

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(129) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Abetz asked:

- (1) With which countries does Australia have “return agreements”?
- (2) With whom are we currently negotiating agreements?

Answer:

- (1) Minister for Immigration and Citizenship Chris Bowen MP recently signed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on behalf of the Australian Government with Afghan minister Jamaher Anwary and United Nations Commissioner for Refugees regional representative Richard Towle. This MoU supersedes existing MoUs Australia has with Afghanistan. MoUs also exist with Iran (2003) and with Vietnam on criminal deportations (2001).
- (2) Please refer to the response to question 239 for the answer.