

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 27 February 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(AE17/223) - Regional Cooperation - Offer from New Zealand - Programme 1.6:
Regional Cooperation**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

Please provide an outline of the offer the Department received from the Government of New Zealand to take refugees from Manus Island and Nauru. Please explain why the offer was not accepted.

Answer:

Former Prime Minister Gillard and former New Zealand Prime Minister Key made a joint announcement on enhanced cooperation to address illegal migration on 9 February 2013. The arrangement included the Government of New Zealand offering to annually resettle 150 refugees who arrived illegally in Australia by boat.

The Australian Government is committed to cooperating with our regional partners to resolve the shared challenges of people smuggling and irregular migration. The Australian Government remains committed to taking deliberate action in response to people smuggling threats and will not undertake activities that could be used by people smugglers as marketing opportunities.