

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/375) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Senator Conroy (Written) asked:

I noted in your response to Question on Notice 313 that you declined to provide a detailed map of the Indonesian Maritime borders near Ashmore Reef and Christmas Island, but rather referred me to treaties on the UN website.

Are you in possession of maps that show where Indonesia's baseline and territorial waters are?

- a. Could you please provide me with photocopies, pictures or screen grabs of the maps that show where the Indonesia's maritime baseline, maritime border and exclusive economic zone are in the areas of Indonesia that are near Christmas Island and Ashmore Reef?
- b. Would you please provide me with copies of the maps that show the location of Indonesia's maritime baseline, maritime border and exclusive economic zone near Christmas Island and Ashmore Reef that are used:
 - a. in OSB headquarters;
 - b. on customs vessels; and
 - c. on Navy vessels.

Answer:

Yes.

(a) & (b) (i)(ii)(iii)

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) uses official nautical charts and publications provided by the Australian Hydrographic Service; who are the Commonwealth Government agency responsible for the publication and distribution of nautical charts and other information required for the safety of ships navigating in Australian waters.

Official charts provided by the Australian Hydrographic Service adhere to the standards of the International Hydrographic Organisation to meet Australia's obligations for safety and navigation at sea, and do not depict foreign maritime boundaries.

The limit and proximity of the Indonesian archipelagic baseline is calculated and plotted as a navigational procedure using the publically available information lodged at the United Nations as required under the provisions of the United National Conventions on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The authority for Indonesia's boundaries is the Badan Informasi Geospasial.

Since the inadvertent incursions, operational charts generated by the Royal Australian Navy's (RAN) Hydrography, Meteorology and Oceanography Branch now display Indonesia's maritime boundaries. These charts are purpose designed products that support specified operations, and are on RAN and ACBPS vessels. These operational charts are used for operational activity and are not releasable. To preserve operational security, copies will not be provided.

There are no maps or charts in Operation Sovereign Borders Joint Agency Task Force headquarters that show the location of Indonesia's maritime baseline, maritime border and Exclusive Economic Zone.