

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### (SE12/0281) PROGRAM – 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Refugee and Humanitarian assistance: How many Christians from the Middle East have been granted a humanitarian or refugee visa in 2011-12? Where were they from? How many have been granted visas out of Syria and Jordan? What about Iraq? What are the planned numbers in 2012-13?

*Answer:*

During the 2011-12 program year, 867 Christians who were born in the Middle East were granted a humanitarian or refugee visa. Table 1 provides a breakdown of visas that were granted by Post and country of birth.

**Table 1: Christians from the Middle East who were granted a humanitarian or refugee visa by post and country of birth in 2011-12.**

Post	Country of Birth	Persons
Amman	Iraq	488
	Syria	1
Ankara	Iran	7
	Iraq	201
	Turkey	1
Bangkok	Iran	2
Beirut	Iraq	159
Berlin	Lebanon	1
Cairo	Iraq	1
	Saudi Arabia	1
Dubai	Afghanistan	1
	Pakistan	3
Jakarta	Afghanistan	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>867</b>

As in previous years the 2012–13 Program will also take account of UNHCR's global resettlement priorities. This includes Iraqi refugees from Syria, Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon

The government has announced 1000 additional places predominantly made up of refugees originally from Iraq caught up in the conflict in Syria.