

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION

Question No. 92

Senator Cash asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2011:

- a) On what date did the new streamlined processing of security assessments commence?
Please provide details of the new streamlined process of security assessments.
- b) Since the commencement of these new arrangements, how many Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) have had security assessments conducted by DIAC? How many have been conducted by ASIO?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- a) In January 2011 ASIO developed a new referral framework to ensure ASIO is able to focus more closely on IMA cases requiring intelligence investigation, and on longstanding IMA cases. With DIAC agreement, the Framework commenced operation in March 2011 with IMA referrals assessed under the new framework commencing from 1 April 2011. Please refer to the response to Question 91 for more details regarding the new referral process.
- b) Between 1 April and 16 May, approximately 1450 IMAs were security assessed pursuant to the new framework. DIAC does not conduct security assessments of IMAs. This figure includes three adverse security assessments issued by ASIO.