

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(150) Output 1.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Entry and Stay

Senator Hurley asked:

Re: David Mabior Lual (Visa Subclass 202; File number 2003/214143) and his family.

1. To this date, has the child, Adior Mabior Lual, been DNA tested?
2. If not, why was the child not tested when DIMA officials were in Kakuma Refugee Camp from April 7, 2006 – nine days after DIMA was informed that tests were necessary?
3. If not, when is the first availability for the child to be tested?
4. In the 23/05/06 Estimates sitting, a DIMA staff member, Ms Keski-Nummi, stated that she was *“not aware that we (DIMA) had been provided with a birth certificate for the child by the Republic of Kenya. We were advised that the parents may have registered the child with the UNHCR. We do not have that documentary evidence. We are trying to find out from UNHCR whether there was a registration, but, as of today, I could not confirm that.”*

It has been reported that the UNHCR documentary evidence was in fact supplied by the family after settling in Australia, as well as their child’s Child Health Card. Does DIMA still stand by the statement made by Ms Keski-Nummi on 23/05/2006?

Answer:

1. Adior Mabior Lual was DNA tested on 31 May 2006.
2. See above.
3. See 1 above.
4. Mr David Lual and Ms Elizabeth Yar Achiek were granted their subclass 202 visa on 17/08/2004. Adior was born on 26/11/2004 and the family travelled to Australia on 04/06/2005. Regrettably the family did not advise DIMA of the birth of Adior prior to their travel. The application for Adior Mabior Lual was received by DIMA on 07/10/2005.

When Ms Keski-Nummi appeared before the Senate Committee on 23 May 2006 she had not been made aware that copies of Adior’s birth certificate and Health Card had been provided with the application. The DIMA post in Nairobi subsequently confirmed that copies of Adior’s birth certificate and Health Card had been provided with the application.

Given the high incidence of fraud in the Nairobi caseload, particularly in relation to documentation, it is difficult to place too great a weight on documents providing proof of identity.

Finalising Adior Mabior Lual's application is being given the highest priority.