REPORT (ABRIDGED) 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 Ms X and her children who remained in immigration detention for more than 30 months (two and a half years).

The first report 1001864 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	Ms X (and children)
Citizenship	Country A
Year of birth	1981
Ombudsman ID	1003141
Date of DIBP's report	23 March 2015

Detention history

9 September 2012	Ms X and her two children were detained under s 189(3) of the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> after arriving in Australia aboard Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel 433 <i>Nutmeg.</i> Ms X arrived with her husband, Mr Y, who is the subject of a separate Ombudsman report.
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 children 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.

Other matters

DIBP Incident Reports recorded that Ms X was the victim of alleged domestic violence.

Ombudsman assessment/recommendation

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

The Ombudsman notes that Ms X and her children 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 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.