




Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

s33(a)(iii)




Dear s33(a)(iii)


I write to acknowledge our successful medical transfer arrangement for transferees in Nauru and the excellent work of your s33(a)(iii) staff and the s33(a)(iii) to implement this arrangement. Since signing the memorandum of understanding in September 2017, s33(a)(iii) individuals have received high-quality medical care in Taiwan; s33(a)(iii) of whom completed their treatment and returned to Nauru, with s33(a)(iii) continuing to receive care in Taiwan.

s33(a)(iii) through open communication and collaboration, there has been positive health outcomes. In particular, I call out the successful meetings and workshops in Taiwan in March and April 2018, which provided our agencies with a platform to share information about the arrangement and troubleshoot problems.


s33(a)(iii)



s33(a)(iii)

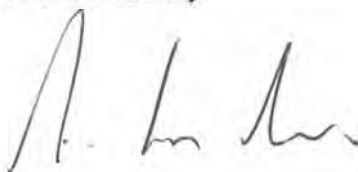


I would also like to take this opportunity to seek an update on the request raised by the Home Affairs delegation during their visits in March and April 2018^{s33(a)(iii)}



Your cooperation and goodwill to achieve such a successful medical transfer arrangement is recognised and appreciated. I look forward to our continued work together.

Yours sincerely



Anthony Seebach
Acting First Assistant Secretary
International Policy Division

18 June 2018



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MINUTE

To: AC Detention Compliance and Removals; FAS Detention Services; Chief Medical Officer.

Through: a/FAS International. *MCSG 29/6/17.*

Cc: Commander Offshore Operational Coordination; AS Services Management; AS Health Policy and Performance; AS Legal Advice and Operational Support.

Date: 29 June 2017

TAIWAN MEDICAL TRANSFERS AGREEMENT

Timing

By COB 4 July 2017 to enable preparations in advance of delegation travel to Taiwan.

Purpose

To:

1. advise you of the status of medical transfer arrangement discussions with Taiwan, including next steps;
2. s33(b)
3. provide you with a final opportunity to comment on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU, Attachment A) and subordinate Operational Guidelines (Attachment B) for a medical transfer arrangement for certain persons from regional processing countries, which the Department has broadly agreed with Taiwan; and
4. seek your nominations for key subject matter experts who should attend the operational workshop in Taiwan (tentatively scheduled for 31 July-3 August 2017), to enable the minimum necessary time to facilitate their travel.

Background

5. On 25 May 2017, Minister Dutton noted a submission from the Department providing an update on discussions with Taiwan and the Department's next steps (Attachment C refers).
6. In April 2017, Departmental representatives travelled to Taiwan to discuss the proposed arrangement and to conduct an initial assessment of the hospital. During this visit, Taiwan provided comments on the draft MOU and Operational Guidelines to the Department.
7. Following the visit and subsequent briefings between International Division and other responsible areas of the Department, operational planning has commenced. This builds on extensive consultation during the development of the MOU and Operational Guidelines text.

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~~PROTECTED: Sensitive~~**Issues**

s33(b)

Final opportunity to comment on MOU text

9. International Division has received final edits from Taiwan on the draft MOU and Operational Guidelines text. We have a small window within which to request any further critical changes to the MOU and Operational Guidelines text: note that any requested changes at this stage are likely to cause a delay to the timing set out below.
10. Once reviewed by the Department's Legal Division, we will provide the final draft text to Taiwan for commencement of their approval process. DFAT Taipei anticipate this process will likely occur during August.

Workshop and MOU signing

11. Bilateral economic consultations with Taiwan will occur on 16 August 2017. This is the key annual engagement activity between Australian and Taiwanese representatives and it presents an opportunity for signing of the MOU.
12. To ensure both sides have thoroughly engaged with the necessary processes, risks, and responsibilities, International Division is organising an operational workshop in Taiwan to occur in advance of the MOU signing (tentatively schedule for 31 July-3 August). The workshop will be the final step prior to signing the MOU; it will focus on how Australian and Taiwanese officials work together to operationalise the MOU.

13. s33(a)(iii)

14. AC Detention Compliance and Removals (Kingsley Woodford-Smith) will lead the delegation and facilitate the workshop, with support from AS Legal Advice and Operational Support (Steve McGlynn) and Assistant Director Pacific s22(1)(a)(ii). While we must carefully manage costs associated with the workshop, we would consider additional nominees consistent with the workshop's focus, at the EL2 substantive level (or higher). Representatives should be able to speak with knowledge and authority on their area of remit as it pertains to the s33(a)(iii) s33(a)(iii) to ensure the workshop results in clear and mutually beneficial arrangements.
15. The workshop will also provide an opportunity to identify gaps in our collective processes, highlight known risks for Taiwan, and seek advice on their assumptions for managing such risks.
 - a. Based on tentative scheduling, it should allow a small window for any final adaptations of the MOU text in advance of execution on 16 August.
16. Taking into account the likely need for Taiwan to reformulate their arrangements following the workshop, s33(a)(iii)

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17. The Clinical Advisory Team's initial visit report on ^{s33(a)(iii)} [redacted] is at Attachment D; I understand that International SOS will prepare a further, in-depth report on ^{s33(a)(iii)} [redacted] capabilities in the coming weeks.

Consultation

18. Nil.

Recommendations

I recommend that you:

- a. ^{s33(b)} [redacted]

Agreed / Please discuss	Agreed / Please discuss	Agreed / Please discuss
AC DCR	FAS DSD	CMO

- b. **note** the status of discussions with Taiwan to establish a medical transfer arrangement

Noted	Noted	Noted
AC DCR	FAS DSD	CMO

- c. **note** the final MOU and Operational Guidelines text (Attachments A and B), and provide any critical edits by COB 4 July 2017.

Noted	Noted	Noted
AC DCR	FAS DSD	CMO

Commander Anthony Seebach
Assistant Secretary Pacific and Transnational
Issues Branch
0262756771
28 June 2017

Assistant Commissioner Kingsley Woodford-Smith
Detention, Compliance and Removals
July 2017

David Nockes
First Assistant Secretary, Detention Services
July 2017

Dr. John Brayley
Chief Medical Officer
July 2017

Contact Officer: ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [redacted]
Phone: [redacted]

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Attachment(s):

- Attachment A: Final draft text of the *MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING between the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Australia and the Australian Office in Taipei on the medical treatment in Taiwan of certain Persons residing in Regional Processing Countries.*
- Attachment B: Final draft text of the *OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES supporting the Memorandum of Understanding between the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Australia and the Australian Office in Taipei on the medical treatment in Taiwan of certain Persons residing in Regional Processing Countries.*
- Attachment C: MS17-001749, Ministerial Submission to Minister for Immigration and Border Protection
- Attachment D: Report on ~~s33(a)(iii)~~ by HSPD's Clinical Advisor, ~~s22(1)(a)(ii)~~

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Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Submission

For information

PDMS Ref. Number MS17-001749

To Minister for Immigration and Border Protection
Subject Medical transfer arrangement from regional processing countries to Taiwan
Timing Please action by 5 June 2017

Recommendations

That you:

- 1. note the Department is in final discussions with Taiwan to establish a medical transfer arrangement for refugees/asylum seekers from regional processing countries (Nauru and Papua New Guinea); and

noted please discuss

- 2. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

noted please discuss

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Signature *Peter Dutton*

Date: *25/05*/2017

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Received
22 MAY 2017
Minister for Immigration
and Border Protection

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Minister's Comments				
Rejected Yes/No	Timely Yes/No	Relevance <input type="checkbox"/> Highly relevant <input type="checkbox"/> Significantly relevant <input type="checkbox"/> Not relevant	Length <input type="checkbox"/> Too long <input type="checkbox"/> Right length <input type="checkbox"/> Too brief	Quality Poor 1.....2.....3.....4.....5 Excellent Comments:

Key Issues

1. For more than a year the Department has considered, and approached, countries to establish third country medical transfer arrangements for refugees and asylum seekers in regional processing countries (Nauru and Papua New Guinea). At the Department's behest, representatives of the Australian Office in Taipei approached Taiwanese officials in 2016 to seek such an arrangement.

2. s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

3. Representatives from the Department travelled to Taiwan for meetings and a hospital tour on 19-20 April 2017. The visit went well, with Taiwanese officials expressing their commitment to the MOU and demonstrating flexibility to enable the arrangement.

a. s33(b), s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

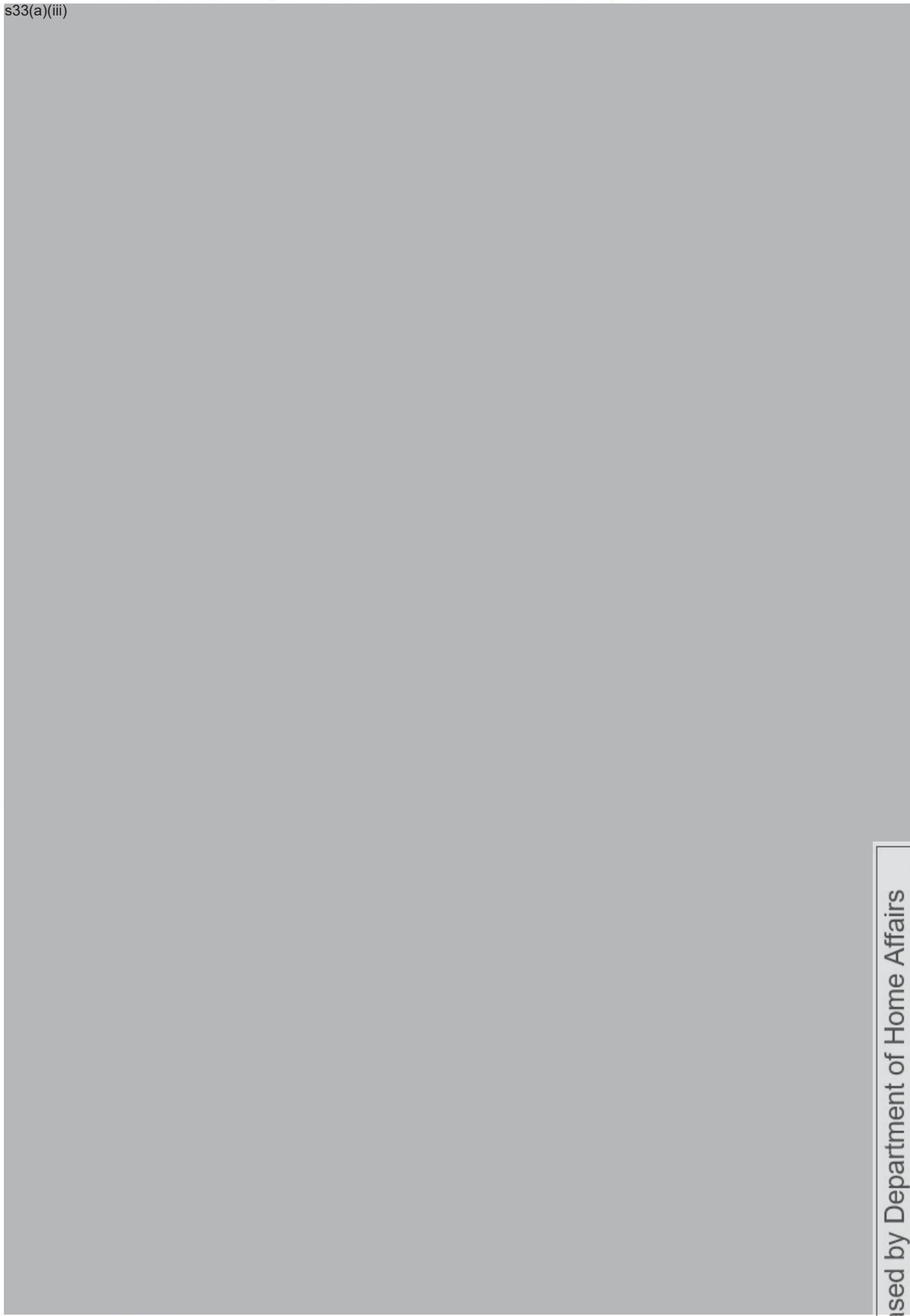
4. s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

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16. During a visit (2-6 May 2017) by a delegation of Australian Government MPs and Senators to Taiwan, Taiwanese officials briefly mentioned the medical transfer MOU negotiations underway. DFAT advised that it did not appear any of the parliamentarians specifically noted the reference, as there were no follow up questions and it was not mentioned again. The delegation included Senator James Paterson, Stuart Robert MP, Senator Dean Smith, Kevin Andrews MP, Senator David Bushby and Kevin Hogan MP.

Background

17. The Department provides support for the provision of medical services to asylum seekers and refugees in Nauru and PNG. Where necessary, current arrangements allow for the transfer of

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certain individuals with complex medical issues to Port Moresby (Pacific International Hospital) or Australia for treatment.

18. The Department has been actively seeking third country options for complex medical treatment, to discourage the perception that medical transfer is a pathway to Australia.

19. ^{s33(a)(iii)}



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~~PROTECTED: Sensitive~~**Consultation – internal/external**

20. Internal: Traveller, Customs and Industry Policy Division; Children, Community and Settlement Services Division; Detention Services Division; Detention, Compliance and Removals Division; Health Services and Policy Division; Regional Processing Taskforce; Taskforce Ramiform.
21. External: DFAT.

Consultation – Secretary/Commissioner

22. The Secretary and Commissioner are aware of progress on this issue.

Client service implications

23. This arrangement will enable the Department to connect refugees and asylum seekers with access to medical services not currently available on Nauru or Manus.

Sensitivities

24. The commencement of this medical transfer arrangement is likely to attract media attention.

s33(a)(iii)

Financial/systems/legislation/deregulation implications

25. Funding to support medical transfers from regional processing countries was allocated in the 2017-18 Budget.

Attachment

Nil.

Authorising Officer

Cleared by:

Rachel Noble PSM
Deputy Secretary Policy
Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Date: 19 May 2017

Ph: 02 s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact Officers Commander Anthony Seebach, Assistant Secretary Pacific and Transnational Issues
(Ph: s22(1)(a)(ii) or Robert McGregor, Assistant Secretary Asia (Ph: s22(1)(a)(ii))

Through FAS International

CC Secretary
Commissioner
Deputy Secretaries

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Australian Government
**Department of Immigration
and Border Protection**



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BORDER FORCE**

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**DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION
DELEGATION**

VISIT TO TAIPEI, TAIWAN

MEDICAL TRANSFERS WORKSHOP

TRAVEL PERIOD 20 – 24 August 2017

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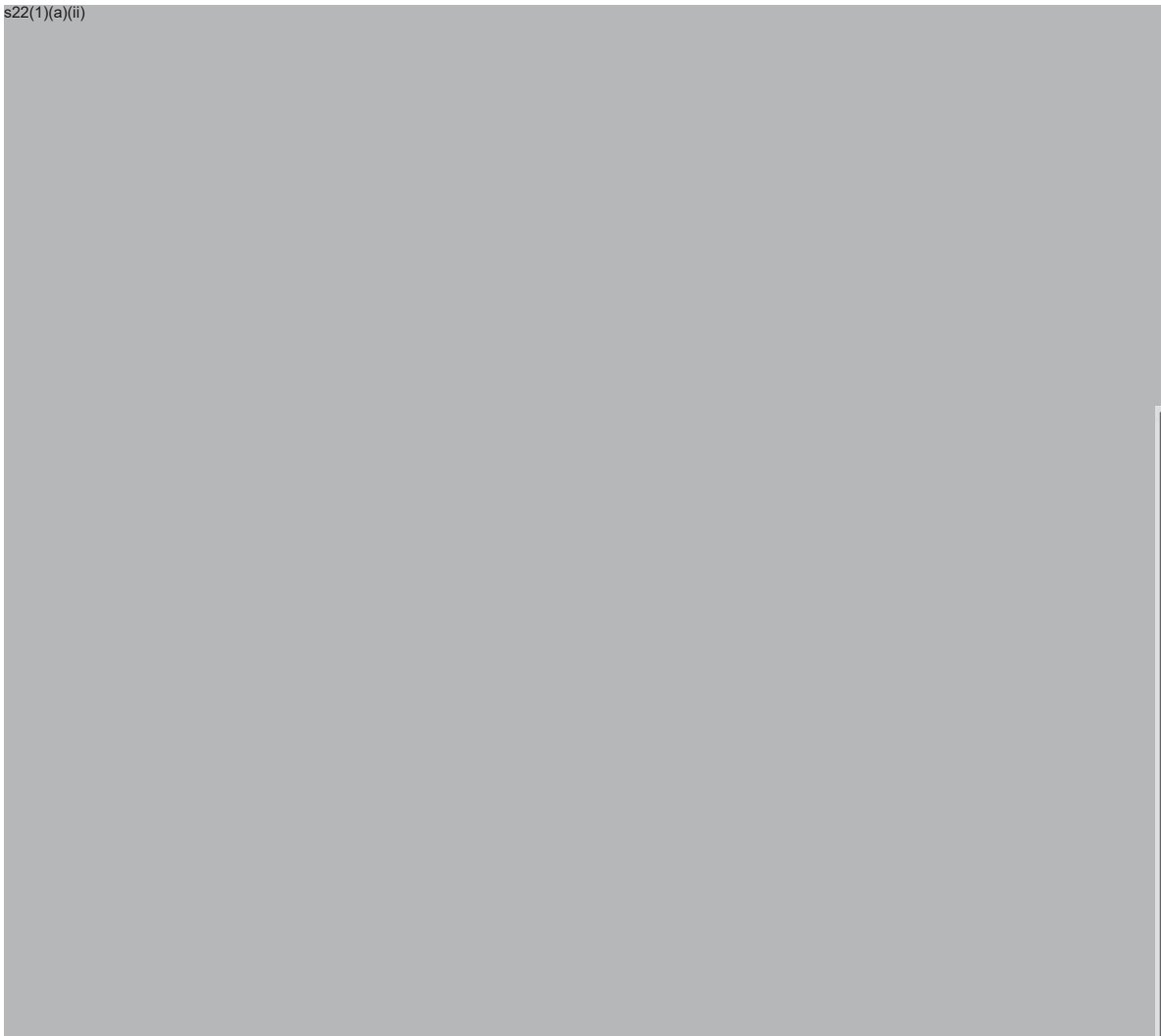
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Attachment E - ^{s33(b)}	Tab E
Attachment F - Final text of the Operational Guidelines supporting the <i>MOU</i>	Tab F

OFFICIAL DELEGATION

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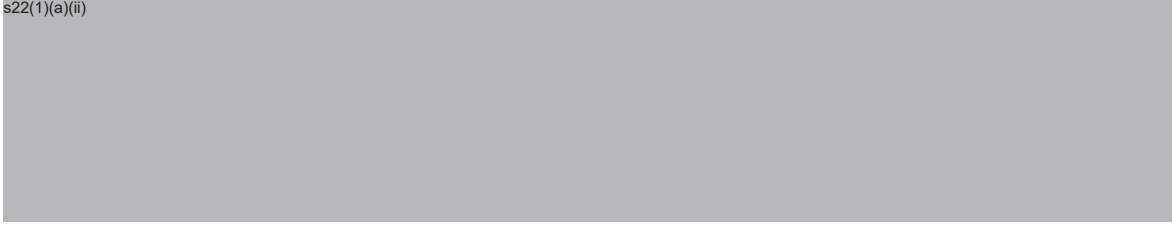
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ACCOMMODATION

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CONTACT DETAILS

s22(1)(a)(ii)



EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS:

s22(1)(a)(ii)



OFFICIAL GIFTS

s22(1)(a)(ii)



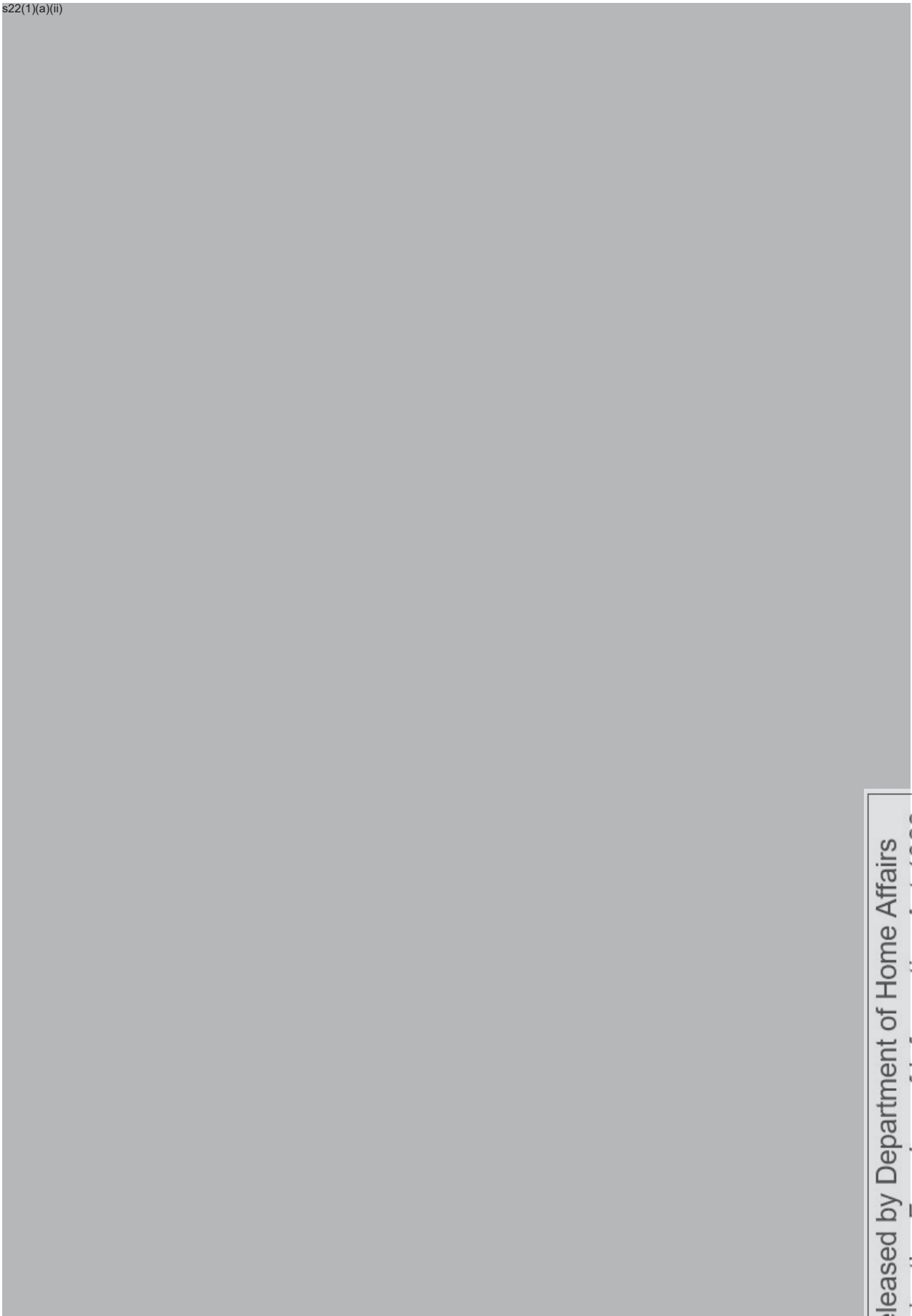
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OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

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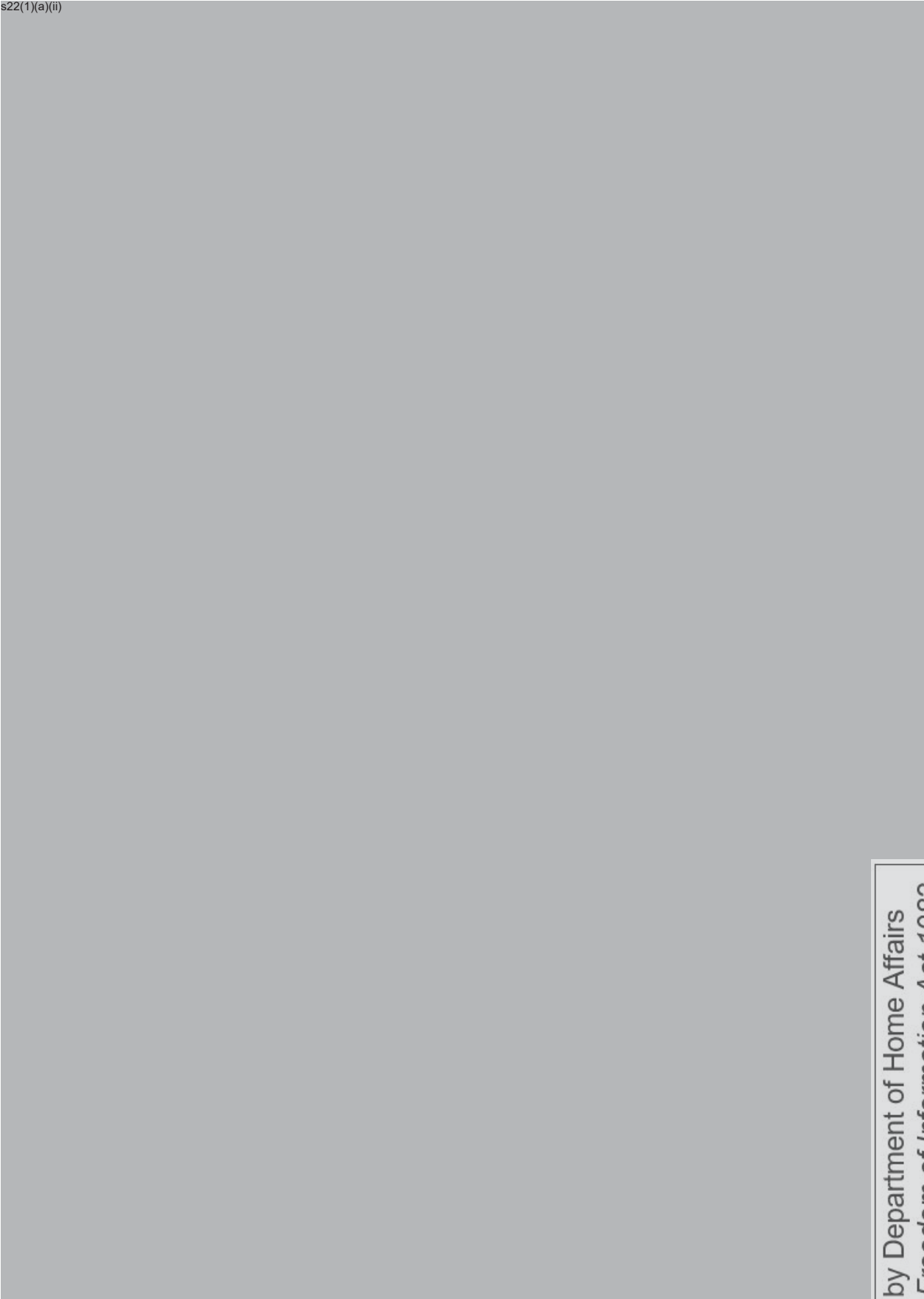


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WORKSHOP TAIWAIN MEDICAL TRANSFERS WORKSHOP BRIEFING

OVERVIEW

1. You are travelling to Taipei, Taiwan to participate in a workshop with the purpose of;

s22(1)(a)(ii)

2.

Talking Points:

Introduction

- Australia is grateful for Taiwan’s agreement to receive persons from regional processing countries for medical treatment.
 - We look forward to working through the implementation issues during this workshop.
- Australia remains committed to humanitarian resettlement programmes for refugees and others in humanitarian need, but as you are aware, the irregular movement of migrants is a complex issue that poses significant challenges for all countries.
- Australia’s border protection policies aim to discourage people from relying on people smugglers and from attempting to make the dangerous sea voyage to Australia.
 - If people do try to reach Australia by boat unlawfully, they will be either:
 - safely returned; or
 - transferred to a regional processing country where their protection claims will be assessed.
 - Processing of protection claims and resettlement of persons found to be refugees in a third country, but not Australia, sends a clear message that people smugglers cannot offer a path to Australia.

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Medical treatment for refugees/asylum seekers in regional processing countries

- Individuals in regional processing countries, including Nauru, with medical conditions have access to medical treatment in those countries.
- However, in exceptional circumstances, necessary medical treatment is not available.
- The Australian Government is concerned that permitting access to Australia for medical treatment sets a precedent that encourages individuals to take extreme actions, such as engaging in self-harming behaviours, in order to reach Australia.
- Australia is committed to helping regional processing countries to provide appropriate medical care to individuals.
- Taiwan, and specifically ^{s33(a)(iii)} [REDACTED], has a reputation for high quality medical care and offers a number of medical specialties that are not readily available in Nauru.
- We are delighted to be close to signing the MOU with Taiwan.
- The workshop is intended to clarify how we will work together to execute a medical transfer.
- We appreciate you making the time, especially during Universiade, to participate.
Note: Universiade is an international multi-sport event, organized for university athletes. It is being hosted in Taipei between 19-30 August.

Key facts about medical transfers to Taiwan:

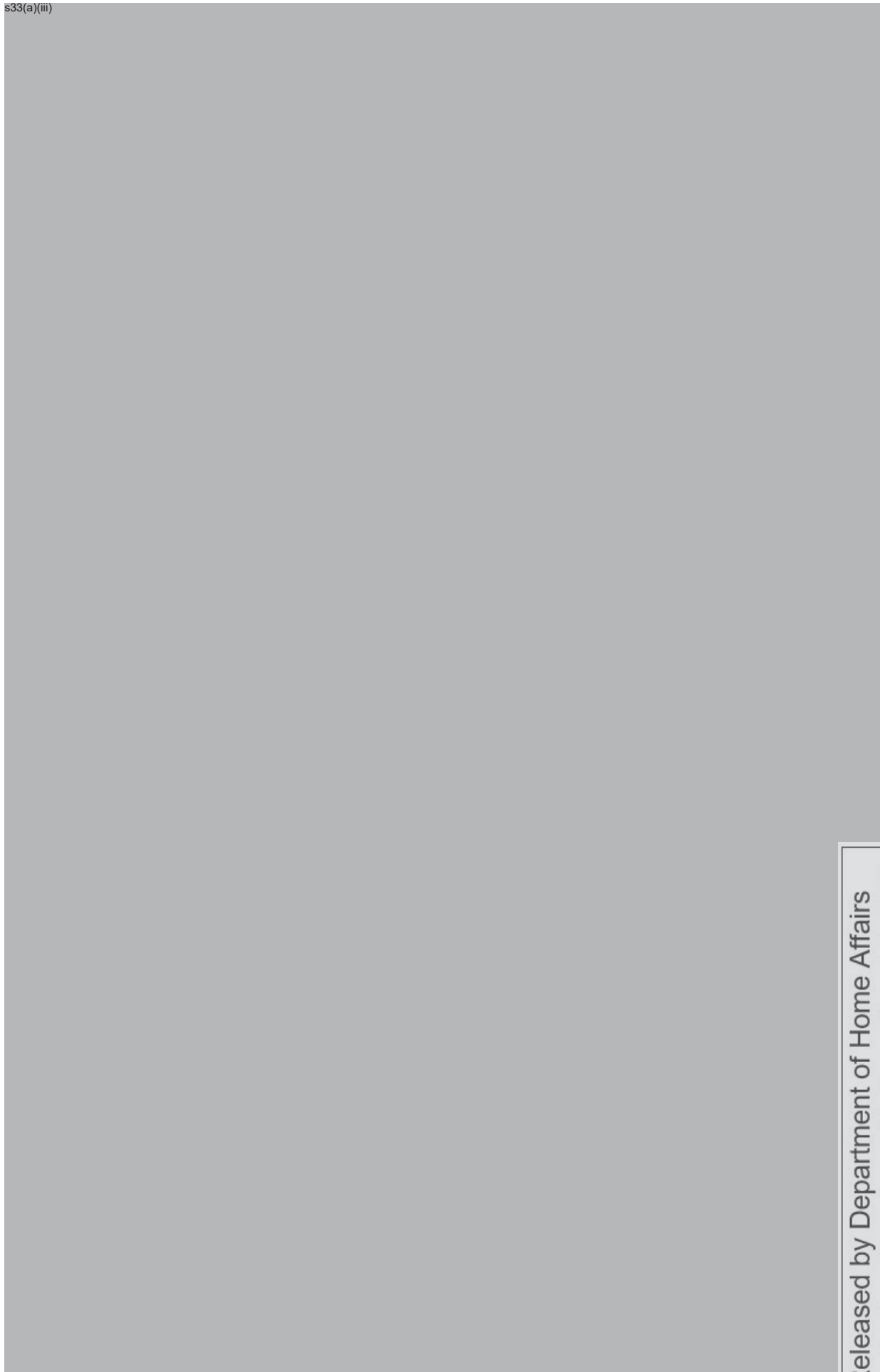
- The health service provider, International Health and Medical Services (IHMS), delivers health services to individuals subject to regional processing arrangements in Nauru. As required, visiting specialists can be engaged to deliver additional medical services.

^{s33(a)(iii)} [REDACTED]

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s33(a)(iii)



What is an Overseas Medical Referral (OMR)?

- The Government of Nauru manages the health care of all refugees living in Nauru, with support from Australian-funded contractors. All requests for medical treatment outside Nauru must be considered through the Nauru Department of Health OMR.
- Individuals whose refugee status is yet to be finally determined will be referred for transfer to the Department by IHMS via a Request for Medical Movement (RMM) and do not require referral under OMR.

What is the time from diagnosis to approval for treatment?

- The timeframe from diagnosis to approval for transfer would vary from case to case.
- The ^{s33(a)(iii)}  to consider transfer cases. Short notice assessment can also occur depending on the urgency of medical care.
- The process, once approved, is then managed within the clinical indication of treatment and external factors, such as identity and visa documents being issued.

s33(a)(iii)



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MEETING BRIEF

Head of the Australian Office in Taipei, Ms Catherine Raper

Key Issues

- The meeting provides the opportunity to seek an update on the status of MOU.
 - It appears unlikely that the MOU will be signed in advance of the workshop.
 - s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]
 - DFAT have no concerns about timeliness of the process at this point.
- Ms Raper is likely to raise issue regarding ability of Australian Office to provide any further/ongoing support as transfers commence.
 - We have previously, in general terms, discussed whether the Department will consider a locally engaged staff member to support the MOU and transfers in future.
 - s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]
 - We will continue to work with the Australian Office throughout this process.
 - DIBP greatly appreciate DFAT's continued support to achieve policy outcomes for this whole-of-government priority.

- s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

s22(1)(a)(ii) [Redacted]

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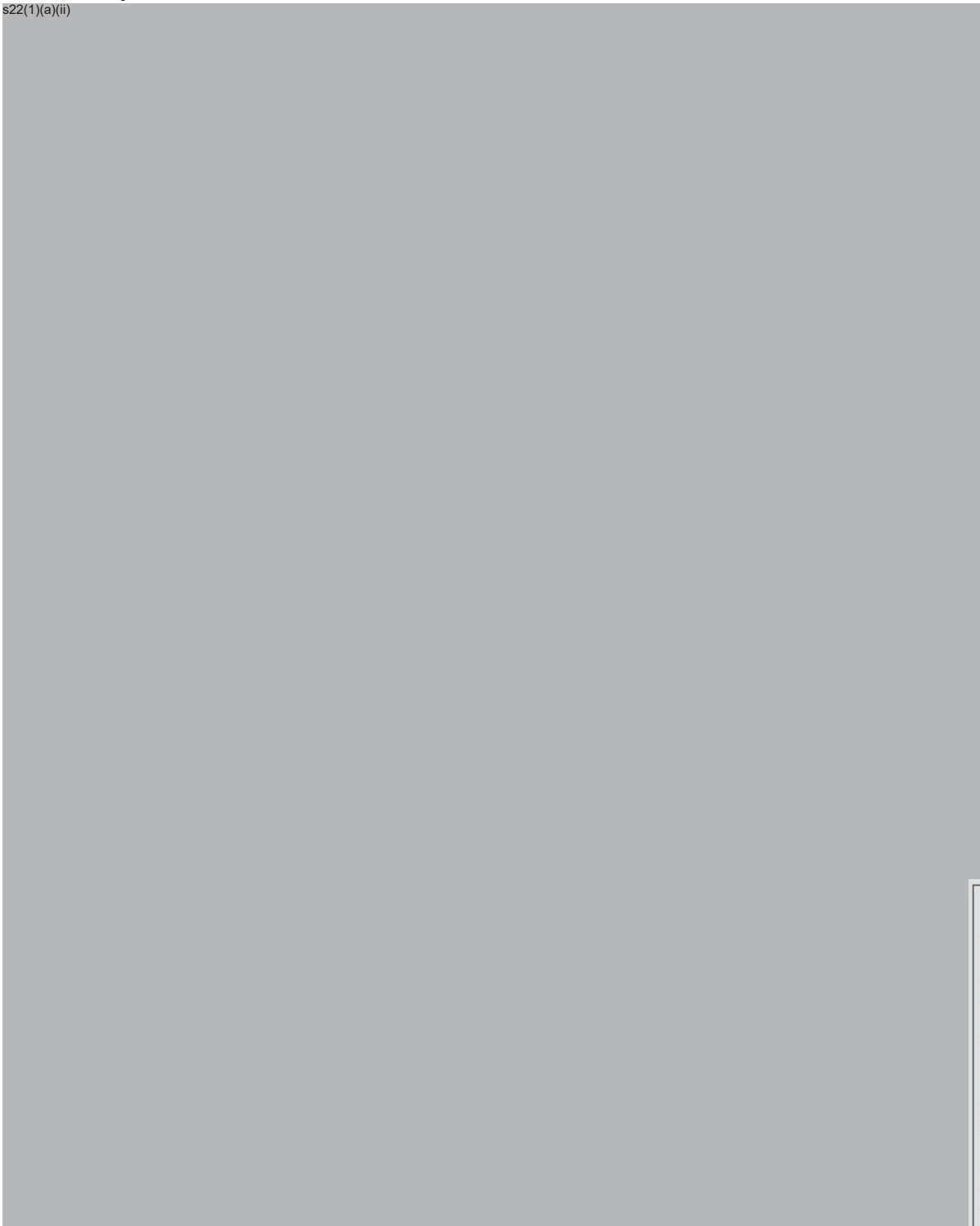
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Attachment A

Workshop Attendees

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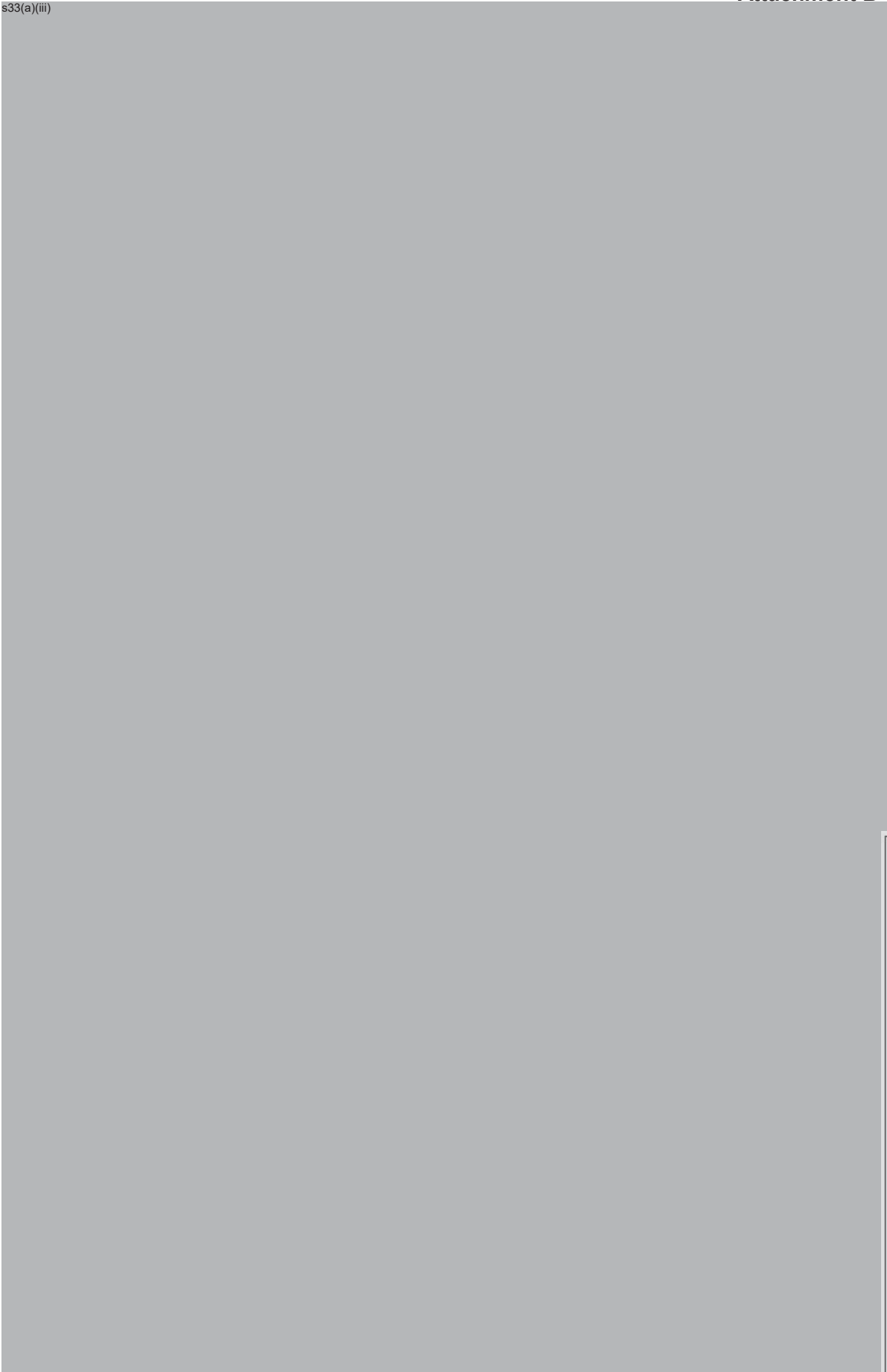
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Attachment B

s33(a)(iii)



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FAS INTERNATIONAL BACKGROUND

Title: Third Country Medical Transfer Arrangements

Key Points

- Australia continues to support Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Nauru to meet the health needs of persons transferred under regional processing arrangements.
 - Australia supports Nauru to establish arrangements for specialist medical services not available in Nauru.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Medical transfers to Taiwan

- Taiwan has agreed to an arrangement to provide specialist medical services to refugees or transferees currently residing in Nauru, who require treatment not available in Nauru.
 - The arrangement with Taiwan provides an option for persons requiring medical treatment not available in Nauru, and builds on existing bilateral medical arrangements between Nauru and Taiwan.
- Taiwan has a global reputation for high quality medical care.

s33(b)

If asked: Who will decide whether a patient will need treatment in Taiwan?

- Medical professionals will decide what care is appropriate.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Background

Medical transfers to Taiwan

On 12 September 2017, Australian and Taiwan officials signed the *Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Australian Office In Taipei And The Taipei Economic And Cultural Office In Australia On The Medical Treatment In Taiwan Of Certain Persons Residing In Regional Processing Countries* (the MOU) underpinning a medical transfer arrangement with Taiwan. ^{s33(b)}



Consultation

Regional Processing Task Force, Offshore Operational Coordination

Additional Briefing Material

FAS Background - PNG Desk - PNG Background

FAS Background - Recommendations Nauru and Manus RPC Senate Inquiry Report

DSP Backpacket - Third Country Resettlement Arrangements

Responsible Officer	Contact Officer
Commander Anthony Seebach Assistant Secretary Pacific and Transnational Issues Branch International Division Ph: (02) ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} Mob: ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}	^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} Counter People Smuggling Section International Division Ph: (02) ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} Mob: ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}

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Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Submission

For information
PDMS Ref. Number MS17-004112

To Minister for Immigration and Border Protection
Subject Update on arrangements for medical transfer from Nauru to Taiwan
Timing *At your convenience*

Recommendations

That you:

- 1. note the Australian Government has signed a memorandum of understanding with Taiwan for the provision of medical services, in Taiwan, for persons from regional processing countries;

noted / please discuss

- 2. s33(b) [Redacted]

noted / please discuss

- 3. s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

noted / please discuss

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Signature *[Handwritten Signature]*

Date: *05*¹²/*7*/2017

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Minister's Comments				
Rejected Yes/No	Timely Yes/No	Relevance <input type="checkbox"/> Highly relevant <input type="checkbox"/> Significantly relevant <input type="checkbox"/> Not relevant	Length <input type="checkbox"/> Too long <input type="checkbox"/> Right length <input type="checkbox"/> Too brief	Quality Poor 1.....2.....3.....4.....5 Excellent Comments:

Key Issues

1. To mitigate the risk of medical transfers being used as a pathway to Australia, the Department has sought third country medical treatment options for transferees in regional processing countries.
2. To this end, on 12 September 2017, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Australian Office in Taipei and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Australia, establishing a foundation for access to medical services not available to transferees in regional processing countries.^{s33(b)}

[Redacted]

3. ^{s33(b), s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

4. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

5. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

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6. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

7. [Redacted]

Background

8. In May 2017 the Department advised you (MS17-001749 refers) that it was in final discussions with Taiwan to establish a medical transfer arrangement for transferees residing in regional processing countries. The MOU was signed on 12 September 2017. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

9. ^{s33(b)} [Redacted]

10. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

Home Affairs Impacts

11. The agreement with Taiwan is aligned with the Home Affairs model.

Consultation – internal/external

12. Internal: International Division; Children, Community and Settlement Services Division; Detention Services Division; Detention, Compliance and Removals Division; Regional Processing Taskforce; Taskforce Ramiform.

Consultation – Secretary/Commissioner

13. The Secretary and Acting Commissioner are aware of the medical transfers MOU with Taiwan.

Client service implications

14. The MOU enables persons to access medical services not currently available in regional processing countries. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Sensitivities

15. Medical transfers to Taiwan are likely to attract media attention. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]
^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

16. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

17. There is also potential for criticism regarding the cost associated with medical transfers and arguments that such expenditure should be directed to the Australian public health system.

Financial/systems/legislation/deregulation/media implications

18. Funding to support medical transfers from regional processing countries was allocated in 2017-18 Budget.

Attachments

19. Nil.

<p>Authorising Officer</p> <p>Cleared by: Kingsley Woodford-Smith Acting Deputy Commissioner Operations</p> <p>Date: 10 November 2017 Ph: 02 ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [Redacted]</p>

Contact Officer ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [Redacted] Acting Commander, Offshore Operations Coordination Branch, Ph: 02 ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [Redacted]

Through Acting FAS International, Brendan Dowling

CC Secretary
Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner Support

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SUBJECT: Minute - update on Taiwan medical transfers and clearance of Comms Strategy

ACTION REQUIRED: Signature Clearance FYI **EA QA:**

<p>BRANCH:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ASIA</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PACIFIC AND TRANSNATIONAL ISSUES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAS, EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA</p>	<p>DOCUMENT:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MINUTE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SUBMISSION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> BRIEFING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ITR</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
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CONTACT NAME: s22(1)(a)(ii) **PHONE:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

<p>AS CLEARANCE: Anthony Seebach</p> <p>Date: 6 Dec 2017</p> <p>Reason: Timely approval of Comms Strategy, first step in commencing transfers</p>	<p>FAS CLEARANCE (48hrs after received)</p> <p>Date: 9 Dec 2017</p> <p>Reason: Timely approval of Comms Strategy, first step in commencing transfers</p>
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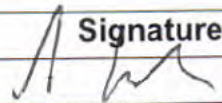
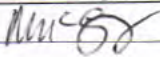
EXPLANATION (What is it and what needs to be done):

Minute providing an update to FAS on planning for the first medical transfers to Taiwan, and seeking urgent approval of the Communications Strategy and associated products. The Comms Strategy must be approved as a first step before seeking the consent of the individuals who will be transferred (as that may be a trigger for media interest). s22(1)(a)(ii) has reviewed the Communications Strategy and documentation; EL2 approval provided by s22(1)(a) [redacted]

AS COMMENTS:

EO NOTES:

FASID COMMENTS:

Cleared by	Print Name	Signature	Date
Assistant Secretary	Anthony Seebach		7/12/17
First Assistant Secretary	a/g - Robert McGregor		7 DE 17

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MINUTE

To: Acting First Assistant Secretary International Division, Rob McGregor

mmc86 7/12/17

CC: Acting Assistant Secretary Asia, ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [REDACTED]

Date: 6 December 2017

PLANNING FOR FIRST MEDICAL TRANSFERS TO TAIWAN

Timing

By close of business Friday 8 December to support Operations Group to progress medical transfers from Nauru to Taiwan.

Purpose

To:

1. provide you with an update on planning for the first medical transfers from Nauru to Taiwan, led by Assistant Commissioner Detention and Offshore Operations Command (AC DOOC, Kingsley Woodford-Smith); and
2. seek your approval to the attached Communications Strategy and associated documentation.

Background

3. On 12 September 2017, the *Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Australian Office In Taipei And The Taipei Economic And Cultural Office In Australia On The Medical Treatment In Taiwan Of Certain Persons Residing In Regional Processing Countries* (MOU) came into effect.
4. On 10-12 October, ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [REDACTED], Superintendent Offshore Health Operations Section (OHOS), travelled to Taiwan to discuss the first tranche of cases with ^{s33(a)(iii)} [REDACTED] and ^{s33(a)(iii)} [REDACTED] iron out processes.

^{s33(a)(iii)} [REDACTED]

Issues

PLANNING FOR TRANSFERS

5. International Division has provided close support to DOOC, through regular engagement and weekly meetings, to enable the first medical transfers from Nauru to Taiwan.
 - a. We have advised DOOC that in the absence of an emergency, there are significant risks – both operationally and diplomatically – with scheduling any transfers over Christmas, and therefore we have strongly recommended against this occurring.

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- b. We consider that in a best case scenario medical transfer could commence in early-to-mid January 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

- 6. The draft Communications Strategy for your approval is at Attachments A-F with our proposed edits noted in tracked changes.

7. s33(a)(iii)

[Redacted]

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION RESOURCING

- 8. International Division should be prepared to provide ongoing diplomatic support for transfers; DFAT's Australian Office in Taipei have stressed the need for DIBP to resource the international engagement elements of this arrangement, particularly as transfers commence.

- a. OHOS wish to meet with key Taiwanese interlocutors during the first transfers (immigration, consular, and health authorities). International Division should send Immigration Consul Hong Kong or alternate representation to accompany the Health Liaison Officer to these meetings. s33(a)(iii)
- [Redacted]

Agreed.

- 9. Discussions are underway between Pacific and Transnational Issues (PTI) and Asia branches, regarding resourcing and responsibilities due to staffing changes and the need for ongoing support during medical transfer operations.

Shouldn't OHOS post an officer on STM to Taiwan?

- 10. Additionally, our lead DFAT interlocutors in Taipei will change over imminently: Head of Post [Representative] Cathy Raper departs in December 2017, and Deputy Representative Patricia Smith will depart in January 2018.

- a. The simultaneous rotation of two new DFAT officers into these roles presents risk to the process. s33(a)(iii)
- [Redacted]

s33(a)(iii)

- 11. s33(a)(iii)
- [Redacted]

s33(b)

- 12. s33(a)(iii)
- [Redacted]
- 13.
 - 14.

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a. s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

Consultation

15. North Asia Section.

Recommendation

I recommend that you:

- 1. note the contents of this brief, including the importance of sending an International Division representative to accompany the Health Liaison Officer for any officials meetings in Taipei; and

Noted / Please discuss

- 2. approve the Communications Strategy and supporting documents, at Attachments A-F.

Approved / Please discuss

Commander Anthony Seebach
Assistant Secretary
Pacific and Transnational Issues Branch

Robert McGregor
Acting First Assistant Secretary
International Division

with minor amendments

02 s22(1)(a)(ii) [Redacted]

6 December 2017

7 December 2017

Contact Officer: s22(1)(a)(ii) [Redacted]
Phone: [Redacted]

- Attachment A
- Attachment B
- Attachment C
- Attachment D
- Attachment E
- Attachment F

s22(1)(a)(ii) [Redacted]

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Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Submission

For information
PDMS Ref. Number MS18-000236

To Minister for Home Affairs
Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Subject First Taiwan Medical Transfer

Timing *The submission is for information only and there is no urgency.*

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the first medical transfer from Nauru to Taiwan occurred on 12 January 2018; and (noted) / please discuss

2. ^{s33(a)(iii)} [REDACTED] (noted) / please discuss

Minister for Home Affairs
Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Signature.....

Date: 08/02/2018

Received
31 JAN 2018
Minister for Immigration
and Border Protection

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Minister's Comments				
Rejected Yes/No	Timely Yes/No	Relevance <input type="checkbox"/> Highly relevant <input type="checkbox"/> Significantly relevant <input type="checkbox"/> Not relevant	Length <input type="checkbox"/> Too long <input type="checkbox"/> Right length <input type="checkbox"/> Too brief	Quality Poor 1.....2.....3.....4.....5 Excellent Comments:

Key Issues

1. On 12 January 2018, two transferees travelled to Taipei, Taiwan to receive medical treatment not available in Nauru. These two transferees are the first to receive treatment under the memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in September 2017 for the medical treatment of transferees in regional processing countries (MS17-004112 Update on arrangements for medical transfer from Nauru to Taiwan refers).

2. s33(a)(iii)

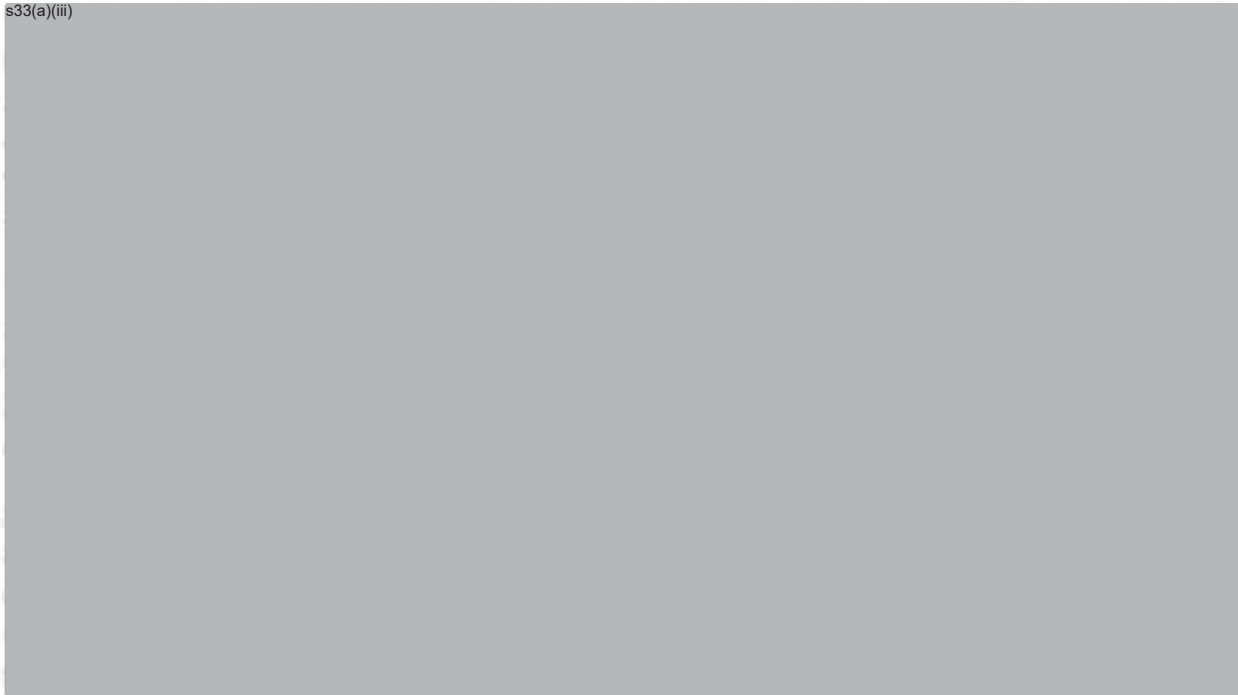
3. s33(a)(iii)

4.

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5.

s33(a)(iii)



6.

7.

Consultation – internal/external

8. Detention and Offshore Operations Command, and Health Services and Policy, and Children, Community and Settlement Services Divisions.

Consultation – Secretary

9. The Secretary is aware of the approach in this submission.

Client service implications

10. Nil.

Sensitivities

11.

s33(a)(iii)




12.

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Financial/systems/legislation/deregulation/media implications

13. Nil.

<p>Authorising Officer</p> <p>Cleared by: </p> <p>Lachlan Colquhoun First Assistant Secretary International Division</p> <p>Date: 30 January 2018 Ph: 02 s22(1)(a)(ii)</p>
--

Contact Officer Anthony Seebach, Assistant Secretary, Pacific and Transnational Issues, Ph: 02 s22(1)(a)(ii)

Through Elizabeth Hampton, First Assistant Secretary Health Services and Policy
Kingsley Woodford-Smith, Assistant Commissioner Detention and Offshore Operations Command

CC

- Secretary
- Acting Commissioner
- Deputy Secretary Executive
- Deputy Commissioner Support
- Acting Deputy Secretary Policy
- Acting Deputy Secretary Corporate
- Acting Deputy Commissioner Operations
- Assistant Commissioner Detention and Offshore Operations
- FAS Detention Services
- Acting FAS Children, Community and Settlement Services

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UNCLASSIFIED

FAS INTERNATIONAL BACKGROUND**Title: Third Country Medical Transfer Arrangements**

Handling Note – On 12 February 2018, the existence of a MOU between Australia and Taiwan for medical treatment for transferees in Taiwan broke in a media release from Refugee Action Coalition. At the time of writing, there has been no further substantial media attention. ^{s33(a)(iii)}

Key Points

- Australia continues to support Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Nauru to meet the health needs of persons transferred under regional processing arrangements.
 - Australia supports Nauru to establish arrangements for specialist medical services not available in Nauru.
 - Persons in PNG can access specialist medical services in Port Moresby.
- Decisions on medical transfers are made on a case-by-case basis, according to clinical need.
- People transferred to Australia for a temporary purpose, such as medical treatment, are required to return to a regional processing country when they no longer need to be in Australia for the temporary purpose for which they came here, and when it is reasonably practicable to affect their return.
- Medical transfer is not a pathway to remain in Australia.

If asked: Is there an arrangement between Australia and Taiwan for medical transfers?

- Taiwan has agreed to provide specialist medical services to transferees residing in Nauru who require medical treatment not available in Nauru.
 - The arrangement with Taiwan builds on existing bilateral medical arrangements between Nauru and Taiwan.
- Taiwan has a global reputation for high-quality medical care and this arrangement is in-line with Taiwan's existing health cooperation with Nauru, under which Taiwan provides technical assistance to the Republic of Nauru Hospital.

If asked: When did Taiwan and Australia enter the arrangement?

- Officials signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in September 2017.

If asked: Will the full text of the MOU be made public – why / why not?

- Parties have agreed not to make the contents of the MOU public, and it would be a breach of confidence for either party to do so unilaterally.

If asked: How many people have been transferred to Taiwan under this arrangement?

- As at 12 February 2018, ^{s33(a)(iii)}

^{s33(a)(iii)}

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Background

On 12 September 2017, Australian and Taiwan officials signed the *Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Australia Office In Taipei And The Taipei Economic And Cultural Office In Australia On The Medical Treatment In Taiwan Of Certain Persons Residing In Regional Processing Countries* (the MOU) underpinning the medical transfer arrangement.

The first medical transfer to Taiwan from Nauru occurred on 12 January 2018, ^{s33(a)(iii)}

**Consultation**

Offshore Operational Coordination, Detention & Offshore Operations Command

Responsible Officer and Contact Officer

^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}

Acting Assistant Secretary
Pacific and Transnational Issues Branch
International Division

Ph: (02) ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}

Mob: ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}

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Brief No. FAS-4

**Department of Home Affairs
Budget Estimates – May 2018**

FAS IPD BRIEF**Third Country Medical Transfer Arrangements**

Handling Note – On 12 February 2018, the existence of a medical transfer arrangement between Australia and Taiwan for transferees in Nauru broke in a media release by the Refugee Action Coalition. The arrangement has featured in the media several times since; commentary has generally been positive.

Key Talking Points

- **Australia continues to support Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Nauru** to meet the health needs of persons transferred under regional processing arrangements.
 - Australia supports Nauru to establish arrangements for specialist medical services not available in Nauru.
 - Persons in PNG can access specialist medical services in Port Moresby.
- **Decisions on medical transfers made on a case-by-case basis**, according to clinical need.
- **People transferred to Australia** for a temporary purpose, such as medical treatment, **required to return to a regional processing country** when they no longer need to be in Australia for the temporary purpose for which they came here, and when it is reasonably practicable to affect their return.
- **Medical transfer not a pathway to settlement in Australia.**

“If asked”

If asked: What is the arrangement with Taiwan?

- In September 2017, **Taiwan agreed to provide medical services to transferees residing in Nauru** who require medical treatment not available in Nauru.
 - The arrangement with Taiwan builds on existing bilateral medical arrangements between Nauru and Taiwan.
- Taiwan has a global reputation for high-quality medical care and this arrangement is in-line with Taiwan’s existing health cooperation with Nauru, under which Taiwan provides technical assistance to the Republic of Nauru Hospital.

If asked: Why are details of the arrangement not public?

- Parties have agreed not to make the contents of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) public, and it would be a breach of confidence for either party to do so.

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii)

If asked: Will Taiwan provide treatment for mental health cases?

- The medical transfer arrangement provides medical services for all transferees in Nauru who require treatment not available in Nauru.

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Brief No. FAS-4

- ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

Background

On 12 September 2017, Australian and Taiwanese officials signed the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Medical Treatment in Taiwan of Certain Persons Residing in Regional Processing Countries*. The arrangement is available to transferees in Nauru only.

The first transfer to Taiwan from Nauru occurred on 12 January 2018, ^{s33(a)(iii)} [Redacted]

Consultation

Other Divisions/external agencies consulted: Offshore Health Operations Section; Detention and Offshore Operations Command.

Contact Officer (AS level)	Responsible Officer
<p>Anthony Seebach Assistant Secretary Pacific and Transnational Issues Branch</p> <p>Ph: (02) ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [Redacted]</p> <p>Mob: ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [Redacted]</p>	<p>David Wilden First Assistant Secretary International Policy Division</p> <p>Ph: (02) ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [Redacted]</p> <p>Mob: ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [Redacted]</p>

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Meeting with s33(a)(iii)

20 June 2018

s33(a)(iii)

- **Acknowledge success** of the medical transfer arrangement; s33(a) individuals have received high-quality health care in Taiwan.
- Acknowledge commitment of s33(a)(iii) to implement the arrangement.

s33(a)(iii)

- Australia will not comment on the individual circumstances of a case.
- **Confidentiality of the MOU must be maintained.**
 - Home Affairs received FOI seeking access to the arrangement.
 - Intend to maintain the confidentiality of the arrangement.
 - Seek Taiwan to follow suit.

s33(a)(iii)

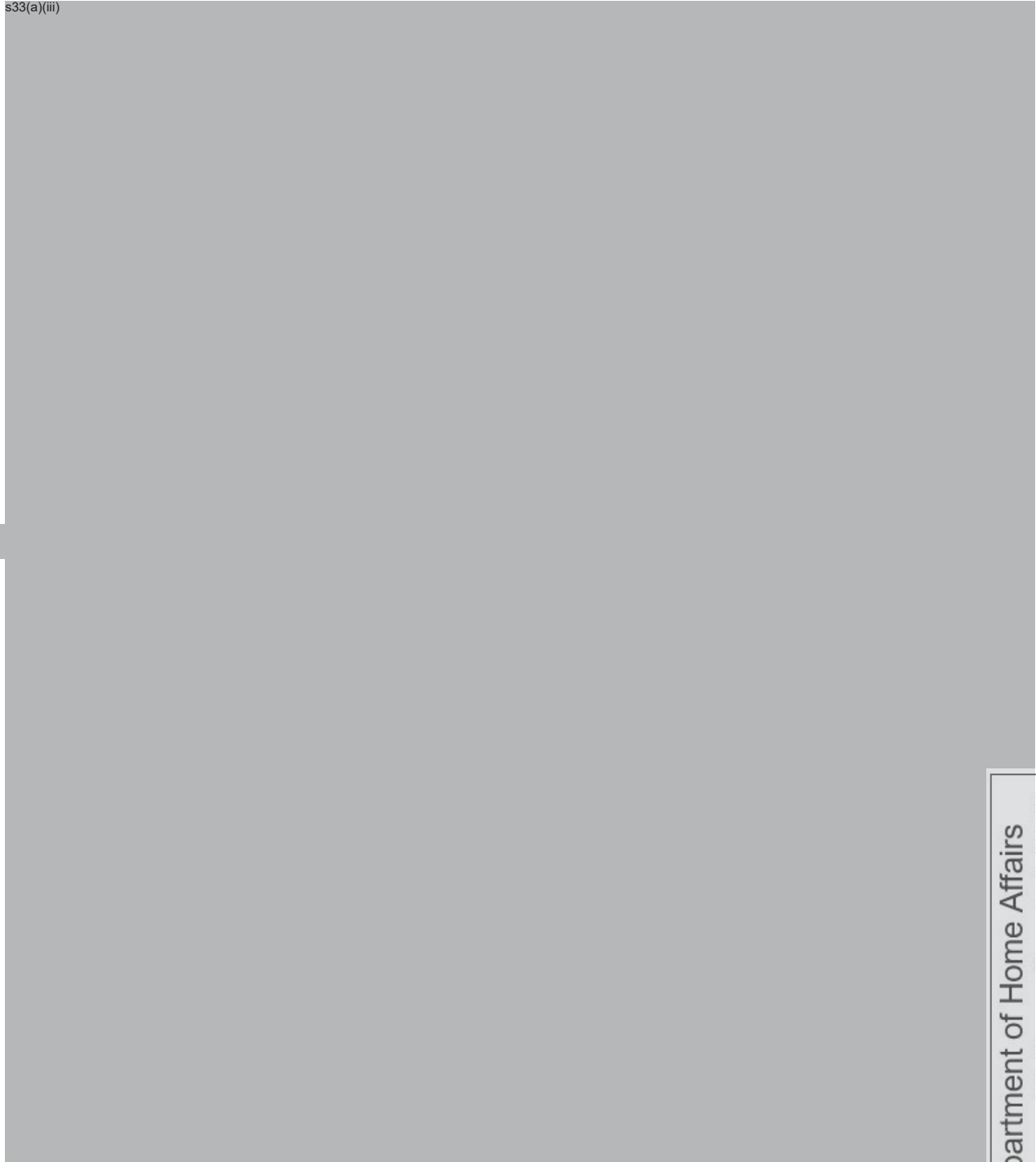
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s33(a)(iii)

Standard Operating Procedures and other initiatives

- Hand over **final draft SOPs** and seek agreement to implement.
 - SOPs updated following April workshop and incorporate feedback from s33(a)(iii)
 - Expect SOPs to evolve in line with implementation of arrangement.

s33(a)(iii)



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Next engagement

- Seek s33(a)(iii) agreement to conduct another meeting in mid-July.

s33(a)(iii)

