QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(94) Program 4.2: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Hanson-Young (L&CA 90) asked:

In relation to the Joint Standing Committee on Migration reports. There were three reports, and we are yet to hear any response from the government to those reports or the recommendations. It has been quite some time now – 12 months in relation to the most recent one and longer in relation to the other two. Is the government going to be responding to these reports? If so, when?

Answer.

The Joint Standing Committee on Migration reports cover a range of important and complex policy, legal and practical issues. The previous Government had been considering these reports closely and there had been extensive consultation across affected agencies, however Government responses were not able to be tabled before the previous parliament was prorogued.

Advice on the status of work to finalise the Government's responses to these reports will be included in the explanatory schedule on outstanding Government responses to committee recommendations due for tabling in November.