Committee Secretary
Joint Select Committee on Australia's Immigration Detention Network
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Committee Secretary,

I wish to correct information which I provided at the Inquiry hearing on Friday, 18th November in Melbourne. The Information that 17 men at Scherger were waiting ten and eleven months for RSA Review results is not correct. I asked the men who had given me the document and we established that they were waiting for the results of PRE check which is a newly established mechanism in the process which falls between the RSA and the IMR.

These men arrived on two boats - JES on 2/11/2010 and NEC 7/11/2010 and were waiting for an IMR hearing date when they were told that their cases would be PRE checked. in the past few days the results of this check have come through. Not one has been returned as a positive.

Considering that 270 RSA negative cases have been found positive at the PRE, it is hard to understand how the entire Scherger PRE caseload can be negative. There seems to be a discrepancy in these results in that they depend on which DIAC officer and whether that Officer comes from NSW or VICTORIA as to the result.

I am asking as a matter of urgency that the decision making of RSA officers, PRE officers and IMR decision makers is examined. These are matters of life and death being decided and are too important to be subject to the prejudices of individuals or of the offices from which they operate.

My apologies for the incorrect information. It arose out of a misunderstanding of the new process from the men who are struggling with both a new language and a complicated refugee processing system whilst being in an isolated location with poor communication facilities and few avenues for ready advice.

Regards
Pamela Curr

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"NO ONE CHOOSES TO BE AN ASYLUM SEEKER"