

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 25 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/036) - Engagement from European Agencies - OSB - Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Reynolds, Linda (L&CA 80) asked:

Senator REYNOLDS: This might be a question for either you or the secretary, but have you had any requests or an engagement from any European agencies or authorities in relation to Operation Sovereign Borders?

Mr Pezzullo: Yes. It is fair to say, particularly in the last month or so as the situation in the Mediterranean has deteriorated, there have been individual bilateral requests to our missions, our high commissions and our ambassadors and their staff. I know personally, because I was involved recently—I would have to get the date for you—when we hosted intergovernmental consultations pertaining to asylum-seeking refugees and migration. That was not just with the EU. There were a number of EU nations but there were other non-EU nations represented on that body, which is a multilateral body of like-minded nations.

Answer:

30 April 2015.