



Submission No 56

Inquiry into Australia's Relations with the Republic of Korea; and Developments on the Korean Peninsula

Organisation: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and
Indigenous Affairs

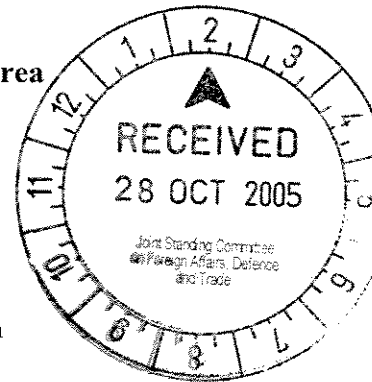
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**Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee**

Inquiry into Australia's Relationship with the Republic of Korea

Questions on Notice for DIMIA



1. How many ROK nationals are in immigration detention?

As at 26 August 2005, there were 9 persons identified as ROK nationals in immigration detention in Australia.

As at 26 August 2005, these South Korean nationals were located at the following Australian Immigration Detention Centres (IDCs):

Baxter IDC (South Australia)	1
Villawood IDC (Sydney)	8

2. The statistics show that business skills have doubled in 12 months. What are those business skills?

The number of visas granted to Korean citizens in the Business skills category of the Skilled stream increased from 264 in 2003-04 to 549 in 2004-05.

This can be broken down into the following visa subclasses:

Visa subclass	Visa grants 2003-04	Visa Grants 2004-05	% Change
127 Business Owner (Permanent) (abolished 01/03/03)	47	6	-87%
128 Senior Executive (Permanent) (abolished 01/03/03)	21	0	
129 State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Permanent) (abolished 01/03/03)	12	0	
130 State/Territory Sponsored Senior Executive (Permanent) (abolished 01/03/03)	3	0	
131 Investment Linked (Permanent) (abolished 01/03/03)	37	28	-24%
132 Sponsored Business Talent (Permanent)	26	17	-35%
160 Business Owner (Provisional)	0	0	

Visa subclass	Visa grants 2003-04	Visa Grants 2004-05	% Change
163 State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Provisional)	65	433	+566%
164 State/Territory Sponsored Senior Executive (Provisional)	0	5	
165 State/Territory Sponsored Investor (Provisional)	4	34	+750%
844 Onshore Investment Linked (Permanent) (abolished 01/03/03)	6	0	
845 Onshore Established Business in Australia (Permanent)	40	20	-50%
846 Sponsored Onshore Regional Established Business in Australia (Permanent)	0	0	
892 Onshore State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Permanent)	3	6	+100%
Total	264	549	+108%

3. Are there geographical requirements for visa subclasses within the business skills category?

Sponsoring States or Territories expect applicants to settle within their jurisdictions and generally view more favourably those sponsorship applications lodged by clients seeking to live in regional or low growth areas in particular. In most visa subclasses, however, there is no visa condition that requires applicants to live in nominated areas within jurisdictions.

Subclass 846 Sponsored Onshore Regional Established Business (Permanent) while not expressly requiring an applicant to live in a nominated area, requires visa applicants to be sponsored by a State or Territory government and have an ownership interest in one or more businesses in a designated area. A designated area is specified in a Gazette Notice.

Subclass 892 Onshore State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Permanent) visa applicants are required to obtain sponsorship from a State or Territory government. To be eligible for this visa the applicant must satisfy all conditions that related to their provisional visa. If the last substantive visa held by the applicant was a Skilled Independent Regional (Provisional) visa the applicant must, for a period of time, have lived and worked in a designated area. A designated area is specified in a Gazette Notice.

Sponsorship does not mean a State or Territory has legal responsibility for a visa applicant. It simply means that a State or Territory has agreed to support an applicant to settle in their jurisdiction.

4. What quality control, management and assessment arrangements are there within airport immigration processing to ensure that arriving passengers are treated appropriately.

Travellers arriving at Australian airports are processed at primary lines by Customs officers who carry out immigration processing on behalf of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA). The performance of this task is the subject of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Customs and DIMIA.

Customs officers must complete a DIMIA Passenger Clearance Course (PCC) on immigration processing before commencing work on the primary line. During the theoretical part of the course there are components dealing with client relations, including dealing with clients of a non-English speaking background. This is in addition to the cross-cultural awareness training undertaken by all trainees before commencing the PCC. The practical part of the course consists of an assessment of the trainees' performance in the primary processing situation. The DIMIA trainer assesses such things as the officer's dealings with clients and ability to correctly perform processing.

In addition, all Customs officers are involved in staff training in public relations and cultural awareness. In accordance with the MOU between Customs and DIMIA, Customs monitors individual primary officer performance within the agreed performance assessment and development scheme. If Customs becomes aware of issues of performance of individual officers, the officer concerned is required to undertake refresher training in client service skills. This is in addition to the ongoing program of client service workshops aimed at continual improvement in the area of public relations and cultural awareness.

Under the Customs/DIMIA MoU, any issues of concern regarding Customs carrying out of the immigration processing function can be raised at the local or national level, as appropriate. Customs and DIMIA airport managers have regular meetings in which issues of concern are discussed.

5. What is the breakdown of Independent/Skilled Independent visas granted to ROK nationals by occupation of applicant?

The following table shows the breakdown of Independent/Skilled Independent visas granted to ROK nationals by occupation of principal applicant.

Migration (Non Humanitarian) Program Outcome 2004-05	
Independent/Skilled Independent (subclasses 126, 136 and 880)	
Nationals of the Republic of Korea	
By Occupation of Applicants - Principal Applicants Only	
Occupation	Outcome
ACCOUNTANT	123
ADVERTISING SPECIALIST	1
AERONAUTICAL ENGINEER	2
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE ENGINEER (STRUCTURES)	1
AIRCRAFT PILOT	3
APPLICATIONS AND ANALYST PROGRAMMER	38
ARCHITECT	2
ART TEACHER (PRIVATE)	1
AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRICIAN	1
BUILDING AND ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS NEC	7
BUSINESS AND INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS NEC	1
CABINETMAKER	1
CAREERS COUNSELLOR	1
CHEF	5
CHEMICAL ENGINEER	5
CHIROPRACTOR	1
CIVIL ENGINEER	3
COMMUNICATIONS LINESPERSON	3
COMPUTING PROFESSIONALS	4
COOK	37
DENTAL TECHNICIAN	11
DENTIST	2
ECONOMIST	1
EDUCATION OFFICER	1
ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	1
ELECTRONICS ENGINEER	3
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGISTS NEC	1
FINANCE MANAGER	2
FLOOR FINISHER	1
GENERAL CLOTHING TRADESPERSON	3
GENERAL ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENT TRADESPERSON	1
GENERAL MANAGER	1
GRAPHIC DESIGNER	1
GRAPHIC PRE-PRESS TRADESPERSON	7
HAIRDRESSER	44
HISTORIAN	1
HOSPITAL PHARMACIST	2
HOTEL OR MOTEL MANAGER	2

Migration (Non Humanitarian) Program Outcome 2004-05	
Independent/Skilled Independent (subclasses 126, 136 and 880)	
Nationals of the Republic of Korea	
By Occupation of Applicants - Principal Applicants Only	
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER	4
INTERNAL AUDITOR	1
INTERPRETER	1
JEWELLER	5
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT	1
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT	1
MARKETING SPECIALIST	1
MATERIALS ENGINEER	2
MECHANICAL ENGINEER	3
MEDICAL SCIENTIST	3
METAL CASTING TRADESPERSON	1
MOTOR MECHANIC	5
MUSIC TEACHER (PRIVATE)	1
NATURAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE PROFESSIONALS NEC	1
OCCUPATION UNKNOWN	1
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICER	1
PASTRYCOOK	1
PATTERNMAKER-GRADER (CLOTHING)	2
PERSONNEL OFFICER	1
PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER	2
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT (FILM, TELEVISION OR RADIO)	1
PROJECT OR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	1
QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER	1
QUANTITY SURVEYOR	2
RADIATION THERAPIST	1
REFRIGERATION AND AIRCONDITIONING MECHANIC	1
REGISTERED NURSE	36
SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER	4
SOCIAL WORKER	3
SOFTWARE DESIGNER	2
SOLICITOR	8
SOUND TECHNICIAN	2
SURVEYOR	1
SYSTEMS DESIGNER	13
SYSTEMS MANAGER	30
SYSTEMS PROGRAMMER	162
TEXTILE, CLOTHING OR FOOTWEAR MECHANIC	1
TRADESPERSONS AND RELATED WORKERS NEC	14
TRANSLATOR	16
WALL AND FLOOR TILER	1

Migration (on Humanitarian) Program Outcome 2004-05	
Independent (Skilled Independent (subclasses 126, 136 and 880)	
Nationals of the Republic of Korea	
By Occupation of Applicants - Principal Applicants Only	
WELFARE WORKER	3
TOTAL	666

6. Provide a copy of the Migration Occupations in Demand List

A copy of the Migration Occupations in Demand List is attached.

7. Have persons who arrived on fraudulent ROK passports been granted protection visas?

DIMIA systems do not capture this information in a reportable format.

8. What is the total number of protection visa applications lodged since 1 July 1999?

DIMIA records as at 31 August 2005 indicate that some 45,800 initial protection visa applications were lodged in the period 1 July 1999 to 31 August 2005.

9. Provide information on ethnic Koreans entering embassies in Beijing to seek asylum.

No ethnic Koreans applied for refugee visas in the Australian Embassy in Beijing in 2004-05.

Other consular matters are the responsibility of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

10. What is the breakdown of compliance locations within the sex industry by nationality?

In 2004-05, 290 persons were confirmed working illegally in the sex industry. Of these, 68 were from Thailand, 63 were from the Peoples' Republic of China, 56 were from the Republic of Korea, 54 from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and 26 from Malaysia, with the remainder spread across a variety of nationalities.

11. What is the breakdown of Skilled Independent Regional visas granted to ROK nationals by occupation and state of intended residence?

The following table shows the breakdown of Skilled Independent Regional visas granted to ROK nationals by occupation and state of intended residence of the principal applicant.

Migration (Non Humanitarian) Program Outcome 2004-05						
SIR (subclass 495)						
Nationals of the Republic of Korea						
By Occupation and Intended Residence - Principal Applicants Only						
Occupation	NSW	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	Total
APPLICATIONS AND ANALYST PROGRAMMER		2	1			3
COOK	1		2			3
DENTAL TECHNICIAN			1			1
GRAPHIC DESIGNER			2			2
HOTEL OR MOTEL MANAGER			1			1
INTERIOR DESIGNER				1		1
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT				1		1
MATERIALS ENGINEER			1			1
SYSTEMS MANAGER			1			1
SYSTEMS PROGRAMMER					1	1
TRANSLATOR			1			1
Total	1	2	10	2	1	16

Follow up question – Your submission noted that the number of ROK nationals being refused immigration clearances to Australia is rising. Are there any particular reasons why this is happening?

While the number of ROK nationals refused immigration clearance at Australian airports has risen from 126 in 2003-04, to 158 in 2004-05, the proportion as a percentage of the total number of persons refused clearance at airports has decreased from 10.1% of the total refusals to 9.6%. This is despite a significant increase in air passenger arrivals in 2004-05 compared to 2003-04.

The most common reason for refusal is where a person's visa has been cancelled following an adverse bona-fides assessment. An example of this is where a person demonstrates an intention to act in breach of the conditions specified in their visa, such as an intention to work, or to remain in Australia beyond the validity of their visa.

MIGRATION OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND LIST (MODL)

The following is the current (as at May 2005) list of occupations in demand for migration purposes.

Professionals	ASCO code
Accountant	2211-11
Anaesthetist	2312-11
Civil Engineer	2124-11
Dentist	2381-11
Dermatologist	2312-13
Emergency Medicine Specialist	2312-15
General Medical Practitioner	2311-11
Hospital Pharmacist	2382-11
Medical Diagnostic Radiographer	2391-11
Nuclear Medicine Technologist	2391-15
Obstetrician and Gynaecologist	2312-17
Occupational Therapist	2383-11
Ophthalmologist	2312-19
Paediatrician	2312-21
Pathologist	2312-23
Physiotherapist	2385-11
Podiatrist	2388-11
Psychiatrist	2312-27
Radiation Therapist	2391-13
Radiologist	2312-29
Registered Mental Health Nurse	2325-11
Registered Midwife	2324-11
Registered Nurse	2323-11
Retail Pharmacist	2382-15
Specialist Medical Practitioners (not elsewhere classified)	2312-79

Specialist Physician	2312-25
Speech Pathologist	2386-11
Sonographer	2391-17
Surgeon	2312-31

Associate Professionals

ASCO Code

Chef (excluding Commis Chef)	3322-11(part)
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Trades Persons

ASCO codes

Automotive Electrician	4212-11
Bricklayer	4414-11
Cabinetmaker	4922-11
Carpenter and Joiner	4411-11
Cook	4513-11
Electrical Powerline Tradesperson	4313-11
Electrician (Special Class)	4311-13
Electronic Equipment Tradesperson	4315-11
Fibrous Plasterer	4412-11
Fitter	4112-11
Furniture Upholsterer	4942-11
General Electrician	4311-11
General Electronic Instrument-Tradesperson	4314-11
General Plumber	4431-11
Hairdresser	4931-11
Metal Fabricator (Boilermaker)	4122-11
Metal Machinist (First Class)	4112-13
Motor Mechanic	4211-11
Panel Beater	4213-11
Pastry Cook	4512-13

Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Mechanic	4312-11
Solid Plasterer	4415-11
Sheetmetal Worker (First Class)	4124-11
Toolmaker	4113-11
Vehicle Painter	4214-11
Welder (First Class)	4122-15