



Qualifying Comment

We would have preferred the Committee to have taken the next step by adopting the following Recommendation.

“The Committee recommends that the Government:

- a) move for the closure of detention centres in isolated areas over time;
and**
- b) ensure that alternative arrangements to detention be made for asylum seekers where detention is not necessary for security or other valid reasons. This would particularly apply to women, children and family units.”**

This would not have been inconsistent with the thrust of some key observations in the Report.

Senator Brian Harradine

Senator Vicki Bourne

