

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(123) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Abetz asked:

(1) For 2008, 2009 and 2010 how many “boat people” arriving via Indonesia arrived in Indonesia by air? If an exact figure is not available (a) how many have been identified (b) does the department have an estimate: if not, why not?

(2) Do such people arriving in Indonesia by air pay any taxes or levies on arrival in Indonesia? If so, what levies? How much etc..?

Answer:

(1) On the basis of the department’s entry interviews of 6634 Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) between 29 September 2008 (there were no IMAs in 2008 before this date) and 19 August 2010, the number of IMAs to Australia who had previously arrived in Indonesia by air, by calendar year, were as follows;

2008 - 80
2009 - 948
2010 - 1860

(2) According to the Embassy of Indonesia website, air arrivals in Indonesia pay no taxes or levies.