

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/287) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Is there a Memorandum of Understanding between the Australian and Malaysian Governments?

If so, what are the details of that MoU?

Where can we find a copy of the MoU?

If not, will there be a MoU?

When will formal discussions take place?

Answer:

On 12 July 2011, Australia and Malaysia – represented by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS, Border Protection Command) and the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) respectively – signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on *Cooperation and Assistance Relating to Civil Maritime Law Enforcement Operations*.

This MoU is a framework document encouraging cooperation in the areas of sharing and exchange of information, human resource development, research and development and other areas of cooperation in relation to civil maritime law enforcement operations. A copy of the MoU is held by ACBPS.

Customs input [received 05/05 1544hrs from Brendan Hill]:

ACBPS input into this Portfolio QON is as follows:

1. Yes.
2. Australia and Malaysia – represented by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS, Border Protection Command) and the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) respectively – signed an MoU on *Cooperation and Assistance Relating to Civil Maritime Law Enforcement Operations* on 12 July 2011. This MoU is a framework document encouraging cooperation in the areas of sharing and exchange of information, human resource development, research and development and other areas of cooperation in relation to civil maritime law enforcement operations.
3. A copy of the MoU is held by ACBPS.
4. A further MoU is currently being negotiated between ACBPS and Royal Malaysian Customs on cooperation and mutual assistance in Customs matters.
5. See response to previous question.