

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/119) - Resettlement options - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

Has DIBP been involved in any discussion with the Minister or other Departments regarding possible resettlement countries for refugees in RPCs?

Since the last estimates, has the Minister or DIBP had any discussions with the UNHCR in relation to finding third country resettlement options for the refugees in RPCs?

What role will the UNHCR play in resettling people on Manus and Nauru?

Answer:

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) is working closely with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to assist the Governments of Nauru and Papua New Guinea (PNG) to find appropriate resettlement options for people found to be owed protection. DIBP also engages with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and other agencies on this issue as appropriate. DIBP provides regular updates to the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Peter Dutton MP, on third country resettlement matters.

Since the last Senate Estimates in May 2016, DIBP has engaged regularly with UNHCR on resettlement of refugees whose status has been determined by Nauru and PNG, including directly and through the Joint Advisory Committee for Regional Processing Arrangements in Nauru.