

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(254) Output 1.5: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Nettle asked:

1. What plans are made for Manus Island?
2. What agreement has been arranged with the Papua New Guinea government?
3. Is there any plans to alter the current mothballed detention centre on Manus Island?
4. Is there any construction work?
5. What is the current capacity of Manus Island?
6. How will medical, psychiatric and legal services be provided?

*Answer:*

1. The OPC in Manus Province will remain in its mothballed state as a contingency against future unauthorised boat arrivals.
2. There are no arrangements that are additional to those contained in the MOU between PNG and Australia on offshore processing.
3. No.
4. No.
5. The MOU with PNG provides for up to 1,000 asylum seekers to be accommodated in the Manus OPC for processing.
6. Medical services, including mental health services, would be provided by IOM as part of its management of the OPC. Residents who requested legal services would have those requests facilitated by IOM.