

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(50) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash (L&CA 54) asked:

In relation to the refugee status assessments (RSA) undertaken for the 17 individuals at the Romanian transit facility, when was the last RSA actually undertaken?

Answer:

All of this group were assessed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and mandated as refugees. Most of the refugee assessments were completed between November to December 2009, three were completed earlier in 2009 and one in 2008. As recently as 8 October 2010, the UNHCR has advised they continue to regard all 17 persons as refugees in need of settlement.