



Select Committee on the recent allegations relating to conditions and circumstances at the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru

12 June 2015

Senator the Hon Stephen Parry
President of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr President

Pursuant to Senate standing order 38(7), I present to you an interim report of the Select Committee on the recent allegations relating to conditions and circumstances at the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru (the committee).

On 26 March 2015 the Senate resolved to establish the committee to inquire into and report by **15 June 2015** on the responsibilities of the Commonwealth Government in connection with the management and operation of the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru.

Conduct of inquiry

The committee advertised its inquiry on its website. The committee also wrote directly to the Commonwealth and other stakeholders, drawing attention to the inquiry and inviting written submissions. The committee has received 62 submissions and held two public hearings in Canberra on 19 May and 9 June 2015.

Reporting

In order to allow the committee sufficient time to consider the substantial volume of sensitive evidence that it has received and conduct further hearings for this inquiry, the committee has agreed to present this interim report to seek an extension of time to table its final report by **31 July 2015**.

Initial recommendation

The committee draws the attention of the Standing Committee on Public Works to Commonwealth expenditure on public works in the Republic of Nauru, not confined to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection but across the Commonwealth, and recommends that the Department of Immigration and Border Protection ensures that all future public works in the Republic of Nauru are referred to the Standing Committee on Public Works in accordance with the *Public Works Committee Act 1969* (Cth).

Yours sincerely

Senator Alex Gallacher

Chair