

**REPORT (ABRIDGED) BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND  
IMMIGRATION OMBUDSMAN FOR TABLING IN PARLIAMENT**

*Under s 486O of the Migration Act 1958*

This is the first s 486O report on Mr X and his family who remained in immigration detention for more than 24 months (two years).

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Name</b>                  | Mr X (and family) |
| <b>Citizenship</b>           | Country A         |
| <b>Year of birth</b>         | 1978              |
| <b>Ombudsman ID</b>          | 1003069           |
| <b>Date of DIBP's report</b> | 10 April 2015     |

**Detention history**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 4 April 2013 | Mr X, Ms Y and their daughter were detained under s 189(3) of the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> after arriving in Australia aboard Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel 642 <i>Quattro</i> . |
| 20 May 2015  | Granted Bridging visas and released from community detention.  |

**Visa applications/case progression**

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) advised that prior to being released from detention, Mr X and his family were part of a cohort who had not had their protection claims assessed as they arrived in Australia after 13 August 2012 and the Minister had not lifted the bar under s 46A.

**Health and welfare**

The family was provided with treatment and counselling for a range of physical and mental health issues including depression and anxiety.

**Ombudsman assessment/recommendation**

Mr X and his family were granted Bridging visas on 20 May 2015 and released from immigration detention.

The Ombudsman notes that Mr X and his family were held in detention for over two years before being granted Bridging visas. The Ombudsman further notes that, at the time of DIBP's review, processing of their claims for protection had not commenced.

The Ombudsman recommends that the Minister lift the bar under s 46A and processing of the family's protection claims commence as soon as possible.