

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Sub Program 2.2.1

Question No. 105

Senator Ludlam asked the following question at the hearing on 8 February 2010:

When collecting information for domestic data and intelligence gathering activities, is material shared with third parties overseas that might have completely different privacy regimes? Are there particular data sharing agreements with countries in our region that handle bilateral exchanges of material that is collected on individuals here?

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

Agencies within the Attorney-General's Portfolio share information with foreign partner agencies where appropriate and authorised under legislation. There are numerous bilateral agreements in place between agencies within the Attorney-General's Portfolio and their foreign counterparts in the region. These agreements comply with relevant legislative and privacy obligations.