

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, REPRESENTATION

940. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Public Sector Management

I refer to the media release of 22 August 2001 entitled 'More opportunity for indigenous people in the Public Service' and ask -

- (a) will the Minister outline the strategies to be used for increasing representation of indigenous people at the senior level;
- (b) what classification is determined as senior level;
- (c) what are the new Government initiatives;
- (d) what targets have been set for each Government agency to establish increased representation of indigenous people at the senior level; and
- (e) will this strategy include the appointment of an indigenous person to the Director General position at the Indigenous Affairs Department?

Dr GALLOP replied:

- (a) A Strategic Employment Group is being convened by the Director General of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Director, Equal Opportunity in Public Employment. It comprises relevant Chief Executive Officers representing Disabilities Services Commission, Department of Training, Department of Indigenous Affairs, Office of Multicultural Interests and the Department of Community Development. It has been established to revise the current Diversity Improvement Plan (DIP) document and produce a new 'Equity and Diversity Plan' which will formulate the Government's strategies.
- (b) Senior level classification will vary from agency to agency having regard to the organisational structure and the decision making responsibilities of the position.
- (c) See 1 above
- (d) Whole of Government targets will be recommended by the Strategic Employment Group and set in the new 'Equity and Diversity Plan'.
- (e) Decisions relating to the Director General's appointment at the Department of Indigenous Affairs have yet to be made.