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Patron: His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR, Governor of South Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

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Changes to Immigration Detention

The Australian Refugee Association welcomes the changes to immigration detention announced today by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, the Hon. Chris Evans.

“The changes remove the most insidious, harmful and abhorrent elements in the system” said Kevin Liston, Director.

“Ensuring that children will never again be held in detention and that only people posing a risk to the community or refusing to comply with visa conditions are detained restores integrity to the system.”

“Placing the onus on the Department to show why people should be detained is a major step towards transparency and due process” he said.

“Refugees fleeing persecution who seek asylum in Australia can now expect to be treated in a manner that does not exacerbate their previous experiences. Australia can once again hold up its head among the nations of the world in this regard” added Mr Liston.

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