

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2009**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Topic: Asia Pacific Community**

**Question reference number: PM23 (a-c)**

**Type of Question: Written**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2009**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**PM23 (a-c) (Trood)**

- a) In the June Senate Estimates hearings for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, Mr Peter Woolcott indicated that Office of National Assessments had been involved in discussions about the Asia Pacific Community. What was the nature of those discussions?
- b) Was the Office of National Assessments asked to provide an assessment of the viability of the Asia Pacific Community concept?
- c) What was that assessment?

Answer:

- a) Regional and global architecture issues are an important element of ONA's assessment work and have increased in priority in line with the evolving nature of developments in East Asia. And, consistent with its overall focus, ONA assesses the economic, political and strategic dimensions of regional developments. ONA participates in discussions with a range of interlocutors on these issues on an ongoing basis to inform the development of assessments.
- b) No
- c) Not applicable

Approved by DGONA,            NOVEMBER 2009.