

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 29 May 2003**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(90) Output 2.4: Appreciation of Cultural Diversity**

Senator Kirk (L&C 455) asked, "I notice that there is a figure of \$13 million listed on appreciation of cultural diversity. Could you provide a specific breakdown of the expected expenditure of that \$13 million?"

*Answer:*

The estimated operating expense for 2003-04 in relation to the delivery of the Appreciation of Cultural Diversity output is \$13 million. The amount involves both the direct costs of the output and the corporate overheads associated with delivering the output.

The direct costs, amounting to up to \$8 million include:

- salaries for Central Office and State/Territory Office staff involved in the output;
- other costs for projects associated with the output; and
- administrative costs including –
  - travel and secretariat duties for supporting the Council for Multicultural Australia (CMA) and the Inter-Departmental Committee on Multicultural Affairs,
  - sitting fees for CMA members,
  - Harmony Day events and products,
  - production of the Access and Equity Annual Report and the Diary of Multicultural Events,
  - travel and meetings on Productive Diversity, and
  - managing Living in Harmony grants and partnerships.

Corporate overheads, amounting to up to \$5 million, include:

- property;
- human resources;
- financial management and reporting;
- IT systems and support.

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**(91) Output 2.4: Appreciation of Cultural Diversity**

Senator Kirk (L&C 455) asked:

How many copies of the booklet entitled *Multicultural Australia – United in Diversity* did the Department produce?

*Answer:*

5,000 copies of the booklet have been printed to date.

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### **(92) Output 2.4: Appreciation of Cultural Diversity**

Senator Kirk (L&C 456) asked:

1. What was the cost involved in producing the *Multicultural Australia – United in Diversity* booklet?
2. How many have been distributed so far?
3. Do you have a list of the organisations that were consulted during the development of the document?

#### *Answers*

1. The total cost of printing 5,000 booklets was \$5,632.
2. The Department had distributed 2,632 copies, as at 23 June 2003.
3. The Department sought input from some 150 organisations and community representatives as part of the evaluation of the 1999 *New Agenda for Multicultural Australia*. The evaluation in turn informed the development of the new policy statement. A list of the organisations consulted during the evaluation is attached.

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**(93) Output 2.4: Appreciation of Cultural Diversity**

Senator Kirk (L&C 458) asked:

What are DIMIA's expected running costs for the *Living in Harmony* initiative in the next financial year?

*Answer:*

A total of \$3.5 million is committed to the *Living in Harmony* initiative for 2003-04. Approximately \$1.5 million is committed to the Community Grants element and it is expected that approximately \$0.3 million will be committed to the Partnerships Program. The remaining \$1.7 million will be used to administer the initiative, including support for the Community Grants and Partnerships programs and to undertake a public information strategy that includes Harmony Day 2004.

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**(94) Output 2.4: Appreciation of Cultural Diversity**

Senator Kirk (L&C 458) asked:

What is the approximate cost of the Harmony Day products?

*Answer:*

The approximate cost of products for Harmony Day 2003 is \$170,000.

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### (95) Output 3.1: Indigenous Policy

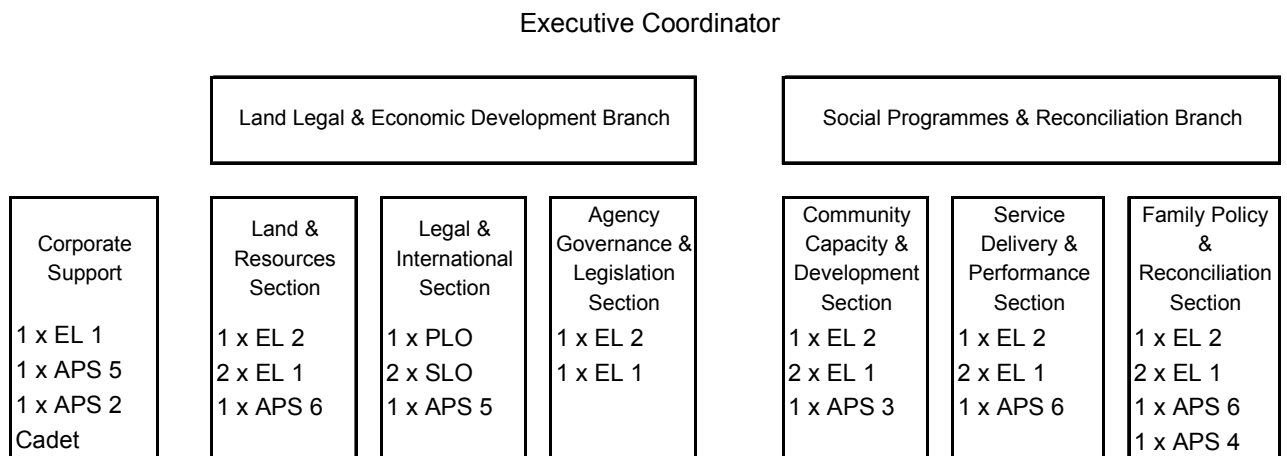
Senator Ludwig (L&C 377) asked

1. Provide an update on OATSIA's current organisational and staffing structure as normally kept on the system.
2. Provide a breakdown of total spending on salaries for the last financial year?
3. What is the projection?

*Answer:*

1.

#### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE - OATSIA



2. Departmental systems do not allow us to report on salary expenditure for OATSIA for 2001-02 as OATSIA only joined the department late November 2001. As at 31 May 2003 OATSIA had expensed \$2.7m on salaries this financial year.

3. 2003-04 projected expenditure on salary costs is approximately \$2.9m.

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### **(96) Output 3.1: Indigenous Policy**

Senator Crossin (L&C 377-378) asked:

In relation to the COAG trials, provide a list of the eight current agreements and which agencies have overall responsibility for which sites.

*Answer:*

There is agreement to work in one site in each State and Territory. Commonwealth agencies with responsibility for a particular site are listed below. It should be noted that at this stage only 4 of the sites have been publicly announced.

<b>COAG Trial Site</b>	<b>Responsible Agency</b>
Cape York (QLD)*	Department of Employment & Workplace Relations (DEWR)
Murdi Paaki (NSW)	Department of Education, Science & Training (DEST)
Shepparton (VIC)	Department of Employment & Workplace Relations (DEWR)
Anangu Pitjantjatjara Lands (SA)*	Department of Health & Ageing
Tjurabalan (WA)*	Department of Transport & Regional Services (DoTARS)
Wadeye (NT)*	Department of Family & Community Services (FaCS)
ACT	Environment Australia (EA)
Tasmania	Department of Immigration & Multicultural & Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA)

\* These sites have been announced as at 2 July 2003.

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IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(97) Output 3.1: Indigenous Policy**

Senator Crossin (L&C 379) asked:

In relation to the COAG trials in Wadeye, why is Centrelink or FaCS refusing to pay rent when they move into the rural transaction centre?

*Answer.*

The Indigenous Community Coordination Taskforce (ICCT) has been provided with the following response to the question:

FaCS is aware of the issue, and as part of the Indigenous Communities Coordination Pilot process, consideration is being given to a one-stop-shop for employment, income support, education and training.

Kardu Numida Council and Murin Resource Centre are currently contracted to deliver the Centrelink Agent services in Wadeye and the outstations respectively.

The Centrelink Agent contract provides remuneration for two components: fees and incidentals. As such, the Agent program does not allow for a specific rental payment to be made to any organisation that hosts an Agent.

It is a condition of the contract between Centrelink and its host organisations for the funding of Agents, that host organisations provide suitable accommodation for the Agents to fulfil their roles.

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**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 29 and 30 May 2002**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(139) Output 3.1: Indigenous Policy**

Senator Ludwig (L&C 252/253) asked:

- a) Provide a breakdown of expenditure and case notes of Indigenous affairs litigation;
- b) Provide a breakdown of the Cubillo and Gunner stolen generation case in terms of the money spent out of that area; and
- c) Provide a breakdown of the AGS costs for the Cubillo and Gunner litigation not only for the current year but for the duration.

*Answer:*

#### a) Litigation Costs in 2001-2

OATSIA has made the following payments in this financial year up until June 25:

	Total
• Cubillo and Gunner	\$ 125092.91*
• Other separated children matters	\$ 542.85
• Hindmarsh Island Bridge matters	\$ 430804.90
• Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research Action (FAIRA)	\$ 89012.84
• Wilson v Pilbara Aboriginal Land Council (Wilson)	\$ 30508.72
• Letty Scott V the Northern Territory and the Commonwealth	\$ 9862.16
• Maria Island and McArthur River	\$ 6392.10
and	
• Costs recovery matters (5 matters)	\$ 10339.73

**Totals \$ 702556.21**

\*This amount is inconsistent with the amount billed by AGS as not all payments have been made at 25/6/02 and some payments were made for monies billed by AGS for the previous financial year. Some of these matters are still under judicial consideration and it would therefore be inappropriate to make further comment on them.

#### Chapman v Luminis Pty Ltd and Ors

The biggest cost item above is the Hindmarsh Island Bridge litigation which names, amongst others, a former Minister, Robert Tickner, and the Commonwealth as respondents. The Commonwealth is defending a substantial damages claim brought by the developers of a marina associated with the proposed Hindmarsh Island Bridge against the Commonwealth and other parties who were involved in the decision to ban construction of the bridge which was



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IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(98) Output 3.1: Indigenous Policy**

Senator Ludwig (L&C 379-380) asked: Please provide available information concerning expenditure on litigation.

*Answer:*

The majority of the requested information is unavailable. The Department holds financial records only going back to 2001. Prior to 2001 litigation was handled by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and prior to 1990 by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs whose archive records are now managed by ATSIC. In addition, prior to the introduction of user charging by the Attorney-General's Department in the early 1990s, most of the relevant records would be in the archives of the Attorney-Generals' Department. The Department however has previously supplied to the Committee available details on expenditure and a copy is enclosed. In addition, details of the Department's expenditure on litigation in 2002-03 as at 28 May 2003 are as follows:

Hindmarsh Island Bridge matters	\$832,320
Separated children matters	\$312,623
Other matters*	\$121,310
Total	\$1,266,253

\*These matters relate to actions brought by the FAIRA Aboriginal Corporation regarding certain decisions made by the Minister; litigation relating to an Order made by the Minister for the transfer of documents from The Pilbara Aboriginal Land Council to the New Native Title Representative body; and a Challenge to the Minister's conflict of Interest Directions under the new ATSIC Act.

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**(99) Output 3.1: Indigenous Policy**

Senator Ludwig (L&C 387) asked for a copy of the Minister's letter to ATSIC commissioners and the Regional Council chairs.

*Answer:*

A copy of the letter is attached.

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**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 29 May 2003**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(100) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission**

Senator Ludwig (L&C 381) asked:

In relation to ATSIC and ATSIS, provide a copy of an updated structure table as it stands before and after 1 July.

*Answer:*

Attached please find:

- current organisational chart for ATSIC.
- updated organisational chart for ATSIS post 1 July.
- updated organisational chart for ATSIC Elected Arm post 1 July.

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IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(101) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission**

Senator Ludwig (L&C 381) asked:

The total moneys spent on salaries in 2001-02 – will there be a difference between last budget and this budget because of the organisational structure change on 1 July? I am trying to understand the salaries and usual expenditure for the out years. Is that affected by the change?

*Answer:*

In relation to employee related expenditure:

The total expenditure in 2001-02 was \$79.437m.

The estimated actual expenditure in 2002-03 is \$82.266m.

The budget estimate for 2003-04 is \$85.882m. (ATSIC \$7.939m and ATSI \$77.943m).

The ATSIC/ATSI split resulted in funding for 75 staff and the Elected Arm remaining with ATSIC. The balance of staff will transfer to ATSI.

As a result of the separation of powers, the change has not resulted in any reduction of the total baseline appropriation for ATSIC and ATSI in relation to the current budget or across the outyears. The following table shows an overall increase to resourcing available.

All Output Groups	ATSIC	ATSIC/ATSI
	02/03	03/04
	Est Actual \$'000	\$'000
Total revenue (appropriations & independent receipts)	1,130,452	1,177,736
Administered Capital Business Loans		13,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,130,452</b>	<b>1,191,436</b>

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**(102) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission**

Senator Ludwig (L&C 382) asked:

How many ATSIC staff are there in which office across Australia?

*Answer:*

The attached table outlines a list of ATSIC staffing by office and location as at 19 June 2003.

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**(103) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission**

Senator Ludwig (L&C 386) asked, What are the three elements of the organisational structure of ATSIIS?

*Answer:*

From 1 July 2003 ATSIIS will largely mirror the current structure of ATSIC – with the exception of the Commission Support Branch which will form the Administrative arm of ATSIC. ATSIIS will include the National, State and Regional offices currently in the ATSIC network, and will be staffed in accordance with the following figures. An organisational chart of the State and Regional offices is attached.

### **NATIONAL OFFICE**

Executive	9
Corporate Group	142
Legal & Compliance Group	20
Land & Development Group	50
Economic & Social Participation Group	41
Social & Physical Wellbeing Group	45
Culture, Rights & Justice Group	45
Coordination & Policy Review Group	27
Office of Evaluation & Audit	17
Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations	24
Corporate Pools Group	45
National Network Office	19
<b>National Office Total</b>	<b>484</b>
<b>State Offices</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Regional Offices</b>	<b>643</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1217</b>

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**(104) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission**

Senator Ludwig (L&C 387) asked:

Can you provide the committee with a list of organisations which are affected and for which you have a definite response from the organisation or the chair of the organisation that they are not going to resign and what contingencies you are going to put in place from 1 July onwards to ensure that the end product – the people who are operating, the employees and the like, and the services that they deliver is secure; and

Can you provide a list of those organisations that have acceded to the vagaries of that policy justification?

*Answer:*

Advice has been received by ATSIC that, as at 17 June 2003, all organisations that may have been affected by the Conflict of Interest Directions issued by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs on 23 December 2002, have resolved the issues. This has been achieved by either:

1. Relevant person (that is, Regional Council Chairperson and/or Commissioner) has resigned from the Organisation board; or
2. Relevant person has resigned from the ATSIC Regional Council or ATSIC Board of Commissioners.

The organisations that were required to take action to resolve Conflicts of Interest include:

1. National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Legal Service Secretariat
2. Queensland South Representative Body
3. Noongar Mia Mia Pty Ltd
4. Goolburri Regional Housing Company
5. Bidjara CDEP Company Ltd
6. Bidjara & South West Corporation for Legal Services
7. Bidjara Media & Broadcasting Company Ltd
8. Bidjara Aboriginal Housing & Land Company Ltd
9. Three Ways Aboriginal Corporation
10. Durri Medical Service
11. Miwatj Health Service
12. Central Queensland Land Council Aboriginal Corporation

