

3. In order to save time and resources, the decision to contest the credible basis of a claim should only be made when there are cogent reasons for so deciding. To assist the decision, current rates of acceptance by country of origin of refugee claimants in the new system should be immediately supplied to all backlog counsellors and case presenting officers.
4. Reasons to contest the credible basis of a claim should be recorded in writing.
5. Case presenting officers should be permitted to exercise their independent judgment regarding contested cases and should be able to reconsider cases where more complete information becomes available after the initial recommendation to contest a case has been made.
6. The Minister should extend the paper review process, already used for those in group one whose claims are not contested, to those in group three as well; the possibility of extending this procedure to all uncontested claims in the backlog, thereby eliminating the need for oral hearings in these cases, should be seriously explored.
7. Employment validations should be used to give more people a realistic incentive to choose to depart voluntarily.
8. Other incentives to voluntary departure should be explored, including adjusting the points system so that claimants would have a more viable chance of success as independent applicants and giving increased priority to their applications.
9. The information regarding voluntary departure in the pamphlet entitled "The Backlog Clearance Process" prepared by the Commission should be revised to reflect actual policy with regard to the circumstances in which letters of introduction to posts abroad will be issued.
10. Upon acceptance of the claim of one spouse in any case in which two individuals who are married to each other and have separate claims in the backlog, processing of the other claim should cease in all cases where the second spouse agrees.
11. Claimants with family who may be in danger abroad should be processed in priority to other claimants and, if accepted, their families should be reunited in Canada as soon as possible.
12. The government should enact the backlog regulations and begin the process of landing claimants who have been accepted as soon as possible.
13. A claimant in the backlog who has relatives in Canada who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents who would qualify the claimant as an assisted relative should be accepted on humanitarian and compassionate grounds.