

**SECRETARY** 

EC23-003145

Senator the Hon Nita Green Committee Chair Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee PO Box 6100 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Chair,

I write to correct evidence I provided in making my Opening Statement to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee during the Budget Estimates hearing on 22 May 2023.

The reference for correction is on page 4 of the Hansard record:

... As at 31 March this year, there were around <u>557,000</u> on-hand visa applications, compared to approximately 960,000 at 30 June last year. To repeat that for the committee, as at 31 March, we had around <u>557,000</u> on-hand visa applications, compared with just under one million, that is to say 960,000, as at 30 June last year.

In making my opening statement, I misquoted the number of on-hand visa applications as at 31 March this year. As per the copy of my opening statement that was tabled with the Committee contemporaneously, I wish to correct my evidence to the following:

... As at 31 March this year, there were around <u>575,000</u> on-hand visa applications, compared to approximately 960,000 at 30 June last year. To repeat that for the committee, as at 31 March, we had around <u>575,000</u> on-hand visa applications, compared with just under one million, that is to say 960,000, as at 30 June last year.

I appreciate the opportunity to correct my evidence to the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Pezzullo AO Secretary

