

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/605) PROGRAMME – 3.5 and 3.6: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA) Offshore Management

Senator Xenophon (Written) asked:

1. The MoU between PNG and Australia establishing the regional resettlement agreement is due for renewal in July.
What stage are negotiations at for a renewed or new MoU?
2. Will the next MoU include resettlement provisions?
3. Is the department working to ensure human rights protections (transparency, review of detention, adequate security, privacy) are built into the next iteration of the MoU?
4. How will Australia ensure human rights obligations are met in the new MoU?

Answer:

The Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea and the Government of Australia, Relating to the Transfer to, and Assessment and Settlement of Persons in, Papua New Guinea of Certain Persons, and Related Issues was signed on 6 August 2013 and does not have an end date.