



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 23 August 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Indonesian Vessel, Rainbow Beach

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (11.31 am), by leave: As I advised the House earlier, there has been an accident at Rainbow Beach this morning. Further information has now been received and it appears that a sailing boat called *Arung Samudera* has run aground. There were 18 Indonesian nationals on board. They are all safe and well and are currently being looked after by officers at the Rainbow Beach Police Station. I am advised the sailors were visiting Australia legally. I understand it is part of the APEC process. They had been travelling from Darwin and were on their way to Brisbane and Sydney. It is believed the sailing boat was forced ashore at Rainbow Beach due to the current poor weather. Plans are being made for these people to continue their journey as soon as possible.

I want to take this opportunity to commend our emergency services and police on their prompt response. The weather over the last couple of days has been a challenge for us all, and for none more so than our hardworking emergency services team and SES volunteers. I thank all of them.