

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 28 May 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(3) Output: MRT/RRT

Senator Barnett (L&CA 6) asked:

Provide an outline of the new appointment process for the tribunals.

Answer:

The new appointment process for the Migration Review Tribunal and the Refugee Review Tribunal (the MRT-RRT) reflects the new arrangements announced by Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State, in a media release of 5 February 2008 regarding merit and transparency in senior public service and statutory appointments.

Noteworthy elements of the new appointment process announced by Senator Faulkner include:

- all positions will be widely advertised in major newspapers in capital cities
- the relevant portfolio secretary and the Public Service Commissioner will oversight the selection process
- existing office holders will be given reasonable notice as to whether they will be re-appointed
- the new arrangements are effective immediately and will be fully implemented by 1 July 2008.