

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Sub Program 1.1.2**

**Question No. 3**

**Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2009:**

Provide details of communication between the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Australian Human Rights Commission and the Attorney-General's Department, concerning the Commission's attendance at the Durban Review Conference.

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

Copies of all correspondence between the Commission and the Minister for Foreign Affairs were tabled at the hearing on 25 May 2009 by Ms Branson.

On 15 April 2009, the Commission included a reference to Mr Calma's attendance at the Durban Review Conference in a regular circular which is issued as a media release. The circular is also provided to the Attorney-General's office and the Department. This circular is provided as an attachment to the response to Question No 6.

On 20 April 2009, the Attorney-General's Department contacted the Commission to seek information about the Commission's attendance at the Conference. On 22 April 2009, the Commission advised that the Race Discrimination Commissioner, the Director of the Race Discrimination Unit and a Senior Policy Officer in the Race Discrimination Unit were in attendance.