REPORT BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND IMMIGRATION OMBUDSMAN FOR TABLING IN PARLIAMENT

Under s 486O 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 1001823¹ was tabled in Parliament on 3 December 2014. This report updates the material in that report and should be read in conjunction with the previous report.

Name	Mr X (and family)
Citizenship	Stateless (claimed)
Year of birth	1989

Family details

Family members	Ms Y (wife)	Miss Z (daughter)	Miss Q ² (daughter)
Citizenship	Stateless (claimed)	Stateless (claimed)	Stateless (claimed), born in Australia
Year of birth	1989	2010	2012

Ombudsman ID	1003015
Date of DIBP's report	17 February 2015
Total days in detention	Not provided

Recent detention history

Since the Ombudsman's previous report (1001823), Mr X and his family remained in community detention.	
22 April 2015	Granted Bridging visas with associated Temporary Humanitarian Stay (THS) visas and released from detention.

Recent 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.
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¹ Mr X and his family were previously reported on in a group report of people who arrived on Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel 412 *Ropeley* and were detained on 17 August 2012.

² Miss Q was detained on 24 September 2012.

Health and welfare

Mr X

27 August 2012	International Health and Medical Services (IHMS) advised that following routine pathology testing, Mr X was diagnosed with a previous hepatitis B infection. He was identified as immune and non-infectious.
28 August 2012	Disclosed a history of torture and trauma but declined specialist counselling. He was advised to self-refer to the mental health team as required.

Ms Y

IHMS provided details of Ms Y's health and welfare. No significant ongoing mental health concerns were noted.	
September 2012	Ms Y gave birth to her daughter, Miss Q, without complication.

Miss Z

IHMS advised that Miss Z did not require treatment for any major physical or mental health issues.

Miss Q

DIBP did not provide an IHMS Health Summary Report for Miss Q.

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 17 August 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.