

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0201) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Hanson-Young (written) asked:

Has the Department received any legal advice that states that Australia may be in breach of our international obligations under the Refugee Convention or any other international treaty? Please table the advice with the answer.

Answer:

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 information requested.