

CONSULTANTS, TABLING OF REPORTS

309. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Premier

I refer the Premier to his refusal, and the refusals of his Ministers, to provide details on consultants engaged by the Government during the month of March 2005 and ask -

- (a) why is it that the Government has failed to table a report on consultants engaged by the Government since the last report was tabled on 10 March 2004;
- (b) when will the Government table the report on consultants engaged by the Government for the six months to 30 June 2004;
- (c) when will the Government table the report on consultants engaged by the Government for the six months to 31 December 2004;
- (d) what time frame is considered to be reporting on a 'regular basis'; and
- (e) will the Premier give an undertaking that all future reports on consultants engaged by the Government will be tabled within six months of the relevant reporting period?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

- (a)-(e) The Report on Consultants engaged by Government for the period to 31 December 2003 was tabled on 17 May 2005.

Currently, Circular to Ministers 45/94 which provides the framework for the collation of this information is under review. This review was delayed until the finalisation of the Auditor General's May 2005 Public Sector Performance Report that dealt in part with the use of Consultants. The Auditor General's recommendations in that report are being taken into consideration as part of the review.

The next report on Consultants engaged by Government is anticipated to be tabled in Parliament in the next month.