

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(110) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry**

Senator Carr asked:

1. Are you aware of the structured arrangements between the New Zealand Government and the trade union peak council in New Zealand to allow detailed, structured input on each request by an employer to import temporary skilled labour because of alleged skill shortages?
2. Has the Department. Or will it, consider similar systematic, structured input from Australian trade unions?

*Answer:*

1. The Department is not party to detailed arrangements between international governments and relevant international organisations.
2. The Department consults, and will continue to consult, widely with interested parties and industry bodies considering changes to its programmes in line with government directions.