

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

Output 1.4

Question No. 35

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:

With reference to page 18 of the Annual Report regarding the transfer of the Trade Measures Review Secretariat from Corporate Services outcome to the Office of International Law:

- (a) Why the change?
- (b) Is there any practical effect on resourcing available or service provision as a result?

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

(a) As noted at page 73 of the Annual Report 2005-06 (Output 1.4), the Trade Measures Review Officer (TMRO) is central to the implementation of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Anti-dumping Agreement and Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. Given the role of the TMRO in the implementation of those international obligations, it was appropriate to move the function from the Corporate Services Group to the Office of International Law.

(b) No change has been made to the level of resourcing or service provision. The resources which had been allocated to the Corporate Services Group were transferred to the Office of International Law, which had given advice on the international obligations to the TMRO prior to the transfer.