

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(137) Output 1.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Entry and Stay

Senator Nettle (L&C 23) asked:

Has the 2005 Memorandum of Understanding with PNG been specifically utilised so far?

Answer:

The 2005 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the *Care, Protection and Voluntary Return of Certain Irregular Migrants from PNG*, which relates to irregular immigrants with no legal right to remain in PNG who might attempt to unlawfully enter Australia, has not yet been utilised in any specific case. The question of the re-admission of persons to PNG from Australia falls under the terms of the 2003 MOU on *Mutual Cooperation on Migration, Refugees, Irregular Migration and People Smuggling*.