

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE11/0282) Program 3.1: Border Management**

Senator Eggleston (L&CA) asked:

What is the involvement of Russia in the program?

*Answer:*

The Russian Federation is currently a 'transitional member' of the APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) scheme.

Transitional members are those economies who do not 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.