QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(114) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash asked:

In 2009-10 financial year and 2010-11 year to date, how many non irregular maritime arrivals sought refugee status in Australia by nationality and country of origin?

Answer.

Departmental systems record Protection visa applicants by citizenship rather than country of origin. The following tables set out Protection visa lodgements by non-IMAs during 2009-10 and 2010-11 to 25 February 2011.

Citizenship	2009-10
China (PRC)	1288
Fiji	559
Iran	376
Zimbabwe	371
Pakistan	342
Sri Lanka	327
India	301
Malaysia	254
Iraq	221
Egypt	206
Other	1733
Total	5978

	2010-11
	to 25 February
Citizenship	2011
China (PRC)	751
Pakistan	310
India	305
Egypt	296
Fiji	248
Iran	246
Malaysia	156
Iraq	151
Indonesia	132
Lebanon	131
Other	1301
Total	4027

Note: All figures relating to 2009-10 are as officially revised at the end of 2009-10 (data extracted from DIAC systems on 2 July 2010). Figures relating to 2010-11 are provisional (data extracted on 25 February 2011).

This approach has been adopted to ensure consistency in figures intended for public release or for general use and is consistent with international practice. This data revisions policy explains the very small variation from figures provided previously.