

## Australian Government Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Ms Julie Dennett Secretary Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Dennett

## Clarification of evidence provided on 21 May 2012

I am writing to clarify the statistics I provided in relation to DNA testing during the Department of Immigration and Citizenship's appearance before the Committee as part of Budget Estimates on 22 May 2012.

On page L&C 45 of the Hansard transcript of the hearing, I am quoted as stating:

I have just got some information from the people responsible for the program. We do have some information on the total DNA testing from 1 July 2011 to 31 March 2012, for Afghanistan only. We had 156 cases in Dubai and 34 cases in Bangkok. Some of those in Bangkok may be Pakistani or Afghan nationals. We do not have stats available for pre 1 July 2011.

This response was provided in relation to a discussion about processing of the Afghan and Pakistani caseloads, which are now largely processed in Dubai and Adelaide.

I would like to clarify the statistics I provided in relation to cases where the Department has requested that clients undergo DNA testing to confirm a familial relationship.

The department manually collects statistics in relation to DNA testing. I regret that the statistics I provided on 22 May were incorrect, with some cases being counted more than once.

From 1 July 2011 to 31 March 2012 we requested DNA testing in support of 90 cases in Dubai, all of which involved Afghan nationals. During the same period, the Bangkok post requested DNA testing for 22 cases. Further examination has revealed that none of these cases involved Afghan or Pakistani nationals.

Please let me know if you require further information.

Yours sincerely

Kruno Kukoc First Assistant Secretary Migration and Visa Policy Division Department of Immigration and Citizenship

