

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/088) PROGRAMME – 2.1 and 2.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Singh (L&CA 58) asked:

Senator SINGH: Are we the second largest in numbers?

Mr Bowles: We are the third largest. We are always in the top three in settlement countries. The US, Canada and Australia are the top three—always have been and we continue to be to date.

Senator SINGH: At that 13,750 figure.

Mr Bowles: With that, it is largely about the offshore settlement issues. We were at 6,000 three years ago, and we are now at 11,000—we were slightly higher, but now we are at 11,000. So there have been a couple of ups and downs, but, as a settlement country, we are well and truly punching above our weight. On a per capita basis, we go between one and two by my recollection. The US is clearly the highest, but between Canada and us—

Senator SINGH: Could you take that on notice and provide the committee with some of those figures?

Mr Bowles: Absolutely. We can probably give them to you now.

Answer:

The *UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs 2015* reported that in 2013 Australia resettled the second highest proportion of people (11 117) and the second highest number of people per capita. This compares with the United States, which resettled 47 875, and Canada, which settled 5 140, during the same period.