

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE11/0213) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance**

Senator Cash asked:

Is the department negotiating any new return agreements to countries for failed asylum seekers?

*Answer:*

No new formal return agreements are expected to be finalised in the near future. The Department cannot comment on current or future diplomatic negotiations.