

CALL TO ACTION - Refugees Off PNG and Nauru Campaign - June 2024

Will you raise your voice on behalf of refugees and people seeking asylum still stuck in PNG – after 11 years – and now without even basic supports including provision for food and health care. Please send a letter or emails

Dear refugee advocate,

Thank you for your ongoing support for the just and humane treatment of refugees and asylum seekers.

It would be wonderful if you could take up this call to action and disseminate it through your networks 😊

The Australian Government has failed to act to resolve the deteriorating situation in PNG for the refugees and asylum seekers who were sent to Manus Island ten years ago.

With regard to Nauru, while the Government did bring to Australia, or resettle in a third country, the original cohort of refugees and asylum seekers sent to Nauru in 2013 and 2014, there is now a new cohort of refugees and asylum seekers who have been transferred to Nauru starting in Sep 2023. They have now been held there for 8 months with no apparent plans for their resettlement.

We need to keep raising both of these issues with the Government and advocate for a just and humane solution – otherwise the Government will do nothing to resolve it.

The most powerful action you can take is to write to key politicians about these issues.

I am writing to you to ask if you could write a letter or email to Minister Clare O'Neil, with a letter or cc to Minister Andrew Giles, Minister Penny Wong, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, and your local MP.

An individually written letter/email has more impact than a proforma letter/email.

You can write about any aspect of these issues that you like.

To assist, I have provided a suggested focus and some dot points below. If you choose to use these dot points please rewrite them in your own words.

My intention is to provide a new suggested focus and dot points each month so that we can maintain a steady stream of letter/emails to keep this issue in front of key politicians and to demonstrate ongoing community concern.

Thanks so much for your help with this.

Regards

Kevin Sweeney

Convenor, Refugees Off PNG Working Group

Current situation – June 2024

There are at least ten refugees and asylum seekers in Port Moresby who are seriously unwell. They need urgent evacuation to Australia for medical care.

Dot points (you only need to choose a few of these to make a compelling letter or email)

- At least ten of the refugees and asylum seekers in Port Moresby are seriously unwell
- They have been identified by UNHCR, and UNHCR has advised the Australian Government that they should be transferred to Australia for medical care
- They are not receiving adequate medical care in Port Moresby
- They will not recover unless they receive appropriate medical care
- They are so unwell that they are unable to engage in any resettlement process
- It will be impossible to resettle them in a third country unless they receive adequate treatment and regain their health
- Inevitably they will die unless they receive adequate treatment
- Any deaths will be a major embarrassment to the Australian Government
- These men were sent to PNG by the Australian Government and remain the responsibility of the Australian Government
- UNHCR has stated very clearly that they remain the responsibility of the Australian Government

CONTACT DETAILS:

- The Prime Minister, **Anthony Albanese**
Contact Form: <https://www.pm.gov.au/contact-your-pm>
- Minister for Home Affairs, **Clare O'Neil**
Email: Clare.ONeil.MP@aph.gov.au
Or contact form:
<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-and-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/contact-the-minister>
- Minister for Immigration, **Andrew Giles**
Email: Andrew.Giles.MP@aph.gov.au
Or contact form:
<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-and-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/contact-the-minister>
- Find details for your **local MP** here:
https://www.aph.gov.au/senators_and_members/members

SENDING A LETTER?

Canberra Postal Address for all MPs

PO Box 6022

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

And lastly, donations are needed to help support the men with food and medical expenses – you can donate here: [Immediate help for Australia's refugees still in PNG](#)