

**Proposed Asylum Deal With Malaysia Back On Agenda, Says Aussie Foreign Minister**  
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MELBOURNE, March 23 (Bernama) - Australia's new Foreign Minister Senator Bob Carr said Thursday night the proposed asylum seeker swap deal with Malaysia was back on the agenda as Parliament debates legislation to amend the Migration Act.

Independent MP Rob Oakeshott introduced a private members' bill last week in a bid to break the deadlock on the issue of asylum seekers and of legalising offshore processing.

Senator Carr said the Australian government had been working with its counterparts in Malaysia, and that Putrajaya was prepared for a new deal to go ahead.

"Without the Malaysian solution, we are left with a half-baked, improvised, unwilling Indonesian solution," he told ABC TV's Lateline.

"Without the Malaysian solution, all the region is left with is...a burden placed on our Indonesian neighbour, a parlous position in the ports of Indonesia, people at risk at sea and a message going out that Australia can't control its borders in way it would like.

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