



# Cabinet Economic Development Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### 2018/19 Refugee Quota Programme: Reallocation of 150 Places Not Required by Australia

Portfolio                      Immigration

On 20 February 2019, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1        **noted** that in June 2013, the previous government agreed that:
    - 1.1      New Zealand would annually resettle up to 150 refugees who were subject to Australian offshore processing legislation within New Zealand's Refugee Quota Programme;
    - 1.2      if the 150 places were not required by Australia, the places would be reallocated to refugees referred by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), subject to Cabinet consideration of regional allocations;
- [CAB Min (13) 20/15]
- 2        **noted** that Australian officials have advised that Australia does not require the annual 150 refugee quota places within the 2018/19 refugee quota;
  - 3        **agreed** that:
    - 3.1      75 of the 150 refugee quota places not required by Australia in 2018/19 be reallocated to UNHCR-referred refugees from the Asia-Pacific region;
    - 3.2      75 be reallocated to UNHCR-referred Syrian refugees from the Middle East region.

Janine Harvey  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Dr Megan Woods (Chair)  
Hon Chris Hipkins  
Hon David Parker  
Hon Stuart Nash  
Hon Iain Lees-Galloway  
Hon Shane Jones  
Hon Kris Faafoi  
Hon Willie Jackson  
Hon Eugenie Sage

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for DEV

**Hard-copy distribution:**

Minister of Immigration

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