

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 27 February 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(AE17/220) - Regional Cooperation - Other countries for resettlement -
Programme 1.6: Regional Cooperation**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

Has the Department been involved in any discussions with the Minister or other Departments regarding possible resettlement countries for refugees in RPCs and what is the status of those negotiations?

Answer:

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection works 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 in need of international protection. The Department also engages with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and other agencies on this issue as appropriate. The Department provides regular updates to the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection on regional processing matters, including third country resettlement.

It is not appropriate to disclose details of confidential discussions with other governments as it would disclose information captured by the public interest immunity claim made by the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection on 7 January 2017.