

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(344) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash asked:

[Answer to QON 90] Of the 122 Irregular Maritime Arrivals at Villawood as at 17 May 2010 that have all been refused refugee status:

(a) What is the current status of each of these persons?

(b) How many have been repatriated from Australia?

Answer:

- (a) Of the 122 irregular maritime arrivals at Villawood as at 17 May 2010;
- 64 were found not to be refugees at Independent Merits Review.
 - two have been removed from Australia.
 - 62 remain in detention at Villawood pending removal. Of these, 23 were parties to action in the High Court.
 - 43 have been granted Protection visas having been found to be refugees at Independent Merits Review.
 - a further 14 have been found to be refugees at Independent Merits Review but are awaiting the outcome of security or other clearances.
 - one has been transferred into AFP custody and has not proceeded to review.
- (b) Two people from this group have been removed from Australia.