



18 August 2017

**In reply please quote:**  
 FOI Request FA 17/04/00926  
 File Number ADF2017/44100

Sent via email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information request – decision on request**

This letter refers to your request received by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (The Department) on 20 April 2017 seeking access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act) to the following documents:

*The number of applications for citizenship by conferral lodged by nationals from the below countries between 1 Jan 2014 and 31 Dec 2016, broken down by country of origin, year of lodgement, and decision outcome at the DIBP level (approved and conferred, approved but not yet conferred, refused, still on-hand, withdrawn).*

*Countries relevant to this request:*

- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Kuwait
- Sierra Leone

*If possible, please provide the information in the following format:*

Country of origin	Year citizenship application lodged	Outcome: approved and citizenship actually conferred	Outcome: approved, not yet conferred	Outcome: refused	Outcome: on-hand / awaiting decision	Outcome: withdrawn
Afghanistan	2014					
	2015					
	2016					
Iraq	2014					
	2015					
	2016					
Sri Lanka	2014					
	2015					
	2016					
Sudan	2014					
	2015					
	2016					
Kuwait	2014					
	2015					
	2016					
Sierra Leone	2014					
	2015					
	2016					

## **Decision**

In accordance with section 17 of the FOI Act, the Department has used its computer system to produce one document that contains the requested information. The data produced in this document was in the possession of the Department on 20 April 2017 when your request was received.

My decision is to release this document in full. My decision is set out in the attached Decision Record

## **Review rights**

### Internal review

If you disagree with my decision, you have the right to apply for an internal review by the Department of my decision. Any request for internal review must be provided to the Department within 30 days of you being notified of the decision. Where possible please attach reasons why you believe review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by an officer other than the original decision-maker and the Department must make a review decision within 30 days.

Applications for review should be sent to:

Freedom of Information  
Department of Immigration and Border Protection  
PO Box 25  
BELCONNEN ACT 2617

Or by email to: [foi.reviews@border.gov.au](mailto:foi.reviews@border.gov.au)

### Review by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

You may apply directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) for a review of my decision. You must apply in writing within 60 days of this notice. For further information about review rights and how to submit a review request to the OAIC, please see FOI fact sheet 12 '*Freedom of information – Your review rights*', available online at [www.oaic.gov.au](http://www.oaic.gov.au).

## **How to make a complaint about the handling of your FOI request**

You may complain to the Australian Information Commissioner if you have concerns about how the department has handled your request under the FOI Act. Information about how to submit a complaint is available at [www.oaic.gov.au](http://www.oaic.gov.au).

## **Contacting the FOI Section**

If you wish to discuss this matter, I can be contacted using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely

*Digitally signed*

  
Authorised decision maker  
Freedom of Information Section  
Department of Immigration and Border Protection  
Email [foi@border.gov.au](mailto:foi@border.gov.au)

## **Attachments**

- ✓ Attachment A – Decision Record
- ✓ Attachment B – Document released



**Attachment A**

**DECISION RECORD**

**Request Details**

FOI Request FA 17/04/00926  
 File Number ADF2017/44100

**Scope of request**

*The number of applications for citizenship by conferral lodged by nationals from the below countries between 1 Jan 2014 and 31 Dec 2016, broken down by country of origin, year of lodgement, and decision outcome at the DIBP level (approved and conferred, approved but not yet conferred, refused, still on-hand, withdrawn).*

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	2016					
Sudan	2014					
	2015					
	2016					
Kuwait	2014					
	2015					
	2016					
Sierra Leone	2014					
	2015					
	2016					

**Authority to make decision**

I am an officer authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in respect of requests to access documents or to amend or annotate Departmental records.

**Information considered**

In reaching my decision, I have considered the following:

- the terms of your request
- the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*;
- the Australian Information Commissioner's guidelines relating to access to documents held by government (the Guidelines)
- Departmental documents,
- consultations with relevant business area.

### **Reasons for decision**

I am satisfied that I have been provided with the only relevant document to consider in my decision. I have considered the document and am satisfied that no exemptions apply. Therefore, I am releasing the relevant document in full.

### **Legislation**

A copy of the FOI Act is available for your reference from [www.legislation.gov.au/Browse/ByTitle/Acts/InForce/0/0/Principal](http://www.legislation.gov.au/Browse/ByTitle/Acts/InForce/0/0/Principal)

If you are unable to access the legislation through this website, please contact our office for a copy.

*Signed digitally*

  
Authorised decision maker  
Department of Immigration and Border Protection  
Email [foi@border.gov.au](mailto:foi@border.gov.au)  
18 August 2017