



# Immigration detention in Australia: A new beginning

The Joint Standing Committee on Migration will table its first report into immigration detention at **8:45pm tonight Monday 1 December** in the House of Representatives.

The report is the first of three inquiring into developing a new immigration detention system for the future. This report, *Immigration detention in Australia: A new beginning* addresses the first two terms of reference of the Committee's inquiry.

The report considers issues such as:

- criteria for detention
- time taken for health, identity and security checks,
- length of time spent in detention
- oversight and access to independent review,
- legislative change,
- removal procedures, and
- detention debts.

The report contains 18 recommendations. A dissenting report has been provided by three members of the Committee.

The Committee will release the second and third reports of its inquiry into immigration detention in 2009. These reports address the remaining terms of reference and issues such as infrastructure and service needs for those in different forms of detention, and community alternatives to detention.

Embargoed copies of the first report will be available to the parliamentary press gallery in pdf format from **Suite R1 106 at 3pm Monday 1 December**.

Copies of the report will be publicly available following tabling at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/reports.htm>

A media conference will be held by the Chair Michael Danby and Deputy Chair the Hon Danna Vale tomorrow, on **Tuesday 2 December at 11am in Committee Room 2S1**.

The conference will be broadcast on Channel 15 on the APH website at <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

**For media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair, Michael Danby MP, on (02) 6277 4520.

**For background information**, including the full terms of reference, please visit the inquiry website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/detention/index.htm> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4560 or [jscm@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscm@aph.gov.au).