

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 26 May - 27 May 2008



Question: PM88

Outcome 1, Output 5.7

Topic: Facilitator

Hansard Page: F&PA 127

Senator Allison asked: -Can I ask you to take that on board and find out why our facilitator would have insisted on couching all of the points and ideas in terms of 'could' instead of some other expression?

Mr Mrdak-I will try and check that. In fact, I will check it against the final report just to see. But I am certainly not aware of a central approach like that, though I may be wrong. I will check that.

Answer: PM&C has reviewed the Summit Final Report, and it appears that participants in different discussion streams expressed their ideas, ambitions and themes using a range of modal verbs, such as 'should', 'could' and 'must'. The Department is not aware of any central directive to Summit participants about particular forms of expression to be used when putting forward their views.