

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE13/0404) PROGRAMME – ACBPS

Senator Whish-Wilson (Written) asked:

What level of reimbursement did AFMA or the Australian government provide the French Government for surveillance carried out on the Australian government's behalf in the Southern Ocean?

Answer:

The Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of the French Republic on Cooperation in the Maritime Areas Adjacent to the French South and Antarctic Territories (TAAF), Heard Island and the McDonald Islands creates a framework for cooperation between Australia and France, including joint patrols and cooperative enforcement, to tackle illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activity within the Australian and French waters covered by the Treaty. Under the Treaty costs are borne by the party that is undertaking the patrol.