

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(169) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Ludwig asked:

On how many occasions has the Department requested the IDCU in Afghanistan to verify the identity of a person?

Answer:

The Department has not requested the IDCU, either directly or through the Afghan Embassy, to initiate the verification of the identity of a person.

The Department may request the Afghan Embassy to issue a travel document for persons the Department believes to be Afghan. The Afghan Embassy may choose to consult the IDCU when considering such a request. This is at the discretion of the Afghan Embassy.

A person, including refugee claimants if they choose, can request the Afghan Embassy to undertake an identity investigation.

The Afghan Embassy advises that, since February 2004, it has received 106 requests from adult Afghan nationals for identity investigations to support their claims of Afghan nationality.