Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-21 October 2010

Question: PM75

Asked By: Senator Payne

Topic: COAG reform agenda: Report on progress 2010

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Number of pages:

In relation to the COAG Reform Council report - COAG reform agenda: Report on progress 2010:

- a) The report states that implementation plans for the Health Workers initiative under the National Partnership Agreement on Preventative Health were due on 30 September. Have these plans been received? If so, when were they received?
- b) When will the implementation plans for the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing be publicly available?
- c) When will the Overarching Bilateral Indigenous Plans be finalised under the National Indigenous Reform Agreement, as per Recommendation 4 of the report?

Answer:

- a) The Commonwealth received Implementation Plans for the Healthy Workers initiative from South Australia on 30 September 2010, New South Wales on 1 November 2010 and the Australian Capital Territory on 11 November 2010. The other jurisdictions are yet to submit their Implementation Plans.
- b) Implementation Plans are being updated following the recently announced outcomes of the competitive bid process. They are expected to be publicly available in December 2010 subject to agreement by state and territory governments.

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c) The Overarching Bilateral Indigenous Plan between the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory was agreed in July 2010, while the Plan between the Commonwealth and Victoria was agreed in November 2010.

The Plans between New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia and the Commonwealth are currently being finalised between respective governments.

The Western Australian, Tasmanian and the Australian Capital Territory Plans are still in development and it is anticipated that they will be completed by the end of year. This timing is largely dependent on the time taken by governments to agree the Plans before they are finalised with the Commonwealth.