

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(273) Output: 3.1 Whole-of-government coordination of policy development and service delivery for Indigenous Australians

Senator Evans asked:

Are there options for communities to negotiate with other persons in ICC, OIPC or third parties?

Answer:

All Australian Government agencies with a presence in ICC offices have a role in building partnerships with Indigenous communities and organisations, based on shared responsibilities, committing to Indigenous participation, demonstrating willingness to engage with representatives and adopting flexible approaches.

Each ICC Manager plays the leadership role in the ICC's whole-of-government work, in particular in coordinating government investment in the regions and with communities; negotiating with Indigenous representatives; and managing overall ICC stakeholder relationships.

Communities are free to negotiate with other parties as they wish, including State/Territory government, NGOs or private sector organisations.