

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

##### **(143) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Cash asked:

Which elements of duplication did DIAC identify in the processing system when reviewing potential improvements to processing times as recommended by the external reference group?

*Answer:*

In response to recommendations of the External Reference Group, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship aimed to reform the Subclass 457 Temporary Business (Long Stay) visa to make it more responsive to business needs while maintaining the integrity of the visa class. The nomination process and the requirement for qualifying visas for onshore applications were identified as possible elements of duplication or unnecessary administration in the processing system for visas. These issues were considered as part of the broader process of reform of the Subclass 457 visa.