

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(45) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash (L&CA 52) asked:

Who actually runs the facilities in Romania?

Answer:

The following information is taken from a publicly available information booklet '*The Emergency Transit Centre in Romania – Bringing Refugees to Safety*'. It is prepared jointly by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) the Government of Romania, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Romania was established in May 2008, pursuant to a tri-partite agreement between the Government of Romania, UNHCR and IOM. Under the agreement UNHCR is responsible for identifying refugees in need of evacuation, and securing their onward resettlement. UNHCR is responsible for the day to day care of the refugees in the ETC including the cost of food, education, recreation and medical care. IOM handles transportation of the refugees to Romania and to resettlement countries, health screenings and cultural orientation programs. The Government of Romania provides the premises and is responsible for maintaining order. It also gives final approval for the entry of each refugee to Romania.

A scanned copy of the booklet is attached.