

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(360) Program 5.1: AMEP / Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees**

Senator Cash asked:

The National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) was granted the sum of \$566,000.00 on 31 July 2009.

- (a) What were the measures of financial accountability and outcomes for the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters?
- (b) What did this grant cover and what were the outcomes of the spend.

*Answer:*

The National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters Ltd (trading as NAATI) is incorporated in Australia under the *Corporations Act 2001*. The company is owned jointly by the Commonwealth and state and territory governments (the Members) and is governed by a Board of Directors, who are appointed by the Members. NAATI's main business activities are providing accreditation and other credentialing services for translators and interpreters and related activities.

- (a) A Statement of Expectations (updated annually) is included in the Funding Agreement between NAATI and its Members and sets out the general direction and expectations from the Members to the NAATI Board. The NAATI Board responds with a Statement of Intent and provides regular reporting to Members which includes NAATI's progress against business performance indicators, NAATI's financial performance, maintenance and development of NAATI's organisational capability and identified priority areas for future reporting periods.
- (b) The payment was not a 'grant' but rather the Commonwealth's annual contribution provided to NAATI in accordance with the Funding Agreement between NAATI and its Members. The contribution is provided to NAATI to support the provision of an effective accreditation framework for translators and interpreters. In 2009-10, NAATI awarded a total of 1755 Accreditations, 75 Recognitions and 21 Language-Aide certifications for the period.