# REPORT BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND IMMIGRATION OMBUDSMAN FOR TABLING IN PARLIAMENT

Under s 4860 of the Migration Act 1958

This is the second s 486O report on Mr X and his family who remained in immigration detention for more than 30 months (two and a half years).

The first report 1001895<sup>1</sup> was tabled in Parliament on 18 March 2015. This report updates the material in that report and should be read in conjunction with the previous report.

| Name          | Mr X      |
|---------------|-----------|
| Citizenship   | Country A |
| Year of birth | 1984      |

## **Family members**

| Name          | Ms Y (wife) | Master Z (son) |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| Citizenship   | Country A   | Country A      |
| Year of birth | 1984        | 2010           |

| Ombudsman ID            | 1003238       |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Date of DIBP's report   | 30 March 2015 |
| Total days in detention | Not provided  |

## **Recent detention history**

| Since the Ombudsman's p community detention. | revious report (1001895), Mr X and his family remained in   |
|--|---|
| 22 April 2015                                | Granted Bridging visas with associated Temporary Humanitarian Stay (THS) visas and released from 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 of the *Migration Act 1958*.

| 22 April 2015 | Granted Bridging visas with associated THS visas. |
|---------------|---|
|---------------|---|

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mr X and his family were previously reported on in a group report of people who arrived on the Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel 455 *Jagara* and were detained on 22 September 2012.

#### Health and welfare

Mr X, Ms Y and Master Z

International Health and Medical Services reported that Mr X, Ms Y or Master Z did not require treatment for any major physical or mental health concerns.

#### Ombudsman assessment/recommendation

Mr X and his family were granted Bridging visas with associated THS visas on 22 April 2015 and released from immigration detention.

The Ombudsman notes that Mr X and his family were detained on 22 September 2012 after arriving in Australia and were held in detention for over two and a half years before being granted Bridging visas. The Ombudsman further notes that, at the time of DIBP's review, processing of the family's 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.