

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0363) PROGRAM – 3.1: Border Management

Senator Cash (written) asked:

MV Parsifal: Has the Minister indicated to the Department that he would be unwilling to grant a protection visa to these asylum seekers, on character or any other grounds?

Answer:

No, the Minister has not indicated any preference for processing asylum seekers who arrived aboard Maritime Vessel (MV) Parsifal. MV Parsifal arrived at an Australian excised offshore place on 14 August 2012, and the asylum seekers on board that vessel were affected by the 'Regional Processing Act'. This means that those asylum seekers are liable for transfer to a regional processing country and will be processed accordingly.