

Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2007

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question no: ID 01

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: Australia China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement (ACACA)

Programme - Persimmons

Hansard page: 14 (23/05/07)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—Their persimmon industry, not ours? Is that what you mean?

Mr Burns—I am not sure. To be honest, these notes sort of contradict themselves, so I had better check that one. The Chinese government has delayed the visit by Australians to China because they were not prepared for the visit.

Answer:

The Australian persimmon industry received funding under the Australia China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement programme to undertake a project visit to China.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question no: ID 02

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: Funding for live trade animal welfare projects for 2007-2008

Hansard page: 15 (23/05/07)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—How much money would you describe as allocated to the variety of projects in the animal welfare live trade area for the coming financial year?

Mr Burns—I could not give you an estimate off the top of my head for that one. We could take it on notice. There is not only work being done in this area coming out of these specific projects but there are other areas as well that I might not be familiar with, so it is best if we give you a consolidated number on that.

Answer:

\$1.72 million is available for the Live Animal Trade Programme for 2007-08.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question no: ID 03

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: Expenditure for visits to the Middle East

Hansard page: 16 (23/05/07)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—How much has been spent on visits by the chief veterinary officer and other staff to check the shipment of live animals to the Middle East and on the negotiations with a dozen or so countries? Is that that budget figure you were talking about?

Mr Burns—Most of those visits would come out of that budget, but we would have to break that down and give you the exact figures.

Answer:

With respect to the Live Animal Trade Programme, being discussed by Senator O'Brien, travel undertaken by the Consul-Agriculture (Middle East) to visit Middle East countries is expended from the departmental element of this programme. This expenditure was \$0.08 million for 2004-05, \$0.09 million for 2005-06 and \$0.07 million for 2006-07. Travel undertaken to the Middle East by other Departmental staff including the Chief Veterinary Officer is not funded from the Live Animal Trade Programme.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question no: ID 04

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: Capacity building in Eritrea

Hansard page: 16 (23/05/07)

Senator O'BRIEN asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—If you could, thanks. I know you have said that there are a number of problems with funding Eritrean programs, but do you know what the cost of the Eritrean facility is?

Mr Burns—I do not know that off the top of my head.

Senator O'BRIEN—Do you want to take that on notice?

Mr Burns—Yes.

Answer:

From 2004-05 to 2006-07 a total of \$0.64 million (ex GST) has been spent on several projects in Eritrea to increase its agricultural capacity and productivity.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question no: ID 05

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: Outcomes of the Live Animal Trade Program

Hansard page: 16 (23/05/07)

Senator O'BRIEN asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—The Keniry review recommendations led to the pledging of \$4 million over four years to assist animal welfare in around 10 Middle Eastern countries and the employment of a veterinary counsellor, Kiran Johar. What has been expenditure so far against that program?

Mr Burns—Again, I would take that one on notice.

Senator O'BRIEN—Could you detail the outcomes that have been achieved and how those have been monitored.

Answer:

For the financial years 2004 to 2007, \$1.79 million had been spent against the Live Animal Trade Programme and \$1.93 million for the position of Consul-Agriculture (Middle East).

Live Animal Trade Program projects have included the installation of 50 restraint boxes and the delivery of relevant training in the use of the boxes in Indonesia. Other projects have included:

- training in identifying and managing heat stress in sheep;
- facilitating improvements to government strategic planning;
- education and training in welfare, transportation, feedlot management and abattoir development in the Middle East;
- upgrades to the Amman Abattoir in Jordan; and
- improving animal welfare outcomes in Indonesian breeding centres though fostering a more commercial outlook.

Outcomes are monitored formally through reports as part of the project management process.

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Question no: ID 06

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: International Organisations

Hansard page: 20 (23/05/07)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—Is there a register kept somewhere within the department of the international organisations and contributions that are made to them?

Mr Burns—I would not call it a register, but management services I suspect would be able to extract all of those figures quite easily.

Senator O'BRIEN—Is that right, Dr O'Connell?

Dr Samson—We could pull that information together and get it to you if that would help.

Dr O'Connell—Yes, we could get that to you.

Answer:

DAFF Funding to International Organisations (2006/07)

| Division | International Organisation | Funding (\$'000s) |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| International | United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) | 8,559 |
| | FAO Regional Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA) | 14 |
| Food and Agriculture | International Sugar Organisation (ISO) | 184 |
| | International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV) | 96 |
| | International Grains Council (IGC) | 206 |
| | International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) | 96 |
| | | |
| PIAPH | World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) | 225 |
| | OECD Taskforce on Biocides (TFB) | 5 |
| | OECD Working Group on Pesticides (WGP) | 10 |
| Fisheries and Forestry | Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) | 120 |

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|--------------|--|--------|
| | Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) | 445 |
| | Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) | 53 |
| | Network on Aquaculture Centres in Asia Pacific (NACA) | 79 |
| | International Tropical Timber Organisation | 187 |
| | United Nations Forum on Forestry | 70 |
| | Asia Forest Partnership | 10 |
| | International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network | 137 |
| | Home for the Royal Institute of International Affairs | 68 |
| | Forum Fisheries Agency | 128 |
| | | |
| ABARE | GTAP Consortium, Purdue University | 18 |
| | Energy Modelling Forum, Stanford University | 25 |
| | | |
| Total | | 10,735 |

Notes

Chatham House (London) Home of the Royal Institute of International Affairs- Independent high-level panel to develop a model for improved governance by regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), commissioned by the governments of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom in partnership with IUCN and WWF International - \$0.068

International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network, hosted by the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of fisheries-related monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) activities through enhanced cooperation, coordination, information collection and exchange among national governments and institutions responsible for fisheries related MCS - \$0.137

Forum Fisheries Agency - Enhancing the Role and Effectiveness of the Pacific Island Forum Fisheries Agency and Forum Fisheries Agency-Member Marine Resources Agencies, to improve domestic and regional fisheries governance and management of highly migratory fish stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean - \$0.128

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Question no: ID 07

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: Funding for Consul-Agriculture (Middle East) position

Hansard page: 20 (23/05/07)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—How much a year is the total funding?

Mr Morris—The total funding for the technical cooperation was \$1 million a year. For Kiran Johar's position—I might need to take that on notice unless any of my colleagues has the amount—it was of the order of \$400,000 or \$500,000, but we will give you the exact amount when we can.

Answer:

The budget for the position of Consul-Agriculture (Middle East) was allocated \$0.87 million in 2004-05, \$0.83 million in 2005-06, \$0.78 million in 2006-07 and \$0.85 million in 2007-08.

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Question no: ID 08

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines for animal welfare

Hansard page: 23 (23/05/07)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Mr Morris—Under the World Organisation for Animal Health, they lay out a range of provisions in terms of the most appropriate means of handling sheep and transporting all animals—not just sheep. They involve ways of ensuring that there is available feed and water and that they are not mistreated. There is quite an extensive range of measures. We would be happy to provide a copy of the guidelines and standards if you would like to view them.

Senator O'BRIEN—Thank you. I accept that offer.

Answer:

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines for animal welfare is found in Section 3.7 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code 2006. The OIE guidelines for animal welfare address the transport of animals by land, sea and air, the slaughter of animals and the killing of animals for disease control purposes.

OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code – 2006, Section 3.7 Animal Welfare

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_titre_3.7.htm

Chapter 3.7.1 Introduction to the guidelines for animal welfare

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.1.htm

Chapter 3.7.2 Guidelines for the transport of animals by sea

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.2.htm

Chapter 3.7.3 Guidelines for the transport of animals by land

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.3.htm

Chapter 3.7.4 Guidelines for the transport of animals by air

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.4.htm

Chapter 3.7.5 Guidelines for the slaughter of animals

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.5.htm

Chapter 3.7.6 Guidelines for the killing of animals for disease control purposes

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.6.htm

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Question no: ID 09

Division/Agency: International Division

Topic: Egypt – live sheep export trade

Hansard page: 26 (23/05/07)

Senator O'BRIEN asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—Do we know how much the live sheep export trade to Egypt is worth to Australian farmers? You gave a number of sheep: 40,000, and 35,000 the year before.

Mr Morris—I think I have got raw numbers here, but not the actual values. We could probably find out for you on notice what the value of that trade is. As I mentioned earlier, it was 40,000 in 2006 and 35,000—

CHAIR—What those figures will not show, Mr Morris, is the value adding that having the secondary outlet of live export does to the box meat. It is a supply and demand situation, and if we lost that market the other market would get a big pain in the guts.

Mr Morris—Yes, that is right.

Senator O'BRIEN—Perhaps you can give us the figures for box meat as well, then.

Answer:

| Commodity | Volume ('000) | Value (\$million) |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Live sheep exports to Egypt | | |
| 2005 | 35 | 2.40 |
| 2006 | 40 | 2.74 |
| | | |
| Chilled and frozen sheep meat exports to Egypt | Quantity (tonnes) | Value (\$million) |
| Lamb | | |
| 2005 | 46 | 0.32 |
| 2006 | 134 | 1.09 |
| | | |
| Mutton | | |
| 2005 | 814 | 2.26 |
| 2006 | 1,055 | 2.94 |

The reported market value of sheep meat and live sheep exports to Egypt in 2005 and 2006 (source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, June 2007).