

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

#### IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

#### **(40) Output 1.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Entry and Stay**

Senator Kirk asked:

- (a) What are the funding arrangements for the IDCU in Kabul?
- (b) How much funding has it received from the Australian Government in the 04/05 financial year?
- (c) How much funding will it receive in this financial year?

Answer:

(a) On 11 November 2002 Minister Ruddock announced that the Australian Government would provide AUD200,000 assistance to the Afghan Government to increase its capacity to conduct identity and nationality checks of people claiming to be Afghan nationals. This funding was used to establish and operate the IDCU.

In May 2005 the Australian Government, upon request from the Afghan Ministry of Interior and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), provided an additional AUD100,000 to support the ongoing operations of the IDCU.

In 2005 Denmark provided the IDCU with USD400,000 over three years to increase the staffing profile of the IDCU and to purchase additional vehicles computers and training.

The IOM was appointed project administrator, on the behalf of the Ministry of Interior, the Department and other donors. Activities undertaken by the IOM include: procurement of vehicles, telecommunications equipment, computers, office furniture and supplies, as well as disbursement of staff salaries and payments and the provision of financial and operational reporting.

(b) In May 2005 the Australian Government, upon request from the Afghan Ministry of Interior and the IOM, provided an additional AUD100,000 to support the ongoing operations of the IDCU.

(c) The Department does not have any plans to provide further funding for the IDCU this financial year as the Department has not received any requests for further funding from either the Afghan Ministry of Interior or the IOM.