

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

The committee met on Monday, 27 May 2013 from 9.00 am to 11.00 pm.

The committee called the:

- department and agencies of the Immigration and Citizenship Portfolio, including the Migration Review Tribunal (MRT), the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) and the Office of Migration Agents Registration Authority (MARA).

Among other issues, the following matters were discussed:

- the caseload of the MRT and the RRT, including the overturn rate for reviews, as well as the tribunals' funding and staffing levels
- complaints to the Office of MARA relating to standards of professional conduct for migration agents
- the breakdown of irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) and non-IMAs in the detention centre network, including minors
- the increase in the humanitarian intake of 20 000 people as part of a suite of recommendations by the expert panel
- the country of origin of various asylum seekers and the success rates of their applications
- the agreements between the Australian Government and its overseas counterparts in the establishment and management of offshore detention facilities in Nauru and Manus Island, Papua New Guinea.