

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 26 - 27 MAY 2010**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(123) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance**

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

What support will Australia provide to countries of first asylum for the care, integration or other benefit of asylum seekers and refugees?

- E.g. Will Australia provide support for alternatives to detention? For education of children? For employment or other social support?

*Answer:*

Support to specific countries, such as that raised by Senator Hanson-Young, is more a question for the Australian Agency for International Development as part of Australia's aid program. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) does not provide such support to countries, rather it provides funding to international organisations that assist in providing such programs. Through the DIAC managed Displaced Persons Program (DPP), immediate support to stabilise populations of concern and support the long-term resolution of protracted situations is addressed. International and non-government organisations deliver humanitarian needs assistance to displaced persons and, where possible, assist them to attain durable solutions, such as access to education, local integration projects, voluntary sustainable return and resettlement.

DPP projects have assisted displaced persons in various other locations globally. A range of new project proposals are also under consideration for 2010-11.