

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION

Question No. 139

Senator Nettle asked the following question at the hearing on 13 February 2007:

- a) Has ASIO had any consultation with any agency of the government in the country that has accepted Mohamed Sagar who is detained on Nauru?
- b) Why was Mohammed Faisal's security assessment changed?
- c) Was Mohammed Faisal's adverse security assessment changed because of new information? If so, what type of information was this change based on?
- d) Was Mohammed Faisal's security assessment based upon information that turned out to be false or unreliable?
- e) Did a federal government agency or the Minister request a review of Mohammed Faisal's security assessment? If so, on what date?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- a) Security assessments are made by relevant security agencies of countries operating within their own legislative/regulatory/policy frameworks.

It would be inappropriate to comment further on the specifics of Mr Mohammed Sagar's case or the considerations that any other government may take into account in making settlement decisions.
- b) It is not appropriate for ASIO to provide public comment on the details of individual cases in which a security assessment may be undertaken.
- c) The new assessment was based on current information, circumstances and factors relevant to the issue of whether an applicant poses a risk to Australia's security.
- d) The second assessment is not a recanting of the previous assessment but rather a new assessment based on current information, circumstances and factors relevant to the issue of whether an applicant poses a risk to Australia's security.
- e) No.

Mr Mohammad Faisal al Delimi was transferred to Australia from Nauru in August 2006 and made a new application to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship for a protection visa after his arrival onshore.

As part of standard process, this application triggered a request for a new ASIO security assessment of Mr Mohammad Faisal al Delimi.