

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Agriculture

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NOTIFICATION

The attached notification in the context of actions taken within the framework of the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform programme on Least-Developed and Net-Food Importing Developing Countries for the financial year **1998/99** (**Table NF:1**) was received from the delegation of **Australia** on 8 November 1999.

In accordance with notification requirements within the framework of the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Countries (**Table NF:1**), the following provides details of Australia's programmes in respect of the Decision.

Table NF:1

**Notification under Article 16:2 of the Agreement:
Monitoring of the Follow-Up to the Decision on
Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of
the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net
Food-Importing Developing Countries: Australia**

REPORTING PERIOD: Financial Year 1998-99 (A\$dollars)

(1) Quantity of food aid provided to least developed and net food-importing developing countries:

Australia was able to surpass, by almost 11%, its Food Aid Convention (FAC) commitment to provide 250,000 tonnes of food aid or wheat equivalent for the financial year of 1998-99. Australia provided 276,217 tonnes (wheat equivalent) of food aid, including 110,943 tonnes of emergency food aid. Of the total food aid provided, some 132,410 tonnes (wheat equivalent) or forty eight per cent was provided to Least-Developed (LDCs)¹ and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries (NFIDCs)². This amounted to a total of A\$50.6 million in 1998-99 (Attachment A).

(2) Indication of the proportions in fully grant form or appropriate concessional terms:

All Australian food aid is provided on fully grant terms.

(3) Technical and financial assistance under paragraph 3 (iii) of the Decision:

The agency primarily responsible for delivering Australia's aid programme is the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID). AusAID aims to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development in developing countries not just by improving agriculture and rural development, but also by directing its efforts across a variety of sectors. The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) also assists developing countries through both bilateral and multilateral projects. ACIAR delivers agricultural research programmes in collaboration with Australian institutions and their counterparts in developing countries. A major focus of all projects is poverty alleviation through sustainable agriculture and increased food security.

In the financial year 1998-99, Australia provided a total of A\$264.3 million for programmes within the ambit of the Decision and related to countries developing their food security. Of this over \$147 million was directed to LDCs/NFIDCs. This expenditure was channelled through a number of programming windows including multilaterals, regional, bilateral, humanitarian/emergency assistance, Non Government Organisations (NGOs), ACIAR and a small amount through Other Government Departments (OGDs).

¹ Based on DAC country classification for resource flows in 1997

² LDCs plus Barbados, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Peru, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Venezuela

Direct Food security by programme for 1998-99

Programme	Aid to all countries	Aid to LDCs and NFIDCs
	(A\$)	(A\$)
ACIAR	43,525,617	24,916,536
Bilateral and Regional	75,198,200	33,842,207
Humanitarian and Emergency	41,210,908	10,997,578
Multilateral	83,413,850	67,551,512
NGOs	4,840,077	4,429,924
OGDs	5,894,637	4,387,600
Scholarships	10,220,000	1,260,000
Total	264,303,289	147,385,356

All financial assistance provided through AusAID and ACIAR is in fully grant form. Details of assistance provided in the financial year ending 30 June 1999 follow.

(i) Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)**Multilateral Core Funding**

A proportion of Australia's core contributions to the multilateral development banks and other relevant multilateral organisations is used for food security related development activities in LDCs and NFIDCs. The figures reflected here, however, refer to Australia's *total* food security contribution to relevant agencies. Clearly, only a part of this funding should be recognised as funding for food security in LDCs and NFIDCs.

International Agency	Expenditure (A\$) 1998-99
Asian Development Fund	20,485,653
International Development Association	19,628,200
International Fund for Agricultural Development	1,500,000
World Food Programme	41,799,997
Total	83,413,850

Bilateral and Regional Programmes

Most of Australia's aid is delivered in the context of country and regional programmes. Bilateral country strategies reflect recipient government priorities as well as Australia's capacity to assist. Specific projects are developed with partner countries in order to provide technical and financial assistance to: improve agricultural productivity and sustainability, agricultural storage, forestry and fisheries, environmental management, management of water resources, the provision of infrastructure related to food security and to assist countries adjust to the new trading environment.

In addition to bilateral programmes AusAID manages several regional programmes. These are often the most cost effective response to region-wide development challenges. Expenditure at a country/regional level is given below.

Bilateral and regional expenditure to LDCs & NFIDCs

Country	Expenditure (A\$) 1998-99
Bangladesh	16,855,409
Cambodia	6,302,188
Laos	1,120,371
Malawi	34,995
Nepal	354,000
Solomon Islands	100,000
Sri Lanka	74,551
East Asia Unallocated (Regional)	4,633,254
Pacific Islands Unallocated (Regional)	3,810,556
Sub-Saharan Africa Unallocated (Regional)	300,000
World Unallocated	256,883
Total	33,842,207

Scholarships

Scholarships in agriculture, forestry and fishing are counted as food security related activities. In 1998-99 Australia funded 644 students (56% males and 44% females) from LDCs and identified NFIDCs. Of these awards, about 6%, valued at A\$1.3 million were for study in agriculture, forestry and fishing.

Humanitarian relief (in addition to food aid)

In 1998-99, Australia undertook a number of projects in relation to humanitarian relief to LDCs and NFIDCs. These projects, valued at A\$11 million, impacted directly on agricultural production in several countries. Examples of programmes include assistance for internally displaced persons in Sri Lanka and the World Food Programme for Cambodian Protracted Relief and Rehabilitation Operation project (Attachment B).

(ii) Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)

In 1998-99, the Australian Centre for Agricultural Research expended A\$43.5 million, of which A\$24.9 million was in support of research relating directly to agricultural productivity of recipient countries.

Multilateral programmes

In 1998-99 ACIAR provided A\$10.1 million to multilateral International Agricultural Research Centres (IARCs) whose mandate is to increase global food security. One of the major criteria on which ACIAR bases its allocation of Australia's funds to the IARCs is the contribution of a centre's research to economic development, poverty alleviation and sustainability (Attachment C).

Bilateral programmes

Projects funded under ACIAR's bilateral programme comprise research targeting the following food security and poverty alleviation issues:

- *animal sciences*, leading to more productive livestock for smallholder farming systems through improvements in animal nutrition, disease and parasite control, reproductive health and animal husbandry;
- *crop sciences*, by developing higher yielding food crops through the use of genetically superior cultivars, the control of diseases, and the development of environmentally safe methods to combat pests and weeds;
- *fisheries*, through conservation and responsible utilisation of wild marine and freshwater fisheries, developing superior breedstock and breeding techniques, sourcing suitable foods and controlling disease to ensure more productive and sustainable aquaculture;
- *forestry*, through identification of suitable fast-growing tree species for use in community forestry to provide, amongst other uses, food crops and fuelwood for cooking.
- *land and water resources*, by enhancing crop production through better methods of improving soil fertility and structure, conservation of soil and water resources, including erosion and water management, ameliorating salinity of soil and water, and conserving agricultural land through better cultivation practices and land management systems;
- *post-harvest technology*, through reduction of food wastage after harvest by ensuring that grain, fruit, vegetables, and fish can be handled, stored, processed and transported safely and economically between harvest and disposal to consumers; and
- *economics*, through economic research to underpin government policy aimed at encouraging trade and agricultural development, and the efficient use and preservation of agricultural and natural resources (including land and water, fish and forest resources).

(4) Other relevant information with respect to actions taken within the framework of the Decision

Under new arrangements trialed in 1996-97, the total food aid component of Australia's Humanitarian Relief Programme was allocated directly to the World Food Programme (WFP). In 1998-99 a direct cash contribution was provided to WFP for a selected group of protracted and emergency relief operations. These included operations in Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Sudan. This new arrangement gives WFP a guaranteed level of support for selected operations. At the same time, urgent and unforeseen requirements for food aid will be considered under the emergency operation.

A number of Australian non-government organisations (NGOs) receive aid programme funding which has a direct impact on recipient countries' food security. During 1998-99 World Vision, the Overseas Service Bureau, Community Aid Abroad, CARE Australia, UNICEF and the Australian Red Cross were among the major recipients of Australian Government support. In 1998-99 AusAID funded projects related to food security through NGOs, to LDCs and NFIDCs, to the value of approximately A\$4.4 million. Examples of projects undertaken through NGOs include integrated rural development projects in Bangladesh and Cambodia, and a rehabilitation project in Mozambique (Attachment D).

In addition, a number of State and Commonwealth government agencies and departments also sponsor official exchanges with a number of countries, including in Australia's immediate region. Outcomes from these programmes would have positive effects on participating countries' agriculture and food security.

ATTACHMENT A

(1) Quantity of food aid provided to Least Developed (LDCs) and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries (NFIDCs): Breakdown by commodity and recipient countries.

Recipient country	Commodity Type	Quantity (tonnes)	FAC Wheat Equivalent	Total paid (A\$)
Bilateral Development				
Bangladesh	wheat	50,000	50,000	12,605,410
	<i>Subtotal</i>		50,000	12,605,410
Emergency/Relief				
Bangladesh	wheat	4,000	4,000	1,008,320
Cambodia	rice	8,607	14,632	5,000,000
Sri Lanka	pulses	222	444	137,191
Sri Lanka	rice	4,232	7,194	2,301,713
Sri Lanka	sugar	106	n/a	60,970
WFP-Immediate Response Account		1,765	1,765	1,000,000
	<i>Subtotal</i>		28,035	9,508,194
Multilateral Development - World Food Programme				
Bangladesh	wheat	36,500	36,500	8,384,050
Egypt	flour	5,544	7,595	1,552,320
Guinea	rice	3,262	5,545	1,461,196
Sao Tome	rice	432	734	193,536
Senegal	rice	626	1,064	284,032
Sri Lanka	rice	1,728	2,937	774,144
	<i>Subtotal</i>		54,375	12,649,278
WFP Cash Tranche (*)				15,837,372
Total WFP Development				28,486,650
Grand Total			132,410	50,600,254

(*) Payment for transport of food commodities including to some none LDCs or NFIDCs

ATTACHMENT B**Humanitarian emergency assistance (in addition to food aid) to LDCs and NFIDCs:**
Disaggregation of the funds allocated by country and project

Country of expenditure and project name	Expenditure (A\$)
	1998-99
Bangladesh	
Emergency Food Aid	920,000
Emergency Food Aid Management Fee	88,320
Burma (Myanmar)	
Protracted Relief Operation - Food Aid	1,000,000
Cambodia	
PRRO-Rehab programme, returnees & IDP's	5,000,001
Ethiopia	
Institutional Strengthening Project	80,000
Sri Lanka	
Assist Internally Displaced Persons	2,500,000
Sudan	
Emergency Food Aid	880,000
WFP Sudan Logistics Infrastructure Rehab	529,257
Total	10,997,578

ATTACHMENT C

Australian Centre for Agricultural Research (ACIAR): Disaggregation of the funds allocated to the International Agricultural Research Centres (IARCs) in 1998-99

Acronym	Full name and country of location	1998-99 (A\$)
AVRDC	Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre, Taiwan	207,500
CABI	Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International, UK	343,586
CIAT	International Centre for Tropical Agriculture, Colombia	474,939
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research, Indonesia	400,000
CIMMYT	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre, Mexico	1,149,002
CIP	International Potato Centre, Peru	280,340
IBSRAM	International Board for Soil Research and Management, Thailand	668,732
ICARDA	International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, Syria	391,726
ICIMD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Nepal	150,190
ICIPE	International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology, Kenya	20,000
ICLARM	International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management, Philippines	738,004
ICRAF	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, Kenya	355,000
ICRISAT	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, India	1,025,635
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute, USA	635,203
IFS	International Foundation for Science, Sweden	100,000
IIMI	International Irrigation Management Institute, Sri Lanka	511,251
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute, Kenya	652,750
IPGRI	International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, Italy	600,000
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute, Philippines	1,199,456
ISNAR	International Service for National Agricultural Research, Netherlands	200,000
Total		10,103,314

ATTACHMENT D

- (4) **Other relevant information with respect to actions taken within the framework of the Decision:** Projects through the Non-Government Organisation (NGO) programme disaggregated by country, project and NGO delivering the programme.

Country, project name and NGO	Expenditure (A\$) 1998-99
Bangladesh	
HEED Programme, Tear Australia Inc	40,956
Integrated Farming Development, Rotary Australia World Community Service	23,630
Joyramkura PHC Project, Tear Australia Inc	30,000
Paharia Community Development Programme, Australia Baptist World Aid	33,750
Pari Community Development Programme, Australia Baptist World Aid	30,000
Prottasha Community Development Programme, Australia Baptist World Aid	47,250
Symbiosis Community Development Programme, Australia Baptist World Aid	115,473
<i>Bangladesh Total</i>	<i>321,059</i>
Cambodia	
Integrated Rural Developmt/Takeo & Kandal, Australia Lutheran World Service	215,967
Svay Rieng Community Development Programme, National Council of Churches in Australia	35,250
<i>Cambodia Total</i>	<i>251,217</i>
Ethiopia	
Bakelo Food Security Project, Christian Children's Fund of Australia Ltd	45,092
<i>Ethiopia Total</i>	<i>45,092</i>
Jamaica	
Agricultural Training Programme, Salvation Army	44,850
<i>Jamaica Total</i>	<i>44,850</i>
Mozambique	
Rehabilitation and Training Programme, National Council of Churches in Australia	43,000
<i>Mozambique Total</i>	<i>43,000</i>
Nepal	
Biodiversity Conservation & Comm Develop, Association for Research and Environmental Aid Ltd	43,072
<i>Nepal Total</i>	<i>43,072</i>

Country, project name and NGO	Expenditure (A\$) 1998-99
Solomon Islands	
Lauru Kastom Garden Project, Appropriate Technology for Community and Environment	24,880
Village First Integrated Rural Devel, Appropriate Technology for Community and Environment	90,730
<i>Solomon Islands Total</i>	<i>115,610</i>
Tanzania	
Agricultural Extension Programme, Salvation Army	24,070
<i>Tanzania Total</i>	<i>24,070</i>
Togo	
Micro-enterprise Development Togo, PLAN International	32,681
<i>Togo Total</i>	<i>32,681</i>
Uganda	
Cattle Dispersal in Seven Districts, Christian Children's Fund of Australia Ltd	359,191
Kumi District Devel Programme, Tear Australia Inc	56,391
Organic Farming Training Centre, Quaker Service Australia	41,250
<i>Uganda Total</i>	<i>456,832</i>
Zambia	
Environmental Rehabilitation & Protection, Australians Care for Refugees	48,387
<i>Zambia Total</i>	<i>48,387</i>
East Asia Unallocated	
Indo China Permaculture Programme B	62,348
<i>East Asia Unallocated Total</i>	<i>62,348</i>
Sub-Saharan Africa Unallocated	
Africa Community Development Programme, Caritas Australia	506,062
Africa Development Programmes, World Vision of Australia	2,198,546
<i>Sub-Saharan Africa Unallocated Total</i>	<i>2,704,608</i>
World Unallocated	
Pilot Initiatives Programme, CARE Australia	237,098
<i>World Unallocated Total</i>	<i>237,098</i>
Total	4,429,924