

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/205) PROGRAMME – 4.5: Regional Cooperation and Associated Activities

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Has the Department received advice regarding the OPC in light of the current legal situation in the country?

If so, what was the contents of that advice?

Who provided that advice?

Answer:

Between 7 September 2013 and 25 February 2014 the department has received various legal advices on offshore processing arrangements from the Australian Government Solicitor. During this period the department has also received advice on Nauruan law from the Republic of Nauru's Department of Justice and Border Control in relation to offshore processing arrangements.

The department is not able to provide the detail on the content of these opinions as to do so would be likely to disclose material that could be the subject of a claim for legal professional privilege.