

Oppose asylum seekers being forcibly removed to Malaysia DASSAN 5/8/11

The first boat of asylum seekers to arrive after the signing of the deal with Malaysia has arrived on Christmas Island, and the people who were on board will be sent to Malaysia, using force if necessary. There are 18 children, 13 of them unaccompanied minors (without family), in this group.

This has been condemned by a wide range of groups, including UNICEF, The West Australian Premier, the Malaysian Bar Council, the Australia Lawyers Alliance, the Greens, and the Federal Opposition, and refugee and asylum seeker support groups.

Please **add your voice to theirs**, and let the Government know that they do not do this in our name.

Write to Minister Bowen at : chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au
or your NT Labor senator, Trish Crossin ; senator.crossin@aph.gov.au
or NT MP Warren Snowden : warren.snowdon.mp@aph.gov.au

background information:

Amnesty International's fact sheet on the Malaysia deal:
<http://www.asrc.org.au/media/documents/amnesty-brief-malaysia-swap.pdf>

statement from Asylum Seekers Christmas Island
<http://asci.org.au/demo/?p=853>

The UN children's agency is pleading with the Federal Government not to send any of the unaccompanied children who arrived on Christmas Island yesterday onwards to Malaysia
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-08-05/un-in-malaysia-children-plea/2825480>

Australian Lawyers Alliance president Greg Barns says if children are

deported, Labor will be breaching its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child:<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/govt-confirms-18-children-on-boat-20110805-1ie59.html>

West Australian Premier Colin Barnett says sending unaccompanied asylum seeker children to Malaysia is indefensible.: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-08-05/barnett-blasts-children-being-sent-to-malaysia/2826418>

The Malaysian Bar Council has called on its government to refuse to accept any unaccompanied children seeking asylum under the swap deal with Australia
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-08-05/malaysian-bar-council-on-asylum-seeker-swap/2826654/?site=sydney>