

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON AUSTRALIA'S
IMMIGRATION DETENTION NETWORK**

Q71

Question:

What assistance does the government provide to the government of Afghanistan or NGOs or any other agency to ensure that failed asylum seekers are reintegrated into their communities? If so, what assistance is provided and at what cost? Does the government provide such assistance to any other country of origin of IMA's? If so what assistance is provided and at what cost?

Answer:

The department does not provide assistance to foreign governments to assist in the reintegration of failed asylum seekers. The department has contracted the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to provide Individual Reintegration Assistance (IRA) to irregular maritime arrivals of any nationality who have decided to return to their country of origin voluntarily.

The amount of funding given to IOM to administer the IRA program for the 2010-2011 financial year was USD 130,545.45.

The department is also engaging IOM to provide post arrival support for Afghan nationals returned involuntarily in line with our obligations under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Australia, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on Migration and Humanitarian Cooperation. The amount of funding that will be provided to IOM in Afghanistan to administer this program is still being finalised.