

Closing Statement - Salvation Army

Additionally, it was our intention to make some brief closing remarks before adjourning today but we did not get the opportunity to do so. I would be grateful if the Chair could note on the record and for publication the following final statement on behalf of The Salvation Army:

Despite the challenging environment of the OPC's, The Salvation Army's focus was always on providing the very best care and support for the asylum seekers - care for the vulnerable and those in need, being central to the DNA of our organisation. We regularly received positive feedback from the asylum seekers regarding the difference we made to their lives and we regret that we do not have the opportunity to continue to do so.

The Salvation Army is deeply disappointed that its contract to provide humanitarian and welfare services on Manus Island and Nauru was not continued but our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the asylum seekers and above all with the family of Mr Reza Barati.