



Coalition for Asylum Seekers Refugees and Detainees

Senator Marshall
Chairperson
Joint Select committee on Christmas Island Tragedy

13 May 2011

Email to: Danielle.Oldfield@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Marshall,

Christmas Island Tragedy

CARAD made a short submission to illustrate some of the issues that arose for individuals following the shipwreck at Christmas Island. It is hoped that this short addition can be accepted as an addition.

In the same vein it was disturbing to read in the West Australian and in The Australian of May 10th that the survivors and families of the people who died in the wreck were given less than two weeks notice to respond to requests for the forthcoming Coronial Inquest.

This is likely to put people at a great disadvantage especially as in WA the letter in English was sent from the Police Service. Further it can be claimed that most if not all of the people concerned would have no experience of the purposes, conduct and functions of a Coronial Inquiry.

The solicitor representing people in WA is reported as having said she and her team of two continue to seek money so as to represent their clients.

These stories add to our concerns that the 'after incident support' given to survivors and the content of information provided continue to leave much to be desired.

Yours sincerely,

Rosemary Hudson Miller
Chairperson
CARAD