

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 MAY 2009

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(27) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Fierravanti-Wells (L&CA 118) asked:

You have obviously made an assessment that there are probably 100 or so (complementary protection visa) cases per annum. I am just picking a figure. Are we able to get some sort of statistical information of the breakdown of that into the categories where you think that those cases would fall?

Answer.

The Department does not have detailed statistical data on cases which involve the concept of complementary protection.

As complementary protection issues are currently considered as part of the Ministerial intervention process, the Department has analysed data regarding the cases considered by the Minister under section 417 on general humanitarian grounds. In 2007-08, 222 of the visas granted by the Minister using his section 417 power were counted against the Humanitarian program, indicating these cases may have presented general humanitarian issues. The Department has estimated that approximately half involved cases which raised *non-refoulement* issues.