

## APPENDIX 10

### CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS<sup>1</sup>

- 22 November 1994 Ms Z arrived unauthorised at Darwin by boat (codenamed 'Cockatoo'), and was sent to Port Hedland Immigration Reception and Processing Centre.
- 25 November 1994 a Compliance Interview was recorded at the Port Hedland Centre. A Cantonese interpreter was present.
- 3 December 1994 the assessment of Ms Z's Compliance Interview indicated that Ms Z had not sought asylum or protection as a refugee.
- 15 December 1994 Ms Z made a request to see a lawyer in order to apply for refugee status.
- 18 January 1995 Ms Z applied for a Protection Visa with application assistance being provided by Legal Aid Western Australia (LAWA) under the IAAAS .
- 23 January 1995 Ms Z was interviewed by the primary case officer to elicit details of her claims and to present her with the opportunity to comment on adverse information.
- 10 February 1995 the application for a Protection Visa was refused. Ms Z and her adviser were notified of the refusal decision on 14 February 1995.
- 20 February 1995 Ms Z applied for a review of the decision.
- 3 March 1995 Legal Aid Western Australia completed an application for Ms Z for an appeal to the RRT.
- 13 March 1995 Ms Z appeared at a hearing before the RRT. She was accompanied by a LAWA representative. An interpreter was provided.
- 11 April 1995 the RRT affirmed the Delegate's decision. The applicant was notified of this decision on 13 April 1995.
- 3 May 1995 following the RRT decision, DIMA automatically assessed if the case was eligible for consideration under s417 of the *Migration Act* (the Act) and decided that it was not.
- 21 June 1995 a further joint application for a Protection Visa was lodged on behalf of Ms Z and her *de facto* husband. This application was based on Ms Z's pregnancy. The application was made with the assistance of LAWA.

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1 See *Submission No. 69G*, DIMA, in which DIMA lists the documents relating to Ms Z which DIMA considers the Senate Committee could release publicly.

- 14 August 1995 the second application was rejected as invalid under S48 of the Act.
- 16 November 1995 Ms Z gave birth to a daughter.
- 31 May 1996 Ms Z and others at Port Hedland Centre made complaints in a letter about their long detention.
- 14 February 1997 Ms Z's second pregnancy confirmed. An obstetrics ultrasound performed on 8 April 1997 provided an expected date of delivery of 12 August 1997.
- As early as 30 April 1997 Ms Z expressed concern about returning to the PRC while pregnant with the second child.
- 10 July 1997, prior the departure of Ms Z as a member of a planeload of removees to leave on 14 July 1997, a statement was made by the Acting Minister of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs in respect of persons being returned.
- 14 July 1997 Ms Z was removed from Australia to the PRC. The removal was codenamed "Operation Ox".
- 21 July 1997 Ms Z's near term baby was aborted at the People's Hospital of the City of Beihai in the PRC.
- March 1999 Ms Z made video in PRC, claiming that the second child was aborted.
- 4 May 1999 Senator Harradine raised Ms Z's case in a Senate Legal and Constitutional Estimates Committee hearing.
- 10 May 1999 the Minister announced the appointment of Mr David Sadleir to conduct an independent inquiry to examine allegations that a pregnant national of the PRC was removed from Australia to the PRC, and was forced to undergo an abortion on her return. On 19 May 1999, following the withdrawal of Mr Sadleir, the Minister announced the appointment of Mr Tony Ayers to undertake the inquiry.
- 13 May 1999 the Senate referred to the Legal and Constitutional References Committee an inquiry into the operation of Australia's Refugee and Humanitarian Program. Terms of Reference (g); (h); and (j) specifically refer to the case of Ms Z.
- 2 June 1999 Senator Quirke raised an allegation that Ms Z had been heavily sedated to go back to China in a Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Estimates Committee hearing.
- 6 June 1999 Ms Z told her story in an interview screened on a Channel 9 television programme, "60 Minutes".

- 10 June 1999 Ms Marion Le (ICRA) made an application on behalf of Ms Z and her daughter for a visa to the Australian Consulate General in Guangzhou. The processing of this application was transferred to the Director of the Humanitarian offshore program.
- 5 July 1999 to 3 February 2000 Senate Committee hearings were undertaken.
- 9 September 1999 report from Mr Tony Ayers into allegations about a failed Chinese asylum seeker being forcibly aborted in the PRC was presented to the Minister, but not released publicly.