

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0004) PROGRAM – OMARA

Senator Cash (L&CA 11) asked:

The 2012 operating result as set out in the annual report of the MARA appears to be a deficit of \$315,000 compared to the 2011 operating result, which was a surplus of \$105,000. What was the reason for the deterioration in the funds?

Answer:

The operating deficit of \$315,000 in 2012 was mainly due to the government's recent decision of no longer providing funding for the depreciation and amortisation expense. As shown in Office of the MARA Annual Report 2011-12 (page 44), the depreciation and amortisation expense was \$328,000. If this expense item was still funded, Office of the MARA would have reported a small surplus of \$13,000 in 2012.