

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/101) PROGRAMME - 2.1 Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Ian MacDonald asked:

Minister, do you or the department have or can you get me on notice the number of refugees around the world assessed by the UNHCR to be genuine refugees who are eligible for Australia's intake program? Do we have that figure? I often use a figure of 10½ million, but I read it somewhere or the Refugee Council told me once. I am just wondering what figures you have.

Answer:

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' (UNHCR) Global Resettlement Needs 2014, some 690 900 refugees are in need of resettlement. UNHCR plans to refer some 94 000 refugees for resettlement across all resettlement countries in 2014.

The 10.5 million figure refers to UNHCR's estimate of the global refugee population. Not all refugees are in need of resettlement in a third country.