

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/278) PROGRAMME – 2.1: Refugee and humanitarian assistance

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Does the Department still anticipate the (Humanitarian) program will be around 13,750 places this financial year?

Are there any plans to expand, increase or decrease?

What is that 13750 made up of?

How many of these 13750 places are reserved for complementary protection? How many asylum seekers have, so far, satisfied the complementary protection criteria and have been awarded a protection visa?

How many asylum seekers have, so far, satisfied the complementary protection criteria but have not yet been awarded a protection visa?

Can you please give a breakdown of the 13,750 places available?

How many places will be given to onshore asylum seekers who did not arrive by boat?

How many from overseas refugee camps? Which ones?

How many from refugee camps in the region? Which ones?

Answer:

The planning level for the 2013–14 Humanitarian Programme is 13 750 places.

No.

The 2013–14 Humanitarian Programme comprises a minimum of 11 000 places for the offshore component, with the balance of 2 750 places for the onshore component.

No places under the onshore component of the Humanitarian Programme are specifically reserved for complementary protection claims.

Since the introduction of complementary protection (CP) arrangements on 24 March 2012, a total of 147 persons have been found to meet CP criteria. This includes 109 cases remitted to the department by the Refugee Review Tribunal on the basis that they met CP criteria.

Of these, 86 have been granted a visa as at 28 February 2014.

The 11 000 place offshore component planning level contains 6 500 places for the Refugee category and 4500 places for the Special Humanitarian Programme (SHP) with the balance (2750) for the onshore component.

Under current planning levels, 2 750 places are allocated to the onshore component of the Humanitarian Programme. There is no specific allocation of places according to mode of arrival.

There are no specific allocations for refugee populations in refugee camps overseas. Notwithstanding, those who will be granted Humanitarian Programme visas in 2013–14 may be located in refugee camps in Africa (such as Dadaab and Kakuma camps in Kenya), the Middle East (such as camps in Iran) and Asia regions (such as camps on the Thai-Burma border and in Nepal).