

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
CRIMTRAC

Question No. 112

Senator Fisher asked the following question at the hearing on 19 October 2009:

The CEO's welcome provides mention to the National Criminal Investigation DNA Database, in particular that a "*range of non-technical issues had stalled its full utilisation*" despite it being ready for use since 2001.

- a) What is the current operational status of the database,
- b) what are the non-technical issues alluded to, and
- c) have these been resolved?

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

- a) The current status of the National Criminal Investigations DNA Database (NCIDD) is that full inter jurisdictional participation was achieved in April 2009.
- b) The non technical issues relate to state and territory legislation, Ministerial Arrangements and Bilateral Agreements that were required to be put in place in order to allow full participation with NCIDD.
- c) The following table summarises the year in which jurisdictions commenced DNA profile matching.

Year	Jurisdictions
2005	Qld – WA Qld – NT
2006	WA – NT Qld – Cth
2007	Single Ministerial Agreement. All states except NSW.
2008	NSW – SA NSW – Qld
2009	Vic – NT NSW - NT

A single Ministerial Arrangement was signed at the MCPEMP meeting in New Zealand on 28 June 2007 by the ACT, Commonwealth, Northern Territory, South Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, Western Australia and CrimTrac, followed shortly by Victoria. As a result, all jurisdictions became involved in profile matching with other jurisdictions to varying degrees. NSW was not a party to this Ministerial Agreement and continued to sign individual agreements with jurisdictions.