

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(52) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash (L&CA 55) asked:

In relation to the 17 individuals at the Romanian transit centre, provide the reasons for visa refusal by the US and Canadian authorities.

Answer:

The 17 refugees were declined resettlement in the United States (6) and Canada (11) because they did not meet the visa criteria applicable to those countries.

The reasons for refusal are a matter for the immigration authorities of the United States and Canada, and the department has not been, and would not expect to be, formally informed of details of decisions made under their legislation.