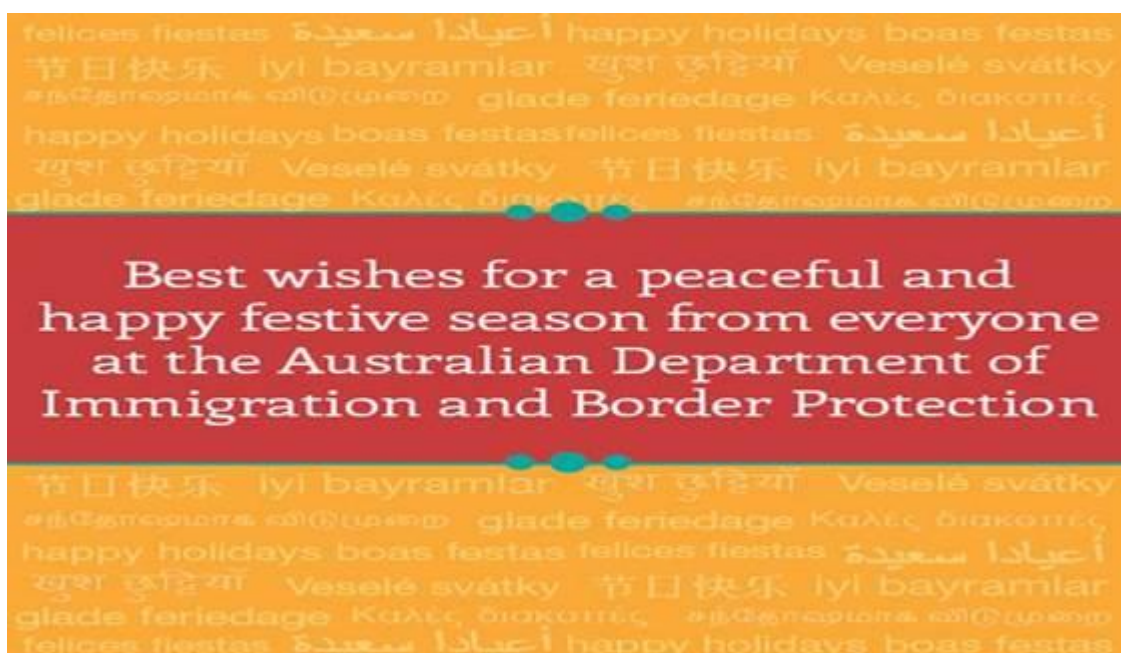


UNCLASSIFIED



Friends and colleagues,

This message serves a number of purposes, the most obvious of which is to wish you all a wonderful Christmas, New Year and summer holiday (should you be one of the fortunate ones not on the on-call roster this December/January). The second is to remind you Immigration's on-call media arrangements over this festive season remain unchanged.

Third and finally, I am leaving the department (and the APS) on December 13, to enjoy a year-long sabbatical in London. As many of you would know, I have been in the Australian public service since 1984 (when I changed my journalist's rimmed visor to a diplomat's cap), joined the then-Australian Information Service (later absorbed into DFAT), before transferring to the Australian Federal Police (ACT Policing) in 2003, and then Immigration in 2005. My spokesman's and social media role as Assistant Secretary of the National Communications Branch (NatComms) has kept me busy promoting the department's profile, its reputation and importantly, the work of all of our terrific staff.

At this stage, I have no plans beyond 12 months' holidaying with my wife Lois, from about April 2014. Between now and then, we've got a family Christmas at Mystery Bay, and I've got a few ice hockey games to catch online.

It's been an absolute joy working with you in my role representing this very proud and professional organisation. The portfolio was always challenging, and the unrelenting demands were as varied as the individuals whom we serve. I am confident my successors in NatComms, and more widely throughout the department will continue to be reliable and helpful interlocutors attending to your ongoing interests and needs.

Adieu,  
Sandi Logan