

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 20 OCTOBER 2009

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(80) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance**

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

In relation to the number of places allocated to non-UNHCR-registered asylum seekers, please provide a breakdown including:

- a. the number of places allocated to unauthorised arrivals by boat;
- b. the number of places allocated to unauthorised arrivals by air;
- c. the number of places allocated to persons who had arrived on a valid visa and then sought asylum;
- d. the number of places allocated to over-stayers who subsequently claimed asylum.

*Answer:*

Allocations, targets, or limits are not made in relation to Protection visas for asylum seekers. If all the criteria for a Protection visa are met, the visa will be granted and no distinction within the Program is made regarding the lawful status or arrival means of the applicant.

Visas granted to asylum seekers in Australia are counted towards the Special Humanitarian component of the Humanitarian Program. In 2008–09, 2497 humanitarian visas were granted to persons in Australia which were counted toward the overall humanitarian program outcome of 13 507 visas.