

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0006) Program: Internal Product

Senator Cash asked:

Can you confirm that in the last 2 ½ months there has been a cost increase of more than \$559 million?

Answer:

The Mid Year Economic Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) reflected an increase of \$633.193 million for program 4.3 for the care and management of Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs). This amount was inclusive of the savings achieved under Program 4.3 which resulted from the cessation of offshore processing arrangements, but did not include the additional savings within DIAC and across the Whole of Government as a consequence of not proceeding with Malaysia. This amounted to \$401.121 million over four years.

Therefore, of the increase of \$818.329 million shown in PAES, only \$219.908 million is in respect of adjustments made since MYEFO in November 2011.