

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 25 February 2014

#### IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

#### (AE14/283) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What is the breakdown of the \$19.9 million to be spent over the next four years in regards to community engagement and communications activities?

Has this program commenced?

If so, what activities have been undertaken thus far?

How much have they cost?

If not, when will it commence?

What existing community engagement activities in Indonesia will be expanded and enhanced?

How much of the \$19.9 million will be spent on this expansion and enhancement?

What existing anti-people smuggling communications campaigns will be enhanced?

How much of the \$19.9 million will be spent on this enhancement?

*Answer:*

The breakdown of this funding is:

- \$12 million to anti-people smuggling strategic communications campaign activities directed towards potential illegal immigrants (PIIs) in key source and transit countries until December 2014.
- \$3 million over three years to extend and enhance the existing Community Liaison Officer (CLO) program in Indonesia.
- \$5 million over three years to expand the public information campaign targeting crew in Indonesia.

The CLO program and public information campaign targeting crew are being delivered by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in Indonesia. Contract negotiations with IOM to extend and enhance the CLO program are expected to be finalised by April 2014. The public information campaign has been temporarily suspended for the period leading up to and immediately after the national and local legislative elections in Indonesia in April 2014.

Anti-people smuggling communication activities directed towards PIIs are currently being delivered in Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia, Afghanistan, India, Vietnam and Thailand across a range of communication channels including TV, radio, press, billboard, online, and community outreach via roadshows and leaflet distribution.

Since 1 January 2014, approximately \$1.3 million of the \$12 million has been spent on communications activities.

\$3 million over three years will be spent on the expansion and enhancement of the CLO program in Indonesia. The expanded program will provide access to more officers with a greater scope of languages in more locations across Indonesia. These officers will have the necessary experience, language and interpersonal skills to develop and deliver migration-related messaging to PIIs.

\$12 million will be spent on anti-people smuggling communication activities directed towards PIs in key source and transit countries to December 2014. The focus for 2014 continues on implementing communication activity in key source countries (Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Vietnam and Sri Lanka) with existing providers while extending activities to other key countries including Malaysia, Thailand, Iraq, Bangladesh, India, Lebanon, Burma, Somalia and Sudan.