

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 Ms X and her daughters who remained in immigration detention for more than 24 months (two years).

Name	Ms X (and daughters)
Citizenship	Country A
Year of birth	1983
Ombudsman ID	1002889
Date of DIBP's report	10 April 2015

Detention history

2 April 2013	Ms X and her two daughters were detained under s 189(3) of the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> after arriving in Australia aboard Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel 636 <i>Keller</i> .
18 June 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, Ms X and her daughters 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 health issues.

Ombudsman assessment/recommendation

Ms X and her daughters were granted Bridging visas on 18 June 2015 and released from immigration detention.

The Ombudsman notes that Ms X and her daughters 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.