

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0200) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Hanson-Young (written) asked:

Has the Department received legal advice on the status of Australia's international legal obligations once asylum-seekers are transferred to Nauru or PNG? Please table the advice with the answer.

Answer:

Yes. Consistent with the usual position that it is not generally in the public interest to provide details of legal advice because of the prejudice the Commonwealth might suffer in the conduct of its legal affairs, it is not considered appropriate to provide the advice requested.