



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Submission

For decision

PDMS Ref. Number: MS22-000530

Date of Clearance: 19/03/2022

To Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs

Subject Humanitarian program – Myanmar nationals allocation

Timing As soon as possible, as discussed with Ross MacDonald.

Recommendations

That you:

1. agree to:

- s. 47E(d)

agreed / not agreed

- priority processing for Myanmar nationals (alongside Afghans) in the 2021/22 and 2022/23 program year.

agreed / not agreed

2. s. 47E(d)

noted / please discuss

Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs

Signature.....

Date: 31/3/2022

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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

Minister's Comments				
Rejected Yes/No	Timely Yes/No	Relevance ☐ Highly relevant ☐ Significantly relevant ☐ Not relevant	Length ☐ Too long ☐ Right length ☐ Too brief	Quality Poor 1.....2.....3.....4.....5 Excellent Comments:

Key Issues

1. On 19 March 2022, your office requested an urgent submission on additional places (up to 2000) to Myanmar nationals in the Humanitarian program.

Current situation

2. The situation in Myanmar following the coup in February 2021 is continuing to result in significant regular and irregular flows out of Myanmar. This is being driven by both economic and security concerns. The UNHCR estimates that there are some 97,000 refugees in Thailand. Most refugees (91,363 as of February 2022) are ethnic minorities from Myanmar, mainly Karen and Karenni, however there are also increased flows beyond the traditional groups.
3. The Department of Home Affairs continues to work with the Thai Government and international partners, including UNHCR and other like-minded resettlement countries, to respond to the situation, particularly for vulnerable or sensitive Myanmar nationals based in Thailand.

Humanitarian program

4. In MS21-001303, you agreed to the regional allocations for this year's Humanitarian program. Within that, it was agreed that 7,000 places be allocated to the Asia region, with 5,000 of those committed to Afghans.
5. In response to the current situation, an aspirational allocation of up to 2,000 places for Myanmar nationals will demonstrate Australia's commitment to supporting international efforts. Further, the Department will provide priority processing to Myanmar nationals (alongside Afghans) within the Asia regional allocation for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 program year. The Department will continue to ensure that each:
 - visa application is considered on its individual merit using current and comprehensive information on circumstances in the relevant country, and
 - applicant meets all relevant Public Interest Criteria (PICs) in order to be granted a visa.

6. In the current program year up to 28 February 2022, 405 offshore humanitarian visas have been granted to Myanmar nationals. s. 47E(d)

s. 47E(d)

7. s. 47E(d)

8. Prior to the 2021 coup, Myanmar nationals already featured in the top five main refugee groups settled in Australia. More than 17,600 Myanmar nationals have been granted offshore Humanitarian visas between 1 July 2011 and 28 February 2022. In the 2020-21 program year, 656 offshore humanitarian visas were granted to Myanmar nationals.

9. s. 47E(d)

The Department allocates places every year based on need and priority, and as such reallocation during the year reflects the changing nature of the global humanitarian crisis.

10. Note that the situations in Afghanistan, Ukraine and Myanmar, alongside continuing challenges due to COVID-19, are putting strain on the humanitarian program. The Department will provide further advice on allocations for the 2022/23 program year as part of the usual Humanitarian program composition process.

Consultation – internal/external

11. Nil.

Consultation – Secretary

12. The Secretary was not consulted on the approach in the submission.

Client service implications

13. s. 47E(d)

Relationship to Prime Minister's Priorities *(delete if not required)*

14. Australia's response to the situation in Myanmar is a priority for the Prime Minister.

Sensitivities

15. The announcement of additional places and priority processing for Humanitarian visa places for Myanmar nationals may lead to criticism from other communities with similar humanitarian needs.

16. The information contained in this submission is classified and should not be publicly released without the authority of the Department of Home Affairs. In accordance with our long standing practices, should you wish for unclassified media lines to be prepared in relation to this issue please contact the Home Affairs Media Coordination team – media@homeaffairs.gov.au.

Financial/systems/legislation/deregulation/media implications

17. As these places will be within the existing program ceiling, for the 2021-22 Humanitarian Program, there will be no additional impact on underlying cash.
18. Any additional places required in excess of the current Humanitarian program ceiling in 2021-22 or 2022-23 will have whole-of-government financial impact, s. 47C(1)

Attachments

19. Nil

Authorising Officer
Cleared by:
David Wilden First Assistant Secretary Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division
Date: 18 March 2022 Mob: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact Officer: Andrew Kiley, Assistant Secretary, Humanitarian and Child Wellbeing Policy and Capability Branch, Ph: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) Mob: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Through Chief Finance Officer

CC Minister for Home Affairs
Secretary
Deputy Secretary, Immigration and Settlement Services Group

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From: [Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division](#)
To: [grp-Branch-HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM OPERATIONS](#)
Subject: RHSD Announcements – Both Branches - Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV...
Date: Wednesday, 1 June 2022 4:31:05 PM

[Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division](#)

Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV... has been added

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Title: Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV for Q1 July-September 2022

Body:

Dear Humanitarian Program colleagues,

The allocations for the onshore Humanitarian Program from July-September 2022 (Quarter 1) have been finalised and approved by the Program Manager, AS HPO Branch, Sally Pfeiffer.

Discussion at the Quarterly Allocations Meeting (QAM) held on 5 May 2022 informed the allocation priorities for Q1 July-September 2022.

The business-as-usual processing priorities for the Program are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Under processing priority 7, the allocation priorities for Q1 July-September 2022 are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Further explanatory notes on these allocation priorities are at [ADD2022/2612722](#).

Records relating to the QAM are contained in [OBJ2018/48543](#).

More information is available on the RHSD [Quarterly Allocations Meeting](#) SharePoint page.

If you wish to contact the QAM Secretariat, please email [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@homeaffairs.gov.au](#).

Operational Planning and Performance Section
Humanitarian Program Operations Branch | Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division

Expires:

Branch: Both Branches

Last Modified 1/06/2022 4:28 PM by

S. 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: [Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division](#)
To: [grp-Branch-HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM OPERATIONS](#)
Subject: RHSD Announcements – Both Branches - Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV...
Date: Friday, 26 August 2022 4:30:06 PM

[Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division](#)

Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV... has been added

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Title: Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV for Q2 October-December 2022

Body:

Dear Humanitarian Program colleagues,

The allocations for the onshore Humanitarian Program from October-December 2022 (Quarter 2) have been finalised and approved by the Program Manager, AS HPO Branch, Jill Ogden.

Discussion at the Quarterly Allocations Meeting (QAM) held on 10 August 2022 informed the allocation priorities for Q2 October-December 2022.

The business-as-usual processing priorities for the Program are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Under processing priority 7, the allocation priorities for Q2 October-December 2022 are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Further explanatory notes on these allocation priorities are at [ADD2022/4202941](#).

Records relating to the QAM are contained in [OBJ2018/48543](#).

More information is available on the RHSD [Quarterly Allocations Meeting](#) SharePoint page.

If you wish to contact the OAM Secretariat, please email **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au).

Operational Planning and Performance Section
Humanitarian Program Operations Branch | Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division

Expires:

Branch: Both Branches

Last Modified 26/08/2022 4:29 PM b

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: [Humanitarian Program](#)
To: [grp-Branch-HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM OPERATIONS](#)
Subject: RHSD Announcements – Both Branches - Updated version of the DFAT Country...
Date: Tuesday, 22 November 2022 2:25:59 PM

[Humanitarian Program](#)

Updated version of the DFAT Country... has been added

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Title: Updated version of the DFAT Country Information Report on Myanmar (Version 2)

Body: DFAT has released an updated version of the 11 November 2022 DFAT Country Information Report on Myanmar, to correct a minor factual error. The updated version, known as Version 2, is now available on CISNET at [20221122104503](#).

Version 2 of the report has been updated to correct a date in paragraph 3.6, on p.19.

The original sentence read 'In 1995, the government began issuing Temporary Registration Cards (TRCs, also known as 'white cards') to the Rohingya, but these were declared invalid in 1995, leaving most Rohingya undocumented and effectively stateless.'

The updated version reads 'In 1995, the government began issuing Temporary Registration Cards (TRCs, also known as 'white cards') to the Rohingya, but these were declared invalid in 2015, leaving most Rohingya undocumented and effectively stateless.'

The report is otherwise entirely unchanged from the previous version released on 11 November 2022.

For further information, please contact [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](#)

Expires:

Branch: Both Branches

Last Modified 22/11/2022 2:22 PM b

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: [Humanitarian Program](#)
To: [grp-Branch-HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM OPERATIONS](#)
Subject: RHSD Announcements – Both Branches - Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV...
Date: Monday, 12 December 2022 3:50:33 PM

[Humanitarian Program](#)

Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV... has been added

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Title: Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV for Q3 January – March 2023

Body: Dear Humanitarian Program colleagues,

The allocations for the onshore Humanitarian Program from January – March 2023 (Quarter 3) have been finalised and approved by the Program Manager, AS HPO Branch, Jill Ogden.

Discussion at the Quarterly Allocations Meeting (QAM) held on 9 November 2022 informed the allocation priorities for Q3 January – March 2023.

The business-as-usual processing priorities for the Program are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Under processing priority 7, the allocation priorities for Q3 January – March 2023 are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Further explanatory notes on these allocation priorities are at [ADD2022/6167278](#).

Records relating to the QAM are contained in [OBJ2018/48543](#).

More information is available on the [Quarterly Allocations Meeting](#) SharePoint page.

If you have any questions about this announcement please email [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](#).

Operational Planning and Performance Section
Humanitarian Program Operations Branch | Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division

Expires:

Branch: Both Branches

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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From: [Humanitarian Program](#)
To: [grp-Branch-HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM OPERATIONS](#)
Subject: RHSD Announcements – HPO Branch - NEW Myanmar PPV Political Opinion...
Date: Thursday, 19 January 2023 10:05:50 AM

[Humanitarian Program](#)

NEW Myanmar PPV Political Opinion... has been added

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Title: NEW Myanmar PPV Political Opinion Positive Assessment Record claim set content in HotDocs

Body:

On 10 November 2022, the Government announced that Myanmar nationals in Australia have been designated as a priority caseload in the onshore humanitarian visa program.

The following claim set content for the Myanmar PPV Positive Assessment Record has been added to HotDocs to support priority processing of the Myanmar caseload:

- Political Opinion (Military Coup\Opposition to the Military Government)

The claim set content and text within the HotDocs template can be adjusted as needed, depending on the facts of the case.

If you have any questions about this announcement, please email the Operational Planning and Performance Section at [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](#).

Operational Planning and Performance Section
Humanitarian Program Operations Branch | Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division

Expires:

Branch: Humanitarian Program Operations

Last Modified 19/01/2023 10:02 AM by [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

From: [Humanitarian Program](#)
To: [grp-Branch-HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM OPERATIONS](#)
Subject: RHSD Announcements – Both Branches - Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV...
Date: Monday, 27 March 2023 5:30:59 PM

[Humanitarian Program](#)

Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV... has been added

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Title: Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV for Q4 April – June 2023

Body: Dear Humanitarian Program colleagues,

The allocations for the onshore Humanitarian Program from April – June 2023 (Quarter 4) have been finalised and approved by the Program Manager, AS HPO Branch, Jill Ogden.

Discussion at the Quarterly Allocations Meeting (QAM) held on 1 February 2023 informed the allocation priorities for Q4 April–June 2023.

The business-as-usual processing priorities for the Program are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Under processing priority 7, the allocation priorities for Q4 April–June 2023 are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Further explanatory notes on these allocation priorities are at [ADD2023/2100244](#).

Records relating to the QAM are contained in [OBJ2018/48543](#).

More information is available on the [Quarterly Allocations Meeting](#) SharePoint page.

If you email **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** nt please
[homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au).

Operational Planning and Performance Section
Humanitarian Program Operations Branch | Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division

Expires:

Branch: Both Branches

Last Modified 27/03/2023 5:28 PM by **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

From: [Humanitarian Program](#)
To: [grp-Branch-HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM OPERATIONS](#)
Subject: RHSD Announcements – Both Branches - Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV...
Date: Friday, 9 June 2023 10:25:26 AM

[Humanitarian Program](#)

Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV... has been added

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Title: Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PPV for Q1 July–September 2023

Body:

Dear Humanitarian Program colleagues,

The allocations for the onshore Humanitarian Program from July–September 2023 (Quarter 1) have been finalised and approved by the Program Manager, AS HPO Branch, Jill Ogden.

The agreed priorities are subject to change depending on the outcome of discussions with Ministers about future management of the PPV caseload.

Discussion at the Quarterly Allocations Meeting (QAM) held on 3 May 2023 informed the allocation priorities for Q1 July–September 2023.

The business-as-usual processing priorities for the Program are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Under processing priority 7, the allocation priorities for Q1 July–September 2023 are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Further explanatory notes on these allocation priorities are at [ADD2023/3435985](#).

Records relating to the QAM are contained in [OBJ2018/48543](#).

More information is available on the [Quarterly Allocations Meeting](#) SharePoint page.

If you have any questions about this announcement please email [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@homeaffairs.gov.au](#).

Operational Planning and Performance Section
Humanitarian Program Operations Branch | Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement
Division

Expires:

Branch: Both Branches

Last Modified 9/06/2023 10:24 AM by

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: [Humanitarian Program](#)
To: [grp-Branch-HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM OPERATIONS](#)
Subject: RHSD Announcements – Both Branches - Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PV...
Date: Friday, 22 September 2023 10:00:51 AM

[Humanitarian Program](#)

Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PV... has been added

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Title: Allocation priorities for TPV/SHEV/PV for Q2 October–December 2023

Body: Dear Humanitarian Program colleagues,

The allocations for the onshore Humanitarian Program from October–December 2023 (Quarter 2) have been finalised and approved by the Program Manager, AS HPO Branch, Jill Ogden.

Discussion at the Quarterly Allocations Meeting (QAM) held on 17 August 2023 and 23 August 2023 informed the allocation priorities for Q2 October–December 2023.

From 1 October 2023, permanent protection visa (PV) allocations will transition to a real time processing strategy to support the Government's PV Reform agenda. The agreed allocation priorities may be subject to change as the PV Reform agenda is implemented.

The allocation priorities for Q2 October–December 2023 are:

Priority applications regardless of application lodgement date

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Real time processing - the most recently lodged applications that are allocation ready should be allocated first

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Further explanatory notes on these allocation priorities are at [ADD2023/5486835](#).

Records relating to the QAM are contained in [OBJ2018/48543](#).

More information is available on the [Quarterly Allocations Meeting](#) SharePoint page.

If you have any questions about this announcement please email

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:homeaffairs.gov.au)

Operational Planning and Performance Section

Humanitarian Program Operations Branch | Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division

Expires:

Branch: Both Branches

Last Modified 22/09/2023 9:57 AM by **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

From: [HPO Operational Planning and Performance](#)
To: [grp-Branch-ONSHORE HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM MGMT](#)
Cc: [HPO Operational Planning and Performance](#)
Subject: Announcements - Both Branches - Updated: Myanmar PV Positive assessment... [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Thursday, 21 December 2023 4:18:03 PM

~~—OFFICIAL: Sensitive—~~

[Humanitarian Program](#)

Updated: Myanmar PV Positive assessment... has been added

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Title: Updated: Myanmar PV Positive assessment 'Political Opinion – Military Coup/ Opposition to the Military government' claim set content in HotDocs

Body: The claim set content for Myanmar PV Positive Assessment record has been updated in HotDocs.

Key changes include updated country information used within the claim set content.

The claim set content and text within the HotDocs template can be adjusted as needed, depending on the facts of the case.

If you have any questions, please contact the Operational Planning and Performance Section at [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) or [@homeaffairs.gov.au](#).

Operational Planning and Performance Section
Humanitarian Program Operations Branch | Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division

Expires:

Branch: Both Branches

Last Modified 21/12/2023 4:07 PM by [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

~~—OFFICIAL: Sensitive—~~

From: [Onshore Humanitarian Program Delivery Support](#)
To: [grp-Branch-ONSHORE PROTECTION](#)
Cc: [Onshore Humanitarian Program Delivery Support](#)
Subject: Announcements - Updated Myanmar - Political Opinion positive assessment and Vietnam - Political Opinion and Religion refusal claim set content in HotDocs [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 25 August 2025 9:22:13 PM
Attachments: [983eb4d1-038e-420e-9187-a5179804254e](#)
[873d580b-68c0-4e18-b61e-db8f3148fc6e](#)

OFFICIAL

☐ [Updated Myanmar - Political Opinion...](#) has been added



s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

25/08/2025 9:16 PM

Title: Updated Myanmar - Political Opinion positive assessment and **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** content in HotDocs

Body: The Protection Visa Decision and Assessment Record template and questionnaire have been updated in HotDocs with:

- Updated Myanmar positive assessment – Political Opinion – Military Coup/Opposition to the Military Government claim set content.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

The content and text within the HotDocs template can be adjusted as needed, depending on the facts of the case.

If you have any questions about this announcement, please email us at one of the below mailboxes.

Claims research lead:

Country Information and Decision Support (CIDS) Section

Onshore Protection Branch

E: **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)

HotDocs lead:

Delivery and Operational Systems Support (DOSS) Section

Onshore Protection Branch

E: **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)

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Branch: Humanitarian Program Operations

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From: [Onshore Humanitarian Program Delivery Support](#)
To: [on-branch-ONSHORE PROTECTION](#)
Cc: [Onshore Humanitarian Program Delivery Support](#)
Subject: Announcements - HPO Branch - Updated Myanmar positive assessment Political opinion - Military coup/Opposition to the military government claim set content in HotDocs [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 24 April 2026 2:02:43 PM
Attachments: [fd46740c-a172-4276-ac7e-192d0d745338](#)

OFFICIAL**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

24/04/2026 1:58 PM

Title: Updated Myanmar positive assessment Political opinion - Military coup/Opposition to the military government claim set content in HotDocs**Body:** The Protection Visa Decision and Assessment Record template and questionnaire have been updated in HotDocs with:

- Updated Myanmar positive assessment Political Opinion – Military coup/Opposition to the military government claim set content.

The content and text within the HotDocs template can be adjusted as needed, depending on the facts of the case.

If you have any questions about this announcement, please email us at one of the below mailboxes.

Claims research lead:

Country Information and Decision Support (CIDS) Section

Onshore Protection Branch

E: **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)

HotDocs lead:

Delivery and Operational Systems Support (DOSS) Section

Onshore Protection Branch

E: **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)

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