department have?***
- H. How many social media consultants been hired and at what cost?***
- I. What feedback has the Department received regarding its use of Twitter?***
- J. Is the Department aware of the Lowy Institute Report, which noted that "the one-way nature of DFAT's Twitter use stifles genuine and productive engagement with audience"?***
- K. If so, has the Department considered a more interactive approach to its use of twitter?***
- L. Have Australian diplomats had training in how to use Twitter effectively?***
- M. Is the Department aware of an article published by The Lowy Institute which stated that the "[UK Foreign Office] urges its diplomats not to use social media as a stream of consciousness or as the online diary of a diplomat"?***
- N. Does the Department advise diplomats not to use social media as a stream of consciousness?***
- O. What guidelines are provided to diplomats?***
- P. As of October 10, Australia's High Commissioner to India had only tweeted 13 times since account opened on August 6. Are diplomats advised that if they are using Twitter they need to be active?***
- Q. Has the Department provided the Minister with any guidance on the effective use of Twitter for diplomacy?***
- R. The Minister has previously described his blog, Thoughtlines, as personal. Is the blog vetted or endorsed by the Department?***
- S. Is the blog updated by Department staff or the Minister's staff***

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Answer

- (A) The department uses social media platforms as official communication tools to advance policy, consular, passports and public diplomacy agendas.
- (B) The department has not changed its policy or rationale on social media in 2012 but has expanded its social media presence over time.
- (C) The degree of engagement in social media by staff at posts differs from location to location. Posts with substantial public diplomacy agendas and dynamic social media environments are generally utilising social media tools. Posts with established social media accounts are: Bangkok, Beijing, Buenos Aires, Geneva UN, Hanoi, Jakarta, London, New Delhi, Port Moresby, Seoul, Tokyo and Washington.
- (D) The Ambassadors in Tokyo and Jakarta were the first to adopt Twitter as they were the first to submit a business case to do so.
- (E) Six Heads of Mission currently use Twitter – Geneva UN, Jakarta, New Delhi, Port Moresby, Tokyo and Washington. Those Heads of Mission manage the accounts themselves, with assistance as necessary from another officer at the post.
- (F) DFAT's social media presence has been achieved within existing resources and future expansion is expected to be budget neutral.
- (G) The department has no full-time social media employees. Use of social media as a communications tool is one part of daily duties for staff with a public communications role.
- (H) No social media consultants have been hired.
- (I) Feedback has been from all points of the spectrum but frequently encouraging and supportive.
- (J) The department's social media engagement has grown significantly in the period since the Lowy Institute report was released in August 2011.
- (K) Yes.
- (L) Yes.
- (M) Yes.
- (N) The department expects its staff to use good judgment and communicate purposefully when using social media, which they do.

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- (O) Staff using social media have the authority to communicate using the same guidelines that apply to other forms of public engagement including media interviews and speeches.
- (P) Active use is encouraged as a general principle but staff make their own judgments about what frequency and mix of medium works best for them. Twitter is but one of many means of communication available to staff.
- (Q) No.
- (R) No.
- (S) Department staff are not involved with the Minister's blog.

Question No. 227

Program: DFAT

Topic: Death of Papuan Independence Leader Mako Tabuni

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

Minister Carr called recently for a thorough and open inquiry into the shooting death of Papuan independence leader Mako Tabuni.

Please provide an update as to the progress of this investigation.

Answer

Embassy officials encouraged Indonesia to hold an investigation into the death of Mako Tabuni - with Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) on 22 June, with the Head of the Unit to Accelerate Development in Papua and West Papua on 25 June, and with the Head of the Papuan Provincial Police on 7 August.

Embassy officials discussed the case further with Indonesian officials on 29 August and on 15 October.

Indonesian authorities informed our Embassy on 15 October that the Indonesian police had launched an investigation into Mako Tabuni's death. This followed an investigation by the National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas HAM) which recommended the police investigation.

The Australian Government has consistently urged the Indonesian Government to investigate all alleged human rights abuses in the Papuan provinces.

We welcome President Yudhoyono's repeated public statements, including most recently on 12 June, that abuses by security forces in the Papuan provinces are to be investigated and punished.

The investigation's findings have not been released. The timing of any such announcement is a matter for Indonesian authorities.

Question No. 228

Program: DFAT

Topic: West Papua Human Rights

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

When announcing the Defence Cooperation Agreement at a joint press conference with the Indonesian Foreign Minister Purnomo in Indonesia, Defence Minister Smith, when asked about human rights violations in West Papua said that this had only been discussed "in passing", going on to say that "I have no concerns about our enhanced defence co-operation, practical co-operation, whether it's through the defence co-operation agreement or our discussions about defence capability".

At this same press conference, Mr. Smith is then reported as saying he respected Indonesia's policies towards Papua and the recent statement by the President, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono that the allegations of abuse would be investigated. However President Yudhoyono's statement was immediately contradicted when Minister Purnomo, standing beside Mr Smith, said the killing of Mr Tabuni had been legal and required no investigation.

A. Minister Carr was concerned enough about these allegations to call for an open inquiry, yet Minister Smith has "no concerns" about Indonesia's human rights record in the context of a major arms dealing program. What is the Department's position now as to whether Mr. Tabuni's death should be the subject of an open inquiry? Does the Department share Minister Smith's assessment or is Mr Smith mistaken in his confidence about the human rights record of Indonesia's armed forces?

B. Given the very recent violence in Papua, specifically the burning of a village and the police shooting of Mr. Tabuni, is the Department concerned that Mr. Smith only raised human rights abuses in West Papua "in passing" when negotiating a major arms deal?

C. On Wednesday 17 October, the Australia West Papua Association wrote to Minister Carr, outlining further allegations of intimidation of activists in West Papua. Having received these allegations, what now is the process? Will the Department raise these allegations with the Indonesian government? Will the Department contact the Australia West Papua Association to substantiate these allegations?

D. Given Minister Carr's call for an open inquiry, is the Department concerned about the summary dismissal of this call by the Minister's Indonesian counterpart? Does the Department accept Mr. Purnomo's assertion that the shooting was legal and does not require an investigation? If yes, on what basis did Mr. Carr call for an inquiry in the first place, and on what basis has this changed?

Indonesia does not allow journalists, human rights organisations or any independent monitors to enter West Papua. The shooting is only the most recent of a range of very serious, credible allegations have been made against members of Detachment 88 in relation to human rights abuses in the past few years and directly brought to the attention of the Australian government. In light of all this, how can the Department explain Mr. Smith's lack of concern about signing major arms deals with no safeguards as to how and where this material is used?

Answer

- A. Please see answer to question 227.
- B. Australian Government representatives take appropriate opportunities to discuss human rights with Indonesian authorities. The Defence Cooperation Arrangement formalises and strengthens our bilateral defence relationship and provides a framework for future engagement initiatives including defence industry. It is not an agreement to sell weapons to Indonesia. Questions on the Arrangement are best directed to the Department of Defence.
- C. Embassy officials in Jakarta engage with the Papuan provincial governments, civil society groups, church leaders, NGOs and other groups that add to our understanding of the situation in the Papuan provinces. The Department has received the letters from the Australia West Papua Association dated 17 and 24 October. We have responded to their correspondence. When credible allegations of human rights violations in other countries are brought to our attention, our concerns are made known through a range of channels, including ministerial meetings, diplomatic representations and in appropriate multilateral forums. Australian embassy officials in Jakarta raise specific cases with the Indonesian Government and register our concern that alleged human rights abuses be investigated thoroughly and promptly by the Indonesian authorities. Just as the Indonesian Government would have no authority to investigate alleged incidents of this nature in Australia, we have no authority to investigate such incidents in any other country.
- D. Concerning the issue of an investigation into the death of Mako Tabuni, please see answer to question 227.

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Concerning the Indonesian National Police's special counter-terrorism unit, Detachment 88, the sole focus of Australian engagement with this unit is combating terrorism. Australia's training activities have nothing to do with countering separatist groups or organisations. Against the tragic history of terrorist activities in the region, including the loss of 88 Australians in the first Bali bombing, such engagement is crucial to protect the safety of both Indonesians and Australians. Detachment 88 has been at the forefront of Indonesia's success in apprehending terrorists and has made almost 800 arrests since it was established in 2002. During Senate Estimates hearings in October this year, the AFP Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner highlighted the positive nature of Australia's interaction with Detachment 88. The Commissioner said "we are doing everything that is reasonable and appropriate to ensure that we are only supporting activities that would be acceptable to the Australian community". The respected International Crisis Group concluded that the unit was not involved in the shooting of Mako Tabuni. The Indonesian National Police has also said Detachment 88 was not involved. The Australian Government is concerned that all security and law enforcement agencies operate with respect for human rights, a point we stress to Indonesia and which underpins our cooperation.

Question No. 229

Program: DFAT

Topic: Papua/West Papua – journalist access

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

In May 2012, the United Nations Human Rights Council issued a 30-point recommendation in relation to Indonesia following its quadrennial Universal Periodic Review (UPR). In addition to rejecting recommendations on religious rights, the Indonesian government also stated in its report to the UNHRC that it was unable to allow foreign journalists free access to Papua and West Papua (proposed by the French delegation during the May meeting). The Indonesian government also refused to allow the United Nations special rapporteurs on indigenous people and minority groups to enter the country.

Has the Department raised this issue specifically with the Indonesian government? If yes, when, where and on how many occasion? If not, why not?

Answer

The Australian Government continues to register with Indonesia the importance of access to the Papuan provinces for credible observers, including non-government organisations and journalists, and the importance of ensuring that the human rights of all Indonesians are respected. This is an issue that is raised regularly during our representations to Indonesia, for example Senator Carr emphasised the need to ensure transparency in relation to law enforcement and judicial processes in the Papua provinces when he met Foreign Minister Natalegawa in Jakarta in July 2012.

In its statement to the May 2012 UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review of Indonesia, Australia recommended that Indonesia:

- . intensify its efforts to respect and uphold freedom of expression, including political expression, and the freedom to manifest one's religious belief, for all its citizens, including by ensuring effective state protection for minorities;

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- . continue to increase human rights transparency by improving the access of local and international media organisations, engagement with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and other relevant international organisations throughout Indonesia;
- . ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;
- . ensure fair and proper legal action in relation to those investigated and prosecuted, including impartial trials and reasonable sentences, as well as detention standards that meet international norms;
- . ensure prompt, comprehensive, and effective investigations into credible allegations of human rights violations by members of the security forces, and examine options for establishing an independent review mechanism with the ability to recommend prosecutions.

Question No. 230

Program: DFAT

Topic: West Papua – Partnership for Justice with Indonesia program

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

- A. *How many West Papuan prisoners have taken advantage of the Partnership for Justice with Indonesia program?***
- B. *In relation to West Papuan prisoners who have taken advantage of the Partnership for Justice with Indonesia program, please provide a breakdown of the crimes alleged or proven against these prisoners (statistics only, identifying details not required)***

Answer

- A. The Australia Indonesia Partnership for Justice does not provide assistance to individual prisoners.
- B. Not applicable in light of the answer to 8 (A).

Question No. 231

Program: DFAT

Topic: Balibo Five

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

A. What is official position of the Department as to the cause of death of the Australian journalists commonly known as the “Balibo 5”?

B. Specifically, does the Department accept the conclusions of Mr Tom Sherman, “Report of the Deaths of Australian-based Journalists in East Timor in 1975” that the journalists were killed in crossfire, or does the Department accept the 2007 findings of the New South Wales Coroner that the Balibo 5 were deliberately killed?

Answer

(A & B)

On 16 November 2007, the NSW Deputy Coroner, Magistrate Dorelle Pinch, released her findings and recommendations at the conclusion of the inquest into the death of Brian Peters, one of the journalists killed in 1975.

The NSW Deputy Coroner found Mr Peters had died from wounds sustained when he was shot and/or stabbed deliberately, and not in the heat of battle, by members of the Indonesian Special Forces. On 15 January 2008, the Deputy Coroner forwarded the relevant material to the Attorney-General on the basis that war crimes may have been committed. The Attorney-General’s Department referred the matter to the AFP in January 2008. At the conclusion of its investigation, the AFP will make an assessment as to whether a brief of evidence should be referred to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. It is then a matter for the CDPP to consider, in accordance with the Prosecution Policy of the Commonwealth.

As this matter is ongoing, it would be inappropriate to comment further.

Question No. 232

Program: DFAT

Topic: Papua/West Papua – visits by Australian officials

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

A. What is the total number of Australian officials or persons employed by the Australian Embassy, who have visited West Papua since 2006?

B. What is the total number of Australian officials or persons employed by the Australian Embassy, who have visited Papua since 2006?

Answer

A. According to Embassy records dating from 2007, around 69 Australian Government officials and 23 other persons employed by the Australian Embassy have visited West Papua on 131 separate visits (officers often visit more than once). The Embassy's visit log for Papua records visits for the past five years and does not go back to 2006.

B. According to Embassy records dating from 2007, around 79 Australian Government officials and 24 other persons employed by the Australian Embassy have visited Papua on 175 separate visits (officers often visit more than once). The Embassy's visit log for Papua records visits for the past five years and does not go back to 2006.

Question No. 233

Program: DFAT

Topic: Release of TPPA Draft Text

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

- A. *Have any stakeholders, members of the public, community groups or the like requested the release of draft texts of the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement?***
- B. *Was this access granted? If not why not?***

Answer

- A. Yes
- B. No. As is normal practice in trade negotiations, the TPP negotiating Parties have agreed to keep negotiating documents (including draft text) confidential. Releasing text therefore would require the agreement of all Parties.

Question No. 234

Program: DFAT

Topic: Examination of TPPA Text from States and Territories

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

Question E12-293 to the Department of Health and Ageing from Budget Estimates 2012 asked whether the states and territories have been given the opportunity to thoroughly examine the proposed text for the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement.

[The response indicated that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is consulting “with other governments and relevant stakeholders as appropriate”.]

- A. What steps has the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade taken to assure themselves that they are aware of all of the potential issues that the Trans-Pacific Partnership represents for the health policies and programs of the states and territories, and that they are consulting appropriately?***
- B. Has the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade undertaken a review of the potential issues that the Trans-Pacific Partnership presents for the health policies and programs of the states and territories so as to ensure that it is consulting appropriately?***

Answer

- A.** The Government holds regular consultations with state and territory governments on TPP negotiations. The Government also holds regular public consultations and individual stakeholder meetings in different states and territories to seek input from the community. TPP negotiators also hold meetings with stakeholders and interested members of the public to talk about the negotiations. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) posts progress reports on the DFAT website at the end of each negotiating round.
- B.** The Government is constantly reviewing the potential issues that the Trans-Pacific Partnership presents for Australia and including Australia’s health policies and programs. The Government holds regular consultations with state and territory governments on the TPP negotiations. The Government also holds regular public consultations and individual stakeholder meetings in different states and territories to seek input from the community.

Question No. 235

Program: DFAT

Topic: Myanmar

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

In Burma nearly 2 million acres of farmland have been seized by authorities from farmers and redistributed to over 200 companies, leaving thousands of farmers with no land or livelihoods. What steps is Australia taking to ensure Australian investment in Burma is not compounding poverty in Burma?

Answer

The Australian Government recognises the private sector has an important role to play in developing Myanmar's economy, including through strengthening economic and corporate governance. Increased trade and investment will enhance the economic prospects of ordinary people in Myanmar who are among the poorest in our region. In April 2012, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said the best way for the international community to support Myanmar's reform is to invest there.

The Government encourages Australian companies wanting to do business in Myanmar to do so responsibly and ethically by applying the highest standards of corporate, environmental and social responsibility in line with internationally-recognised best practice principles. This includes adhering to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the UN's Global Compact, and the UN's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Austrade has prepared a market brief – "Doing Business in Myanmar" – which is available on Austrade's website. The brief underscores the Australian Government's expectations regarding corporate social responsibility.

During meetings with Myanmar's leaders in June, Senator Carr offered to share Australia's experience and expertise in regulating our mining industry with Myanmar. On 16 October, Senator Carr announced that the Australian government would support Myanmar in building an effective foreign investment regime.

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Australian aid currently promotes responsible investment practices and supports farmers and villagers to understand and protect their land rights through civil society strengthening. Australia supports the Paung Ku project (\$1.7 million over 2011-13), which strengthens civil society organisations to promote transparency and accountability by private companies using their lands.

Through the Human Rights Grants Scheme, AusAID is also funding training for private companies involved in the extractive industries on rights-based development, which is assisting companies to incorporate better human rights practices into the way they do business with communities.

Through CARE Australia's Rakhine Rural Household Livelihood Security Projects, AusAID has helped 2,700 rural poor households in Rakhine state to secure 30-year, potentially renewable, land certificates to enable an assured source of household income. AusAID continues to support the second phase of CARE Australia's program entitled Strengthening Partnerships and the Resilience of Communities which focuses on improving livelihood security through asset holding, especially land.

Question No.236

Program: DFAT

Topic: TPPA Final Text

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

The Productivity Commission's review of bilateral and regional trade agreements (<http://www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/trade-agreements>) recommended that the Australian Government should:

- *only pursue bilateral and regional trade agreements where they are likely to afford significant net economic benefits' (Recommendation 1, p. XXXVII);*
- *only include IP provisions 'in cases where a rigorous economic analysis shows that the provisions would likely generate overall net benefits for the agreement partners' (Recommendation 4b, p. XXXVIII);*
- *Commission and publish an independent and transparent assessment of the final text of the agreement, at the conclusion of the negotiations, but before an agreement is signed' (Recommendation 5c, p. XXXVII).*

Will an independent and transparent assessment of the final text be undertaken before the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement is signed by Cabinet?

Answer

The TPP agreement must go through the same democratic processes as other treaties that the Australian Government considers. Once the parties agree on the final text of the TPP agreement, the Government will make the agreement available publicly and open to scrutiny before the Parliament considers passing it into law. After Ministers table the final TPP text in the Parliament, the Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Treaties will coordinate a public review of the agreement. The Committee can then invite submissions and evidence at public hearings, to help determine whether it should recommend to Parliament that the TPP be ratified. More information on the treaty making process can be found on the DFAT website: (<http://www.dfat.gov.au/treaties/making/index.html>).