

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 FEBRUARY 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(91) Output 2.4: Promoting the benefits of a united and diverse society

Senator Ellison asked:

What programs will the government be introducing to expand information that details the cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds of our people?

Answer:

The Government is considering a range of products which will build on the information currently being produced by the Department, relating to the cultural, linguistic and religious diversity of Australian society.

For example, the Government is looking to:

- Increase the number of Community Information Summaries published on the Department's website from 50 to approximately 100 in the next 12 months
 - The Community Information Summaries describe the communities in Australia by country of birth. These summaries present a broad range of demographic and socio-economic characteristics from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.
- Distribute a DVD featuring the coming together of Muslim and non-Muslim school children in Sydney to all secondary schools nationally
- Produce and release a DVD to provide new refugees from Asia with information about Australia's society, laws and government services to assist with their settlement