Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of National Assessments

Outcome/Program: 1
Topic: Efficiency dividend

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: 84 **Type of question:** Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 March 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

How will the efficiency dividend applied in the 2011-12 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook be implemented in your agency/department?

What percentage of your budget must be cut?

Will any staff position be cut to meet the efficiency divided? If yes, provide details of where the positions are locate, the classification, whether the position is ongoing or not.

Please list where and what spending

has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

ONA is implementing the efficiency dividend by reviewing all expenditure and an increased focus on workforce planning.

ONA's budget has been reduced by the additional 2.5% of operating expenditure and 20% of departmental capital budget.

The number of staff reductions will depend on ONA's ability to find savings in administrative costs including travel, office supplies, and accommodation costs.