

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0274) Program 3.1: Border Management

Senator Eggleston (L&CA) asked:

Can you provide a complete list of countries that participate in the APEC Business Travel Card program?

Answer:

All APEC economies participate in the APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) scheme. The 21 economies are: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong (China), Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States of America and Vietnam.

Canada, the Russian Federation and the United States of America are transitional members of the scheme. Transitional members are those economies unable to comply with the reciprocal visa pre-clearance requirements of the ABTC scheme, but do provide cardholders with access to 'fast-track' immigration processing lanes at major international airports.