

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE – LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
REFERENCES COMMITTEE**

**INQUIRY INTO AUSTRALIA'S AGREEMENT WITH MALAYSIA IN RELATION TO
ASYLUM SEEKERS: 23 SEPTEMBER 2011**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(QON 6)

Senator Cash (L&CA 37) asked:

In terms of the advice that was sought and provided by the Office of International Law (whether prior to the 7 May 2011 announcement or during ongoing negotiations) about ongoing negotiations on the Malaysian agreement, can you take on notice to provide to the committee (a) when each piece of advice was sought; and (b) when each piece of advice was given; and (c) who actually sought the advice?

Answer:

Advice and comments were sought and received from the Office of International Law on various drafts of the Arrangement as it developed. Liaison with the Office was undertaken through the department's Principal Advisor Border and Humanitarian Strategies, Chief Lawyer and Australian Government Solicitor Special Counsel.