

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/348) PROGRAMME – 1.2: Visa and Citizenship

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

When did the work start the Greece-Australia MOU on working holidaymakers?

a. When was the bulk of the work undertaken?

Answer:

Australia invited Greece to commence negotiations for a reciprocal Work and Holiday visa arrangement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in August 2012. The bulk of the work to negotiate and reach agreement on the MOU was undertaken between August 2012 and June 2014.

The MOU establishing a capped and fully reciprocal Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa arrangement between Australia and Greece was signed on 14 May 2014. Implementation of the programme is expected to take place in the coming months subject to notification from Greece that the necessary administrative measures are in place for the visa programme to commence.