

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 February 2015**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(AE15/062) - Cambodia Agreement - Operation Sovereign Borders**

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 101) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes, just the basic communication to people about the Cambodia deal.

Lt Gen. Campbell: We will have to take it on notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: So you are not aware of any official communication?

Lt Gen. Campbell: No, what I am saying is that we will have to take on notice what the form of communication is, because I am sure that the transferees and refugees on Nauru are aware of those three points: there is an arrangement; more detail will follow; it is voluntary.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: But is that because we have given them that information or is that a brief that you have given your officers at the detention centre? Do you see the point I am trying make? Often when there is information that comes from the department to a group in detention, there is either a decision made as to, 'This is the piece of paper that explains the situation for the individual,' or officers are given an understanding of the brief of information that is to be conveyed.

Lt Gen. Campbell: I understand what you mean. We will have to take it on notice.

*Answer:*

A communication guide on the Cambodia settlement option has been provided to Department of Immigration and Border Protection staff and service providers in Nauru. The guide assists staff and service providers to convey information verbally to refugees and includes the following messages:

- settlement in Cambodia is voluntary,
- refugees will not be forced to go to Cambodia,
- the timeframe for settlement is not yet known, and
- refugees will be advised when more information is available.