SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS COMMONWEALTH DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

Question No. 29

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2011:

Senator HUMPHRIES: Has anybody in those last three years been given the maximum penalty, which I understand is 20 years imprisonment for involvement in people smuggling?
Mr Colvin: No, no-one has received the maximum penalty.
Senator HUMPHRIES: Do you know what maximum penalty has been imposed by the courts?
Mr Colvin: No, I would have to take that on notice.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The maximum penalty imposed by the courts for a people smuggling offence is 8 years imprisonment with a minimum term of 5 years.

* This question was directed to the AFP at the hearing. It was subsequently referred to the CDPP by the AFP.