

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(SE12/0516) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Has the department had any discussions with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) about the establishment of the centres on Nauru and Manus? Was the IOM invited to tender for any aspect of the management of the centres on Manus and Nauru? If not, why not?

*Answer:*

The department had discussions with and invited IOM to submit a proposal for aspects of the management of the centre on Nauru. Following lengthy discussions between the department and IOM, IOM declined the invitation.

IOM was not invited to submit a proposal in relation to services on Manus Island as IOM indicated that it would be unable to meet the required timelines.

IOM is currently providing services in relation to assisted voluntary returns from Nauru and Manus.