

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 OCTOBER 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(28) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Fierravanti-Wells (L&CA 56) asked:

Which state departments are involved in the Pacific Islander worker pilot scheme?

Answer:

At this stage, the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) has held discussions with the Victorian Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, the New South Wales (NSW) Community Relations Commission and NSW Department of Commerce. The Commonwealth Minister for Employment Participation, the Hon. Brendan O'Connor MP, met and briefed all of the state and territory employment ministers on developments with the pilot program.

The Secretary of DEEWR has written to her State and Territory government counterparts seeking consultation on the pilot program in the states which might host the pilot.

State and Territory Premiers' and Chief Ministers' departments will be kept advised of the development of international intergovernmental arrangements through normal Commonwealth/State Standing Committee of Treaties consultation processes.