

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 28 - 29 MAY 2008**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

### **(87) Output 1.3: Border Security**

Senator Stott Despoja asked:

- (1) Did the Government conduct a Privacy Impact Assessment in relation to new \$2.5 million border security portal is now active across Australia's international airports and seaports? If so, provide a copy of the assessment.
- (2) How has the rollout progressed?
- (3) Has the portal encountered any instances of false identifications?
- (4) The Minister for Immigration & Citizenship has said that:  
*"Previously, [customs] inspectors needed to check multiple systems and sources of information to gain a full picture of a passenger's circumstances — the new portal gathers information from several separate systems currently accessed by border security staff"*  
Please identify the separate systems that are currently assessed by border security staff.
- (5) Which security agencies have access to the portal?
- (6) Is there any independent oversight of the use of the portal?

*Answer:*

- (1) The development of Border Security Portal does not introduce any new sources of client information nor does it alter any practices in relation to access and disclosure of client information. For this reason a Privacy Impact Assessment was not undertaken.
- (2) DIAC has taken a staged approach to Border Security Portal roll-out over two releases. The first release took place between March and April 2008. The release date for version two of the portal has not yet been finalised.
- (3) The Portal is intended to provide more simplified access to client data. In this way misidentification of a record should reduce significantly.
- (4) Media release of 20 May 2008, "*New Technology Strengthening Australia's Borders*" notes that previously, inspectors needed to check multiple systems and sources of information to gain a full picture of a passenger's circumstances. There are 11 disparate DIAC systems that are currently incorporated into the portal:
  1. **Advanced Passenger Processing / QIT (IT)**
  2. **Central Movement Alert List (CMAL)**
  3. **Client Data Hub (CDH) –**
  4. **Code Reference Tables (CRT)**
  5. **Identity Services Repository (ISR)**
  6. **Integrated Client Services Environment (ICSE)**
  7. **Movements (MR)**
  8. **Passports (PP)**

**9. Referrals (RF)**

**10. Utilities (UT)**

**11. Visas (VV)**

(5) Immigration inspectors at the border and certain specific support areas in the DIAC National Office are the only staff having access to the portal. No security agencies have access to the portal.

(6) Given the fact that the portal does not implement any new or changed arrangements in relation to client information sharing, no independent oversight of the use of the portal has been considered.