**Summary of Significant Amendments to the Platform Secured by Labor for Refugees through the National Policy Forum Working Group**

(Amendments in Bold)

206. Labor will treat people seeking our protection with dignity and compassion and in accordance with our international obligations, the rule of law and core Australian principles of fairness and humanity. **Labor will legislate to enshrine our international obligations into Australian domestic law.**

211.**Labor will work to ensure that those in detention facilities are treated with dignity and respect and have access to an appropriate standard of care and substantive access to health and education services while held in immigration detention centres (IDCs).**

223.**Labor will take advice from the UNHCR in relation to any arrangements with third countries to ensure that resources and commitments provide appropriate settlement support services to refugees, including health and welfare services.**

224.**Labor is committed to ensuring there is a strong, independent voice within government to advocate for the rights, interests and well-being of children seeking asylum within the immigration system, including those in immigration detention. Labor will appoint an officer independent of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, backed by the administrative resources and statutory powers necessary to pursue the best interests of those children, including the power to bring court proceedings on a child's behalf. This will be done without reducing the Minister's obligations in relation to unaccompanied non-citizen children.**

225.**Labor will not pay people smugglers to engage in any form of people smuggling.**

229. **Labor supports the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Accordingly Labor's** humane and risk-based immigration detention policies and practices will include a commitment to ensure that after the necessary health, identity and security checks every humanly practical effort will be taken to remove children and their families from immigration detention centres (IDCs) into alternative suitable arrangements.

230.**Labor will not detain, process or resettle lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex refugees or asylum seekers in countries which have criminal laws against any of these communities as it makes these places unsafe environments for all of them.**

235.**Labor will legislate to impose mandatory reporting of child abuse in all offshore and onshore immigration detention facilities.**

245. Protection visa applications made in Australia ~~should~~ **will** be assessed by Australians on Australian territory.

247.**Labor will work to ensure that asylum seekers have access to appropriate, independent, government-funded legal advice while working through their claims for protection.**

248.**In assessing asylum claims where the fear of persecution arises from a person's LGBTI status, the fact that the country the person is fleeing has criminal penalties for engaging in consensual homosexual sex is sufficient of itself to establish that fear of persecution is well-founded, and any assessment of the asylum seeker's identity and fear must take account of the very different manifestations of LGBTI identity that other cultures, especially ones profoundly hostile to LGBTI people, necessarily engender.**

249.**Labor will ensure that asylum seekers who self-identify as LGBTI will be assessed by officers who have expertise and empathy with anti-discrimination principles and human rights law.**

252.**Labor supports the existing definition of 'serious harm' and 'persecution' including the current risk threshold of the 'real chance test'.**

220. Labor in Government will increase the humanitarian intake of refugees to create an orderly pathway to resettlement in Australia for asylum seekers at risk of people smuggling and provide asylum seekers with an alternative to boat travel to Australia.

215. Labor in Government will seek to ensure that appropriate multilateral infrastructure is also in place to build a humanitarian regional framework which may include seeking to extend the work of existing multilateral processes.

216. Labor will work with the UNHCR to help build its capacity in South East Asia to pursue its mandate and assist the region's asylum seekers.