

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/303) PROGRAMME – 2.1 and 2.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What are the details of Australia's working relationship with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM)?

How does the IOM assist with voluntary repatriations?

What else does the IOM assist the Governments of Australia, PNG and Nauru with?

Answer:

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is a key service partner in developing, facilitating and implementing Australia's migration programmes. This includes assisted voluntary returns programmes for illegal maritime arrivals and non-illegal maritime arrivals; assisted passage, medical and related services for Australian Government-funded refugee and special humanitarian programme entrants; research projects and information on international migration flows and trends; engagement in multilateral fora on migration issues and managed migration strategies; and capacity building and population stabilisation operations in the Asia Pacific and Middle East.

IOM works in partnership with the Australian Government to provide returns services to those non-citizens who want to voluntarily return from Australia but require assistance to do so.

IOM also plays a significant role in supporting countries to develop capacity in managed migration.

IOM's role in relation to assistance to the Governments of PNG and Nauru is a matter for those governments.