

# The Hon Scott Morrison MP

# Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

The Hon Julie Bishop MP Minister for Foreign Affairs Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

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Dear Mighister

Composition of the offshore component of the 2013-14 Humanitarian Programme

I am writing to advise you of the proposed geographical composition of the offshore (resettlement) component of the 2013–14 Humanitarian Programme.

As you know, the Government has reserved a minimum of 11 000 of the 13 750 places in the 2013–14 Programme for people outside Australia in need of resettlement. This includes refugees, most of whom will be referred for resettlement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as well as other people in humanitarian need proposed by relatives or community organisations in Australia under the Special Humanitarian Programme (SHP). People resettled under the Humanitarian Programme in 2013–14 will be drawn from Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

Within the offshore component of the Programme, I am proposing the planning levels by component be:

s. 47C(1)

In the refugee category, the government will set aside 1000 of the 6000 to 6500 places for the Woman at Risk Subclass. The Woman at Risk Subclass provides for the resettlement of women at risk and their dependants who are without the effective protection of male relatives. In 2013–14, more than 15 per cent of all refugee entrants will be women at risk. This will be the largest proportion of Australia's refugee intake devoted to this highly vulnerable group in the last seven years.

The government has already announced a number of specific initiatives within this year's Programme, including

- 500 refugee places for Syrian refugees who have fled to neighbouring countries in the Middle East; and
- (up to) 800 refugee places for at-risk Afghan Locally Engaged Employees (and their families) who have served with the Australian mission in Afghanistan.

s. 47C(1)		

# Resettlement from Asia

I am proposing that s. 47C(1) s. 47C(1)

Australia will also continue to resettle Afghan refugees from Pakistan and Iran at similar levels to recent years. Afghans in Pakistan and Iran are the largest and most long-standing refugee population globally. Resettlement is an important expression of the international community's recognition of the large Afghan refugee population hosted by Pakistan and Iran over many decades.

Australia has taken the lead in co-ordinating international refugee resettlement efforts for Afghan refugees in Pakistan by chairing a Contact Group in Islamabad of major refugee resettlement countries. Along with the UNHCR and IOM, the Contact Group includes participation from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, Japan, Brazil, Sweden and Norway. The focus of Australia's resettlement efforts in Pakistan will continue to be on Hazara refugees, many of whom are in Quetta.

In Iran, Australia will continue to resettle Afghan refugees, including many vulnerable women at risk. Ongoing commitment to resettlement assists the UNHCR and resettlement countries to negotiate for continued protection space as well as better living conditions for the Afghan refugee population.

s. 47C(1)

### Resettlement from the Middle East

Vulnerable Iraqi minorities from the Middle East, including Chaldean Christians, Assyrians and Sabian Mandaeans will continue to be a priority for resettlement under the 2013–14 Programme although at slightly lower levels than in previous programme years. Iraqis will be primarily resettled from Syria, but also from Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan. In addition, I am proposing that Australia 47C(1)

As previously announced, Australia will resettle an initial group of 500 Syrian refugees from neighbouring countries in the Middle East, particularly from Lebanon. In addition, Australia will resettle up to 750 Syrians with close family links to Australia under the SHP provisions. Within this allocation, 150 places will notionally be set aside for Syrians of Armenian background. Some 90 Syrians in Lebanon were granted visas under the SHP in 2012–13. There is strong support from the well-established Syrian community in Australia for these arrangements. I anticipate that Australia will continue to work with the international community to resettle Syrians uprooted by the conflict in their country into future years.

s. 33(a)(iii)

## Resettlement from Africa

I am proposing that around 1200 places \$1.470

s. 47C(1)

The African intake will include refugees and SHP entrants from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and Eritrea, as well as a smaller number of Somalis. Entrants from Africa will be resettled from camps in eastern and southern Africa, as well as from Sudan, Egypt and Eritrea. A large part of the refugee intake from Africa will be for the Woman at Risk Subclass in recognition of the high level of need for this particularly vulnerable group.

A summary of caseloads to be resettled across these three key regions and proposed planning levels is attached.

Our respective departments have discussed the caseloads proposed for resettlement in the 2013–14 Programme and have not identified any issues of particular concern.

The contact officer in the department in relation to the matters raised in this letter is

Mr Jim O'Callaghan PSM, Assistant Secretary, Humanitarian Branch, who can be contacted on 5. 22(1)(a)(ii)

I welcome your views on these proposals for the 2013–14 offshore component of the Humanitarian Programme.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Scott Morrison MP

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

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Caseload	Location from which resettled Notional Planning Levels	Notional Planning Levels % of Total
ASIA REGION	s. 47C(1)	
Refugees from Myanmar	Malaysia, Thailand and India	
Bhutanese	Nepal	
Mixed refugee caseload from Indonesia, including Afghans, Iraqis, Iranians and Sri Lankans	Indonesia	
Afghans	Pakistan and Iran	
Afghan Locally Engaged Employees	Afghanistan	
s. 33(a)(iii)		
Asia Contingency		
MIDDLE EAST REGION		
• Iraqis	Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon	
Iranians (primarily Baha'is)	Turkey	
• Syrians	Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, and other countries in the Middle East region	
(m/c)(o)		
AFRICA REGION		
Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopians, Eritreans, small number of other African nationalities	Kenya, Uganda, Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea and other locations in eastern and southern Africa	
OTHER REGIONS/GLOBAL CONTINGENCY <sup>2</sup>	IGENCY <sup>2</sup>	
TOTAL		

1. Asia contingency includes allocation of 22(1)(a)(ii) for resettlement of refugees from Indonesia or elsewhere in the region if necessary.

2. Places in Other Regions/Global Contingency will include a small number of places for applicants in Europe, the Pacific and the Americas, if required. The balance of places will be for use across the three main regions as required.

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# Submission

For decision

PDMS Ref. Number

MS15-000608

To

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Subject

Review of Australia's commitment to protection of refugees and displaced persons, and delivery of the Humanitarian Programme for 2014-15 and 2015-16.

**Timing** 

Please action by 23 April 2015

Recommendations

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Received

1 4 APK 2015

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

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			Minister's Comme	ents
Rejected Yes/No	Timely Yes/No	Relevance Highly relevant Significantly relevant	Length  Too long Right length Too brief	Quality Poor 12345 Excellent Comments:

# **Key Issues**

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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<sup>1</sup> UNHCR Global Trends 2013, p2

UNHCR submitted 93,226 refugees for resettlement in 2013, UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2013, p1

UNHCR Global Trends 2013, p2

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For Official Use Only (FOUO) s. 22(<del>1</del>)(a)(ii)

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# Delivery strategies for the 2014-15 offshore Humanitarian Programme

# Programme Delivery (as at 08 March 2015)

The planning level for offshore component of the 2014–15 Humanitarian Programme is set at a minimum of 11 000 places, comprised of:

- 6 000 Refugee places
- 5 000 SHP places.
- s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

			s. 22(1)(a)(
Caseload	Original Allocation	Revised Allocation	
MIDDLE EAST REGION	4 550	4 575	
Iraqis	2 200	2 200	
Syrians	2 200	2 225	
Iranians	150	150	
ASIA REGION	4 400	4 625	
Burmese	2 000	2 050	
Afghans (including Afghan LEE)	1 500	1 650	
Indonesia	450	450	
Bhutanese	350	375	
s. 33(a)(iii)	100	100	
AFRICA REGION	1 700	1 750	
Africans (including Copts)	1 700	1 750	
GLOBAL CONTINGENCY	350	50	
TOTAL	11 000	11 000	

Notes:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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# Australia's Humanitarian Programme 2014–15

Allocation: 13750

# **Onshore Programme**

Allocation: 2750 Grants s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

# Offshore Programme

Allocation: 11000 (Refugee: 6000, SHP: 5000)

(Public commitments from Refugee and SHP: 2200 Syrians, 2200 Iraqis, 2000 Burmese)

Refugee

Allocation: 6000 (including 1000

Woman at Risk)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Special Humanitarian Programme

Allocation: 5000

s. 47C(1)

# Cleared by: Rachel Noble PSM

Rachel Noble PSM Deputy Secretary

**Authorising Officer** 

Date:13/04/2015 . 22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact Officers** 

Robert Hoitink, FAS International Protection Taskforce, Ph: (s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Fiona Lynch-Magor, AS Citizenship and Humanitarian Policy

Through

CC

Secretary

CEO

**Deputy Secretaries** 

FAS Immigration and Citizenship Policy

FAS Refugee and Humanitarian Visa Management

Minister-Counsellor Geneva



# Submission

For decision PDMS Ref. Number MS18-000448

To

Minister for Home Affairs

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Subject

Mid-Year Review of the 2017-18 Humanitarian Programme

**Timing** 

6 April 2018 – To allow two months to deliver adjusted programme

# Recommendations

That you:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Minister for Home Affairs

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Signature...

Date: 13/.04/2018

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# 2017-18 Programme Planning Levels

- 2. The 2017-18 Humanitarian Programme was increased to 16,250 places. You agreed that 15,500 of these places be notionally allocated to the offshore component and the remaining 750 places retained for the onshore protection component. Of the 15,500 offshore places, 8140 were Refugee category places and 7360 were Special Humanitarian Programme places which included up to 1000 places for the Community Support Programme.
- 3. You agreed that the offshore component comprise:
  - 8250 places for the Middle East region (53 per cent);
  - 4110 places for the Asia region (27 per cent);
  - 2800 places for the Africa region (18 per cent); and
  - 340 places held as a contingency reserve (2 per cent).
- 4. You also agreed that a minimum of 1550 places in the offshore component be available for vulnerable women, children and dependents and unaccompanied minors.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	

# Delivery of the program against key priorities

Vulnerable women and children - 1550 places

7. We anticipate that the 1550 target for vulnerable women and children will be met and possibly exceeded with 821 visas already granted in the first six months of the year. The top five countries of grants for this cohort are Iraq, Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan, Syria and Eritrea.

Priority for SHP applicants with proposers in regional areas

- 8. Posts have been informed that highest processing priority be accorded to SHP applicants who are proposed by family who are settled in regional areas of Australia. We have also used the Community Liaison Officers (previously Ethnic Liaison Officers) network to disseminate information about priorities for regional proposers.
- 9. Departmental systems changes were implemented in November 2017 to enable monitoring and reporting of this group. Reporting indicates that between 1 November 2017 and 31 December 2018, around 5 per cent of new SHP applicants were supported by a proposer in a regional area. We expect that the proportion of applicants with regional proposers will increase as the community's awareness of this policy increases. The Department will continue to monitor and report on this priority group.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Middle East region – amended allocation - & 47C(1)
12. We propose to <sup>s. 47C(1)</sup> s. 47C(1)
s. 47C(1)
s. 34(3)

- o Grants to Yazidis are expected t<sup>s. 47C(1)</sup> . We continue to work with Yazda to ensure that applicants proposed by Yazidi humanitarian entrants to Australia are processes expeditiously.
- As previously advised, as a number of these applicants are Iraqi
   Yazidis, successful applicants will be granted in-country visas.
- In line with your request, a greater number of Syrians will be granted visas in 2017-18 compared to 2016-17.

Asia Region – amended allocation – 3930 places (26.5 per cent of offshore program)	
s. 47C(1)	
s. 47C(1)	
Africa region – no change to the original allocation – 2800 places (18.8 per cent of offsh program)	nore
16. Posts in the Africa region are on track to deliver their allocation. In line with your preferences and the Government's multi-year commitment to protracted refugee situations announced at the New York Leaders' Summit on Refugees in September 2016, the priority groups for resettlement will continue to be Congolese from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopians, Eritreans and small numbers of refugee from the Central African Republic in Chad.	
. 22(1)(a)(ii)	tment of Home Affairs

# Australian Government

# Department of Immigration and Border Protection

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director, Division of International Protection United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Case Postale 2500 GENEVA

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) Dear l

I am writing to provide you with details of the composition of Australia's Humanitarian Programme for 2013–14 and to indicate the level and sources of referrals we will require from UNHCR to meet our current year's Programme. The composition of the Programme has now been agreed by the Australian Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Scott Morrison MP.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the exemplary work of UNHCR in providing sufficient referrals to allow us to meet our increased Programme last year. I appreciate the significant increase to the Programme occurred part-way through our Programme year, thereby putting substantial pressure on UNHCR to make the necessary referrals. The professionalism and responsiveness demonstrated by UNHCR in making these referrals in a timely manner is greatly appreciated.

As you may be aware, the Australian Government intends to allocate 13,750 places to the 2013–14 Humanitarian Programme. Within this Programme, it is proposed to have an offshore component of 11,000 places. This will include a Refugee category of 6500 places, the majority of whom are expected to be referred by UNHCR. It will also include a component for resettlement under Australia's Special Humanitarian Program (SHP), for refugees and others proposed by relatives or community organisations in Australia, many of whom are likely to have been referred by UNHCR.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

# Refugee Category

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

people our business

Special Humanitarian Programme (SHP)		
s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		

# Priorities for the 2013-14 Humanitarian Programme

The Humanitarian Programme for 2013-14 will include a significant focus on Asia, whilst also maintaining resettlement programmes from the Middle East and Africa.

# Asia Region

It is proposed that around half of Australia's humanitarian intake in 2013-14 be resettled from countries in Asia. This is to underscore Australia's commitment to working in partnership with our neighbours to find durable solutions for long-standing refugee populations in our region.

Our focus in Asia will include a significant allocation for refugees from Myanmar in Malaysia, Thailand, and India. This remains one of our most important caseloads and represents Australia's ongoing commitment to this protracted group who have been waiting many years for resettlement.

We also propose to continue resettlement of Bhutanese refugees from Nepal in 2013–14. This will allow Australia to meet the commitment to resettle 5000 Bhutanese from Nepal which was made in 2008. It also ensures Australia meets the undertaking previously made to UNHCR to continue resettlement beyond the 5000 commitment. In addition, we

propose to provide SHP places for Bhutanese persons in Nepal. To ensure there is take-up of s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

In South-West Asia, we propose to resettle significant numbers of Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran. Australia substantially increased resettlement of this group in 2012-13 and the allocation this Programme year will continue Australia's commitment to this longstanding refugee group.

In our immediate region we propose to resettle refugees from Indonesia at a similar level to last Programme year. This demonstrates that Australia recognises the burden for Indonesia in s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

# Middle East Region

Resettlement from the Middle East will remain significant in 2013-14. We will continue to consider Iraqi refugees but will focus increasingly on Syrian refugees.

As you will be aware, the Australian Government has already announced it will resettle 500 Syrian refugees in 2013-14 who have fled to neighbouring countries in the Middle East.

In addition, it is proposed to make significant places available for Syrians with close family and community links in Australia to be resettled under the SHP provisions. Going forward, 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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# Africa Region

Refugee resettlement from Africa will continue to be significant in 2013–14 and we will increase resettlement under the SHP.

The Refugee category will focus on refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and Eritrea, as well as a smaller number of Somalis. This will include refugees located in camps in eastern and southern Africa, as well as from Sudan, Egypt, and Eritrea. It is expected that a large part of the refugee intake from Africa will be for the Woman at Risk cohort in recognition of the high level of need for this particularly vulnerable group.

# **Next Steps**

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Yours sincerely

Wendy Southern PSM Deputy Secretary

Department of Immigration and Border Protection

December 2013