Australian Government Department of Immigration and Citizenship

27 September 2011

Mr Tim Watling
Committee Secretary
Joint Select Committee on Australia's Immigration Detention Network
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Watling

Joint Select Committee on Australia's Immigration Detention Network

Thank you for your email dated 21 September 2011 that provided us with the proof Hansard transcript of evidence for the Committee's hearings at Christmas Island on 6 September 2011. As requested, we have considered this proof as well as the proof for the Curtin hearing on 7 September 2011. Please find attached marked hard copies where we found typographical and transcription errors.

In addition to the identified errors, we seek to correct the record with regards to evidence given to the Committee at the Christmas Island hearing. In the proof copy on page 44, the following question is attributed to Ms Mackin rather than to Mr Morrison, who was inquiring at the time:

Ms Mackin: What sanctions, if any, were applied to those who had participated but you would say that their participation did not constitute criminal behaviour but certainly was fairly serious disruptive behaviour? How many of those individuals were identified and what, if any, sanctions were applied to them?

Ms Mackin: I will have to take that on notice because it is very difficult if people are not charged with a criminal activity. We were able to identify people. There was a record put on their portal, for example, if they possibly participated but in terms of numbers and sanctions, I cannot—

Similarly, Ms Mackin has the following statement on page 40 attributed to her:

Ms Mackin: The clients have access to their case managers regularly. We also have a shopfront for case managers that operates every day, where clients can come and see their case managers, in the compounds that we went to yesterday. Clients are seen regularly at least every two or three weeks by their case managers. If there is a delay for an RSA outcome or an IMR interview date or an IMR outcome, then that is followed up with various sections in Canberra quite rigorously. But sometimes there might be a delay of an ASIO clearance—that might be a reason for delay—but each case is individual. Because each client has got a case manager, they are very rigorous about making sure that

people are not falling between the cracks. There are months and months without them knowing anything.

The final sentence of this statement has been incorrectly attributed to Ms Mackin and was not part of her original response. The department requests that the record of evidence be corrected accordingly.

Additionally, in the proof copy on pages 28 - 29, the following exchange was held:

Mr MORRISON: When the minister was on island—I think it was last October or November, but you can advise me—

Ms Mackin: I think it was just after he became minister.

Mr MORRISON: Were the reduced security arrangements at Aqua and Lilac, the lack of CCTV and the need to upgrade the fence brought to his attention during his visit here?

Ms Mackin: I was not here at the time, but I can only assume that he was fully briefed on everything. He was certainly shown, I know, the marquee accommodation that abutted the support unit, and he was also taken to see the Lilac and Aqua compounds.

Mr MORRISON: So he was aware of that lesser level of security.

Ms Mackin: He was.

Can the following correction be placed on the record: subsequent to the hearing, the department reviewed the briefing material and program for the Minister's visit to Christmas Island on 22 September 2010. The Minister's program and brief did not include a visit to the Lilac and Aqua compounds. The briefing material did not include briefing on security infrastructure.

Yours sincerely

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