

8 August 2017

### In reply please quote

FOI Request FA 17/06/00830 File Number ADF 2017/67996

Mr Asher Hirsch

Sent via email: foi+request-3677-102f1951@righttoknow.org.au

# Freedom of Information request - decision

Dear Mr Hirsch,

This letter refers to your request received on 26 June 2017, seeking access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act) to the following documents:

A copy of the "Regional Cooperation Agreement" signed in 2001 between Australia, Indonesia and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

This letter is to provide you with the decision which is at Attachment A – Decision Record.

# **FOI Legislation**

A copy of the FOI Act is available for your reference from: www.legislation.gov.au/Browse/ByTitle/Acts/InForce/0/0/Principal

# **Review rights**

#### Internal review

If you disagree with the decision, you have the right to apply for an internal review of the decision. If you wish to make a request for internal review this must be sent within 30 days of being notified of the decision. Where possible please attach reasons why you believe review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by an officer other than the original decision-maker and the Department must make a review decision within 30 days.

Applications for review should be sent to:

Freedom of Information
Department of Immigration and Border Protection
PO Box 25
BELCONNEN ACT 2617

Or by email to: foi.reviews@border.gov.au

# Review by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

You may apply directly to the Australian Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. You must apply in writing within 60 days of this notice. For further information about review rights under the FOI Act please see FOI fact sheet 12 'Freedom of information — Your review rights', available online at <a href="https://www.oaic.gov.au">www.oaic.gov.au</a>

# How to make a complaint about the handling of your FOI request

You may complain to the Australian Information Commissioner if you have concerns about how the department has handled your request under the FOI Act. Information about how to submit a complaint is also available at <a href="https://www.oaic.gov.au">www.oaic.gov.au</a>.

# **Contacting the FOI section**

If you wish to discuss this matter, I can be contacted using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely

(signed electronically)

H Simons FOI Officer Freedom of Information, Privacy & Records Management Branch

Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Email: foi@border.gov.au

# Attachment(s)

✓ Attachment A – Decision Record



#### Attachment A

### **DECISION RECORD**

# **Request Details**

FOI Request FA 17/06/00830 File Number ADF2017/67996

### Scope of request

1. On 27 June 2017 you requested access to the following:

A copy of the "Regional Cooperation Agreement" signed in 2001 between Australia, Indonesia and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

### Documents in scope

2. The relevant business area in the Department has advised that the Department does not hold any documents or other information relevant to this request.

# Authority to make decision

3. I am an officer authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in respect of requests to access documents or to amend or annotate Departmental records.

### Information considered

- 4. In reaching my decision, I have considered the following:
  - The Freedom of Information Act 1982:
  - Consultations with relevant business areas; and
  - The Australian Information Commissioner's guidelines relating to access to documents held by government.

# Decision

5. I have consulted with the relevant business area in the Department, being: International Division. They have advised that no copy of a Regional Cooperation Arrangement between Australia, Indonesia and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) exists, or was signed in 2001.

- In 2000, the Regional Cooperation Arrangement was established by an exchange of letters between Australia, Indonesia and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), with the Bali Process then established in 2002.
- 7. As no documents exist that fall within the scope of your request, I am refusing your request for access under s.24A of the FOI Act (documents do not exist).

Alexandra Stevenson

Authorised decision maker

Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Email: foi@border.gov.au

August 2017