



SENATOR THE HON BOB CARR



MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
CANBERRA

The Hon John Murphy MP
Chair, Standing Committee on Petitions
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

5 APR 2013

Dear Mr Murphy

I refer to your letter of February 11, 2013, regarding a petition seeking assistance for an Australian citizen currently located within the Ecuadorian Embassy in London.

Under section 7 of the *Australian Passports Act 2005* (the Act), an Australian citizen is entitled, on application, to be issued with an Australian passport provided that they make an application in the approved form, pay the applicable fee and satisfy all other conditions for issue stated in the Act.

If the applicant in question has an adult Australian passport that was valid for at least two years when issued and it was issued to them after 1 July 2000 in their current name, date of birth and sex, they may lodge a renewal application (PC7 form) by post with the Australian High Commission in London. If the applicant's existing passport is still valid, he or she must surrender it to the High Commission for cancellation before a replacement passport can be issued.

The applicant may print a pre-filled renewal form from the Australian Passport Office website (www.passports.gov.au); or request a renewal form online and ask for it to be posted to them; or contact the High Commission directly (by telephone or in person) and request that a renewal form is posted to them.

However, if the applicant is lodging an application for the first-time or does not satisfy all other eligibility criteria for a passport renewal, they must lodge a full adult application (PC1 form) in person at the High Commission, by appointment only.

I trust that this information is of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Bob Carr