

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(48) Output 1.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Entry and Stay

Senator Bartlett asked:

- (1) How many asylum seekers are there currently being held in Lombok?
- (2) What are their nationalities? Give a breakdown according to gender and if there are children.
- (3) How long have they been detained?

Answer:

- (1) At the end of October 2005, there were 101 persons in the care of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Lombok. They are not in detention but live in tourist-class hotels and are free to come and go. None of them have been found to be refugees, including on review, by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
- (2) The 101 persons consist of 49 Afghans (28 adults and 21 children); 34 Iraqis (25 adults and nine children) and 18 Vietnamese (11 adults and seven children). Sixty-nine are male and 32 are female.
- (3) No person found to be a refugee remains in Lombok. The remaining Afghans have been in Lombok for between four and four-and-a-half years; the Iraqis for about four years; and the Vietnamese for around two-and-a-half years.