

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/231) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What is the role of the DIBP in “on-water operations”?

What advice has DIBP given to the Minister/Assistant Minister regarding the use of the term “on-water operation?”

What is DIBPs understanding of the definition of an “on-water operation?”

Did the Department receive a Ministerial directive as to what constitutes an “on-water operation”?

Answer:

The terms on-water matters and on-water operations have often been used interchangeably.

On-water operations are conducted by the Australian Defence Force and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service.

No specific advice has been provided to the Minister or Assistant Minister regarding the use of this term.

The understanding of on-water matters is consistent across the portfolio, the definition of which has been tabled in previous question on notice SE13/0256.

No ministerial directive has been received regarding what constitutes an on-water operation.