

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

### **(BE11/0726) Program 5.1: AMEP / Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees**

Senator Cash asked:

Does the Department have strategies concentrating on any particular ethnic group? If so, which ethnic groups and why?

*Answer:*

In 2009-10 more than 50 000 clients who participated in AMEP represented 193 countries of birth and spoke 255 languages.

The AMEP uses the Certificates in Spoken and Written English (CSWE) curriculum framework which is accredited within the Australian Quality Training Framework. The syllabus is flexible to meet the learning requirements of the AMEP's diverse client base on an individual basis, and the program is delivered to allow clients to learn at their own pace, choosing from a range of learning options.

In recognition of the special needs of humanitarian entrants with limited education or difficult pre-migration experiences, such as torture and trauma, additional hours of tuition may be offered through the Special Preparatory Program (SPP). Bilingual support is provided in SPP classes where appropriate, such as during the initial weeks to assist with explaining teaching methodology and identifying learning and settlement issues.