

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21-22 MAY 2012

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(BE12/0180) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Cash (L&CA 46) asked:

Of the 156 cases in Dubai and the 34 cases in Bangkok, in how many cases was a family relationship proven and in how many cases was it not proven?

*Answer:*

DNA testing is the analysis of DNA especially for identification purposes.

From 1 July 2011 to 30 March 2012, Dubai and Bangkok requested DNA testing in support of 90 and 22 cases respectively.

#### Dubai

2 cases where DNA testing results did not support a family relationship

2 cases where results were inconclusive\*

11 cases where testing was refused or not undertaken

11 cases where results were mixed and include supported family relationships, not supported family relationships and testing refused or not undertaken\*

24 cases where DNA testing supported a family relationship

40 cases where testing had not yet been accepted or undertaken or where no result has been received

90 TOTAL

#### Bangkok

15 cases where DNA testing supported a family relationship

4 cases withdrawn after DNA testing was requested

3 cases where testing has not yet been undertaken.

22 TOTAL

\*Note:

Testing for a familial relationship involves comparing the DNA of two or more persons. As applications can include multiple claimed dependent family members, there will in some cases be mixed results where some family relationships are supported and others are not.

DNA testing provides a probability that a familial relationship exists. DNA testing is most reliable for close family relationships such as parent-child relationships. It may also be used to confirm a likely sibling relationship. However, DNA analysis to establish extended family relationships (such as grand-parent – grand-child, aunt/uncle – niece/nephew or half-siblings) may not be conclusive.