The Manus Island detention centre is set to close on 31 October 2017, leaving nearly 900 men with nowhere safe to go.

A letter recently distributed to detainees warned that all food, water, sewage facilities and electricity would cease inside the centre after 31 October. The note, written in Farsi, also said the fences would be taken down and the site returned to the control of the PNG defence force.

The Kurdish Iranian journalist Behrouz Boochani said the note **had sparked fear among his fellow asylum seekers and refugees**. “The refugees have already had a bad experience with PNG soldiers, [on Good Friday this year](https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2017/apr/18/manus-island-shooting-asylum-seekers-drunk-soldiers-police-say), when they attacked the detention centre and fired guns into the centre,” he said.

The hostility of many of the local people in Lorengau and elsewhere in PNG towards the refugees and the increasingly violent attacks on them illustrates why these people, cannot be safely resettled in PNG.

Many of the men suffer serious mental health problems as a result of their prolonged detention. The PNG medical system is [reportedly in a state of crisis](http://www.looppng.com/png-news/png-very-serious-health-crisis-minister-68097?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter), with medication shortages across the country. The recent death of a Tamil refugee at the Lonergau hospital recently demonstrates the inadequacy of the care available.

Only 25 men from Manus have gone to the US and the remainder cannot wait for months ‘hoping’ that they may be accepted but the US.

Thomas Albrecht, UNHCR’s regional representative in Canberra has said that ‘to abandon these acutely vulnerable human beings would be unconscionable.”

[Insert your spokesperson] said that “more tragedy is inevitable unless until the Australian government pursues a humanitarian policy and brings those on Manus Island here to safety. The majority of these people have been found to be refugees, and we owe them protection.” *(or insert your own message)*

The [insert organisation] will be holding an action at the office of [insert MP’s name here] on [insert details date and time]

For further information, please contact: [Insert name and details]