

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23-24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0183) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash (L&CA 50) asked:

On what date was the department advised that the government would not be pursuing the regional processing centre with East Timor?

Answer:

As part of iterative policy discussions with the department, the government's broad approach to regional processing developed over time. The Prime Minister's announcement of 7 May 2011 publicly acknowledged that it was unlikely East Timor would end up hosting a regional processing centre.