

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(AE13/0181) PROGRAM – 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance**

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

Please provide details of how the \$10 million measure in MYEFO will be spent in the remainder of 2012-13 to “strengthen the regional cooperation framework”? Has this funding been provided to particular organisations? If so which and how much did each receive?

*Answer:*

In response to the recommendations of the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers, the Government committed A\$10million in 2012-13 for regional capacity building projects to assist the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and non-government organisations in the region, particularly operations in Malaysia and Indonesia.

Approximately US\$4.9million of this funding has been allocated to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to support activities to deliver the increased Humanitarian Program recommended in the Expert Panel Report.

The balance (less a component for departmental costs to administer the program) has been incorporated into the 2012-13 Displaced Persons Program (DPP) to support and stabilise displaced populations throughout the region. In December 2012, international organisations and NGOs were invited to propose projects meeting the DPP objectives. Proposals are currently being assessed.