

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0296) PROGRAM – 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

How many of the 4,000 refugees from Malaysia that the Minister agreed to resettle as part of his failed Malaysia solution have already been resettled in Australia? How many are you planning to resettle in 2012–13? How have these refugees been chosen? Have they been referred to Australia by the UNHCR? What are their countries of origin? Has Australia resettled any that have come from outside our region such as Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, and Syria?

Answer:

On 25 July 2011, Australia entered into an agreement with the Government of Malaysia to resettle 4000 UNHCR-mandated refugees from Malaysia over four years.

Table 1: Visa grants by country of birth at Kuala Lumpur post 2011–12 to 2012–13 to 30 April 2013

Program Year	Refugee category allocation	Refugee category visa grants
2011–12	1350	1350
2012–13	1350	1321 (to 30 April 2013)
Total	2700	2671

Table 2: 2012–13 Refugee visa grants at Kuala Lumpur post to 30 April 2013.

Country of birth	Refugee visa grants
Myanmar	1214
Afghanistan	64
Iraq	28
Iran	8
Malaysia ¹	5
Others ²	2
Total	1321

Notes

¹ Children born in Malaysia to refugees from other countries

² The Department has a policy of not publishing offshore figures that total less than five. This is to protect the privacy of applicants.