

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 OCTOBER 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0289) PROGRAM – 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash asked:

Manus: Has any of the DIAC funding been assessed as constituting aid funding and being counted against Australia's contribution to its Millennium goals?

Answer:

Estimates for the capital and running costs of Manus will be finalised as part of the 2012-13 Additional Estimates process.

At this time AusAID will assess any proposals associated with regional processing against the four aid allocation criteria in the Government's Comprehensive Aid Policy Framework.

It is anticipated that any upgrades to dual use public infrastructure on Manus may be considered to be Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligible on a pro-rata basis, if they have the economic development and welfare of Papua New Guinea as their main objective.