

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(97) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash asked:

Provide details of cases who have taken advantage of a reintegration package?

Answer:

During the period from September 2010 to 15 April 2011, 41 Individual Reintegration Assistance (IRA) packages have been approved for irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs).

IRA packages comprise in-kind and cash assistance up to a total maximum of USD 4000 for individuals returning to Afghanistan and Iraq, and USD 3300 for individuals returning to other countries. The majority of assistance is in-kind assistance; any cash component included does not exceed USD 550.

Due to privacy reasons we are unable to provide examples of specific cases. IRA packages are created in consultation with the individual and are based on their previous work experiences and preferences. Examples of IRA packages have comprised job placement support, vocational training and small business start-up.