SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN TRANSACTION REPORTS AND ANALYSIS CENTRE

Question No. 194

Senator Ludwig tabled the following question at the hearing on 14 February 2006:

Regarding ARRAS, at page 23 of AUSTRAC's annual report:

a) What is the functionality of the operational prototype?

b) What additional functionality will be completed by the end-date?

c) What was the original timeline of this project?

d) Has that timeline subsequently been altered? If so, for each occasion on which it was altered, could you indicate:
   i)   Why it was altered?
   ii) How it was altered – how were the dates changed?
   iii) Were any dates pushed forward or knocked back?

e) What was the original budget for the project?

f) How much of that budget has been expended?

g) Has any additional money been allocated?
   i)   If so, how much?

h) Has any money been stripped from the project?
   i)   If so, why, how much and when?
   ii)   Was any money stripped from the project transferred to another project?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

a) The ARRAS prototype consists of 4 operational Risk Blocks:
   1.   QTV Risk Block (Consisting of 8 Risk Modules).
   2.   Regulatory-AML Risk Block. (Consisting of 6 Risk Modules).
   3.   ACR-Education Risk Block. (Consisting of 5 Risk Modules).
   4.   A Combined Risk Block which integrates all of the above 3 Risk Blocks, and contains a total of 18 risk modules.

b) No new functionality had been considered, or scheduled for completion by the end date (June 2006). However, the Regulatory AML Risk Block will be expanded, as and when new risk factors are identified. Trials have been completed on the "Tax Havens Module" and this module will be integrated at an appropriate stage.

c) Complete all testing and establish a user friendly TES interface by June 2006.

d) No
   i) Not Applicable.
   ii) Not Applicable.
   iii) Not Applicable.

e) $145,000.

f) As of the second week of February $62,000.

g) No.
   i) Not Applicable.

h) No.
   i) Not Applicable.
   ii) Not Applicable.