

FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

AUSTRALIAN PERMANENT MISSION GENEVA

19 December 2014

Mr Karim Ghezraoui
Chief Officer
Special Procedures Branch
c/o Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations Office at Geneva
8-14, avenue de la Paix
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Dear Mr Ghezraoui

I refer to the joint allegation letter of 27 March 2014 to the Australian Government by the Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the United Nations Human Rights Council concerning certain events at the Manus Regional Processing Centre located in Papua New Guinea.

Further to our letter of 26 May 2014 in relation to the Cornall Review, the Australian Government notes that the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee recently released a separate parliamentary report on the incident at the Manus Island Detention Centre between the 16 and 18 February 2014.¹ The Australian Government will respond to the recommendations contained in that report in due course.

With respect to the Special Procedures Mandate Holders' question concerning the Cornall Review, the Australian Government notes that 13 recommendations were made by Mr Robert Cornall in his report dated 23 May 2014. The Australian Government is pleased to advise that nine of those recommendations (1-2, 5-10 and 11) have been implemented. The Australian Government continues to provide support to the Papua New Guinea Government to action recommendations 3, 4, 12 and 13.

The Australian Government notes that the Manus Regional Processing Centre is administered by Papua New Guinea under Papua New Guinea Law. In so far as the request by the Special Procedures Mandate Holders for information relates to arrangements administered under Papua New Guinea law, this request is more appropriately directed to the Government of Papua New Guinea.

Yours sincerely

John Quinn

¹ See http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/Manus_Island.

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