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Manus Island Regional Processing Centre

Initial Assessment Report

Save the Children
17th October 2012

1. Introduction

s. 33(a)(iii)
[Redacted text block]

Save the Children was engaged by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to undertake an assessment of the RPC site, facilities and planned services to determine the extent to which they are appropriate to meet the needs of children and young people. This assessment will also be used in order to determine the scope of work for future service provision by Save the Children in the RPC with a specific focus on the needs of children and young people.

The other organisations engaged by the Government of Australia to support the establishment of the RPC are:

- G4S – responsible for infrastructure, security and facilities
- IHMS – responsible for the provision of health and medical services
- The Salvation Army – responsible for general welfare services and case management

Save the Children will develop and define the scope of its services following this assessment and any services provided will be done so in an integrated manner with the other organisations. Save the Children has developed positive relationships with these organisations which place us in strong position to ensure that all parties involved in the RPC operations are able to ensure positive outcomes for children and young people.

This assessment will be updated as further information is obtained, key informant interviews are undertaken, and beneficiary interviews are conducted once the first transfers have occurred. It should also be acknowledged that the facility is still being developed, and therefore some of the infrastructure issues may be addressed as the development of the site progresses.

A copy of this report will be provided to clearly identified internal and external stakeholders including the organisations involved in the operations of the RPC, as well as the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship. This report is not intended for distribution outside of the clearly identified stakeholders.

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2. Scope of work

The purpose of the assessment was to:

- review the processes, facilities and services at the Regional Processing Centre on Manus Island to determine the centre's ability to uphold the rights of children and young people; and
- provide recommendations as to how the processes, facilities and services could be enhanced to better meet the needs of children and young people; and
- to provide an evidence base from which Save the Children can define the scope and scale of potential service provision in the RPC and host community.

The assessment focused on the following areas:

- Child safeguarding systems and processes: Conduct a review of existing operational policies to determine the extent to which child safeguarding considerations are taken into account, with a particular emphasis on:
 - Child protection and education
 - Child participation
 - Child-friendly complaint processes
- Infrastructure and amenities: Review of current and planned site infrastructure to determine the extent to which it meets the physical and psycho-social needs of children and young people, with a particular emphasis on
 - Accommodation – location and allocation
 - Water and sanitation facilities
 - Safety and security, including freedom of movement, lighting, pathways and access
 - Recreational facilities (indoor and outdoor)
 - Educational facilities
- Provision of services: Work with all service providers to review the planned provision of social services, including recreational activities (outdoor and indoor), education and vocational training, case management, health (physical and psycho-social), plans for community interaction and integration.

s. 47C(1)

[REDACTED]

3. Methodology

The assessment team visited Manus Island from 14 October 2012 - 17 October 2012 and was comprised of:

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- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]
- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]
- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]
- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]
- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]

The assessment was conducted through:

- Initial Literature Review of relevant materials regarding detention of Asylum Seekers from Christmas Island
- Site visits and observations
- Discussions with key stakeholders involved in the operation of the RPC, including:
 - Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship
 - G4S
 - The Salvation Army
 - International Health Medical Services
 - Principle s. 47F(1) [Redacted] and students of Lombrum Primary School
- There was a limited availability of key external stakeholders from the host community and beneficiaries/clients to interview or have discussions with during the initial stages. This report will be updated as the opportunity arises to engage with these stakeholders.
- All service providers have been willing to engage in information sharing and are open to collaborative practices.

Recommendations are prioritised according to the colour system:

- Red – critical risk which must be remedied prior to the arrival of children and young people
- Orange – significant risk but may be remedied in a timely manner once children and young people are on site
- Yellow – further information required to determined level of risk.

s. 47C(1) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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s. 47C(1)

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Document 1, pages 5 to 14 have been removed as exempt information under section 47C and 33(a)(iii) of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act (1982)

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Manus Island Regional Processing Centre

Final Assessment Report

**Save the Children
21st October 2012**

1. Introduction

s. 33(a)(iii)
[Redacted text block]

Save the Children was engaged by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) to undertake an assessment of the RPC site, facilities and planned services to determine the extent to which they are appropriate to meet the needs of children and young people. This assessment will also be used to determine the scope of work for future service provision by Save the Children in the RPC with a specific focus on the needs of children and young people.

The other organisations engaged by the Government of Australia to support the establishment of the RPC are:

- G4S – responsible for infrastructure, security and facilities
- IHMS – responsible for the provision of health and medical services
- The Salvation Army – responsible for general welfare services and case management

Save the Children will develop and define the scope of its services following this assessment and any services provided will be done so in an integrated manner with the other organisations. Save the Children has developed positive relationships with these organisations which place us in a strong position to ensure that all parties involved in the RPC operations are able to ensure positive outcomes for children and young people.

This assessment will be updated as further information is obtained, key informant interviews are undertaken, and beneficiary interviews are conducted once the first transfers have occurred. It should also be acknowledged that the facility is still being developed, and therefore some of the infrastructure issues may be addressed as the development of the site progresses.

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A copy of this report will be provided to DIAC and a limited number of internal personnel associated with the project. This report is not intended for distribution outside of DIAC or Save the Children, however DIAC may choose to make it available to other service providers.

DIAC may wish to consider involving service providers such as Save the Children earlier in the planning phase of the permanent camp so that many of the issues identified below can be addressed prior to works commencing.

2. Applicable frameworks and standards

Convention on the Rights of the Child

As signatories to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Australia and Papua New Guinea have agreed to uphold the rights of children. The rights particularly relevant to the current context include, but are not limited to:

- **Article 19: Protection from abuse and neglect** - The State shall protect the child from all forms of maltreatment by parents or others responsible for the child and establish appropriate social programmes for the prevention of abuse and the treatment of victims.
- **Article 20: Protection of a child without family** - The State is obliged to provide special protection for a child deprived of the family environment and to ensure that appropriate alternative family care or institutional placement is available in such cases. Efforts to meet this obligation shall pay due regard to the child's cultural background.
- **Article 22: Refugee children** - Special protection shall be granted to a refugee child or to a child seeking refugee status. It is the State's obligation to co-operate with competent organisations which provide such protection and assistance.
- **Article 23: Disabled children** - A disabled child has the right to special care, education and training to help him or her enjoy a full and decent life in dignity and achieve the greatest degree of self-reliance and social integration possible.
- **Article 24: Health and health services** - The child has the right to the highest standard of health care attainable. States shall place special emphasis on the provision of primary and preventive health care, public health education and the reduction of infant mortality. They shall encourage international cooperation in this regard and strive to see that no child is deprived of access to effective health services.
- **Article 27: Standard of Living** - Every child has a right to a standard of living adequate for his or her physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development. Parents have the primary responsibility to ensure that the child has an adequate standard of living. The State's duty is to ensure that this responsibility can be fulfilled, and is. State responsibility can include assistance to parents and their children.
- **Article 28: Education** - The child has a right to education, and the State's duty is to ensure that primary education is free and compulsory, to encourage different forms of secondary education accessible to every child and to make higher education available to all on the basis

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of capacity. School discipline shall be consistent with the child’s rights and dignity. The State shall engage in international co-operation to implement this right.

- **Article 29: Aims of Education** - Education shall aim at developing the child’s personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to the fullest extent. Education shall prepare the child for an active adult life in a free society and foster respect for the child’s parents, his or her own cultural identity, language and values, and for the cultural background and values of others.
- **Article 31: Leisure, recreation and cultural activities** - The child has the right to leisure, play and participation in cultural and artistic activities.
- **Article 39: Rehabilitative care** - The State has an obligation to ensure that child victims of armed conflicts, torture, neglect, maltreatment or exploitation receive appropriate treatment for their recovery and social reintegration.

The rights discussed under the CRC have guided the focus of this assessment. The recommendations set out below are intended to assist in achieving compliance with these obligations.

Sphere standards

The ‘Sphere Project – Humanitarian Charter and Minimum and Standards in Humanitarian Response’ set out internationally agreed minimum standards to be applied during humanitarian response in relation to:

- Water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion
- Food security and nutrition
- Shelter, settlement and non-food items
- Health Action

It should be noted that the Sphere standards are intended to apply in critical, short-term emergency situations. They provide base standards in the harshest of circumstances ^{s. 47C(1)}

The Sphere standards are comprehensive and Save the Children has not conducted a complete analysis of the RPC site against these standards. We have focused on the standards particularly relevant to the PRC context:

Sector	Standard
Shelter	Affected individuals should have an initial minimum covered floor area of 3.5 square meters.
	For camp-type settlements, a minimum usable surface area of 45 square metres for each person should be provided (this includes accommodation and communal spaces). Where communal services can be provided by existing or additional facilities outside of the planned area of the settlement, the minimum usable surface area should be 30 square metres for each person.
	To mitigate fire risk, there should be a 30-metre firebreak between every 300 metres of built-up area, and a minimum of 2 metres (but preferably twice the overall height of any

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	structure) between individual buildings or shelters to prevent collapsing structures from touching adjacent buildings.
	Opportunities for internal subdivision within individual household shelters should be provided. In collective accommodation, the grouping of related families, well-planned access routes through the covered area and materials to screen personal and household space can aid the provision of adequate personal privacy and safety. The psychosocial benefits of ensuring adequate space provision and privacy while minimising overcrowding should be maximised in both individual household shelters and temporary collective accommodation.
	Access to essential services should be ensured, including schools, health facilities, safe play areas and communal meeting areas.
Water	Average water use for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene in any household is at least 15 litres per person per day.
Toilets	A maximum of 20 people use each toilet (or one toilet per 50 people in early stages).
	Use of toilets is arranged by household(s) and/or segregated by sex.

Plans for food and health service provisions have not been examined in detail against the Sphere standards as these services are being managed by other service providers.

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- provide recommendations as to how the processes, facilities and services could be enhanced to better meet the needs of children and young people;
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 - Accommodation, including location and allocation
 - Water and sanitation facilities
 - Safety and security, including freedom of movement, lighting, pathways and access
 - Recreational facilities (indoor and outdoor)

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- Educational facilities

- Provision of services: Work with all service providers to review the planned provision of social services, including recreational activities (outdoor and indoor), education and vocational training, case management, health (physical and psycho-social), plans for community interaction and integration.

s. 47C(1)
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4. Methodology

The assessment team visited Manus Island from 14 October 2012 - 21 October 2012 and was comprised of:

- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]
- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]
- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]
- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]
- s. 47F(1) [Redacted]

The assessment was conducted through:

- Initial review of relevant secondary resources regarding detention of asylum seekers from Christmas Island
- Site visits and observations
- Discussions with key stakeholders involved in the operation of the RPC, including:
 - Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship
 - Australian Defence Force
 - G4S
 - The Salvation Army
 - International Health Medical Services
 - Principle s. 47F(1) [Redacted] and students of Lombrum Primary School
- There was a limited availability of key external stakeholders from the host community and beneficiaries/clients to interview or have discussions with during the initial stages. s. 33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

[Redacted text block]

- All service providers have been willing to engage in information sharing and are open to collaborative practices.

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Recommendations are prioritised according to the colour system:

- Red – critical risk which must be remedied prior to the arrival of children and young people
- Orange – significant risk but may be remedied in a timely manner once children and young people are on site
- Yellow – further information required to determined level of risk.
- Green – risk has been addressed

s. 47C(1)

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Annexure A

Service provider operating procedures reviewed:

- Department of Immigration and Citizenship
 - Manual provided at Manus Island Regional Processing Centre – Service Delivery Routable Workshop, specifically including ‘Business Process Descriptions’, ‘Regional Processing Overview – Client Management on Manus Island’, ‘Regional Processing Centre Guidelines’,
 - Incident reporting, complaints management, programs and activities policies
 - Draft ‘PPMs’ – draft policies provided DIAC on CD.

- G4S
 - Requested Code of Conduct, still to be provided

- Salvation Army
 - Code of Conduct
 - Suite of policies to be shared once communications issues resolved.

- International Health and Medical Services
 - Requested Code of Conduct, waiting on clarification as to whether this can be provided.

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