



**AusAID / NGO  
Committee for Development Cooperation**

A Joint Committee of the Australian Agency for International Development and  
Australian Non-Government Organisations

**NOTES FROM THE CDC**  
Newsletter No 50 25 March 2002

*This issue reports on highlights of the 99th CDC meeting held on 7 March 2002*

**ATTENDANCE AT CDC 99**

**NGO Representatives**

Mike Crooke  
Jo Thomson  
Wendy Rose  
John Deane  
David Syme

**AusAID Representatives**

Irene Davies (Chair)  
Elizabeth Brouwer  
Laurie McCulloch  
John Munro  
Gregory Takats

**Observers**

David Gower (AusAID)  
Melinda Johnston (AusAID)  
Allan Tonkin (AusAID)  
Kirsty Dudgeon (AusAID)  
Graham Tupper (ACFOA)  
Shaun Ellmers (ACFOA)

**Apologies**

Margaret Winn (NGO)  
Percy Stanley (AusAID)

**Secretary**

Carolyn Nimmo (AusAID)

**ANCP MANAGEMENT**

**Base Agency Panel Members for FY 2002**

NGO representatives on the CDC nominated John Deane and Wendy Rose for June 02 base panels, and Mike Crooke and David Syme for September 02 base panels.

**Overprogramming**

CDC members were informed that \$340,000 of ANCP overprogramming funds have been transferred to the Humanitarian and Emergency Section of AusAID for NGOs to work on the Sri Lanka drought. Any further overprogramming funds for 2002 will be distributed to full agencies that can provide services within the financial year. They also noted that the principle of ANCP funds being used to fund NGO's own programs be maintained.

**Volunteer-sending agencies and RDE calculation**

CDC members agreed in principle with a proposed change to the NGOPI, which will specifically exclude from RDE calculations personnel sent overseas as volunteers, except as short-term (less than 3 months in any 12 months) volunteers who directly contribute to outcomes of a project.

CDC member's support for the change was conditional on the existing anomaly effecting two volunteer sending agencies being addressed.

**Accrual Accounting**

It was acknowledged there is uncertainty about the concept of fully providing services within the financial year and how this applies to the terms expense, expensed and acquitted as applied by AusAID through its contracts with NGOs.

AusAID undertook to review the issues and provide a clear statement of its requirements for accounting and acquittal purposes.

### **IPF Formula**

The CDC was satisfied that current process to determine an agencies IPF is transparent and equitable.

### **Interest earned on GST**

Interest earned on GST prepayments to agencies must be acquitted to AusAID as for all other funds.

### **Variation to Base Agency Funding Ratio Proposal**

The base agency funding ratio will remain at 1:1. AusAID does not consider that there are sufficient grounds for increasing the ratio especially in light of the findings of the relevant Quality Assurance Group Report covering base agency projects.

### **Repetition in Project Proposal Format**

It is perceived that the current project proposal/ADPlan format requires repetition of information, terminology departs from standard log frame terminology, and there is a lack of correlation with AusGUIDE. The Community Programs Section will revise the formats as a result of the recent QAG recommendations and NGOs will be advised of any changes.

### **Reduction in Funding Base**

AusAID will hold discussions with any organisation whose community support base falls below the minimum requirement of \$30,000 or \$60,000 per year required for base and full agencies respectively to maintain accreditation.

## **ACCREDITATION**

### **Improved Financial Assessment at Organisation Review in Australia (ORA)**

The revised Financial Systems Assessment is not considered a separate exercise or audit but an integral part of the ORA to establish that specific systems are in place. A financial specialist will be a member of the accreditation review team that is commissioned by and reports to the CDC.

### **Accreditation Criteria Table, Criteria B3 and E5.**

Criterion B3, risk management capacity, will apply to base agencies as well as full, but not be applied as rigorously to base agencies.

Criterion E5 reflects that agencies must have the capacity to support at least one full-time or equivalent part-time positions from their own resources.

### **Funding Base of Organisations Applying for accreditation**

An organisation may contract another organization to fundraise on its behalf, provided donors know that their funds are raised for that agency for development activities overseas. The community support must be demonstrable for a period of at least one year.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

### **QAG and Quality Issues**

The QAG report has been distributed and its implications will be discussed with NGOs and the CDC before changes are made to procedures and the NGOPI.

### **New Environmental Guidelines**

AusAID is bound by the Commonwealth's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999), which means NGOs will have to report on all direct or indirect, positive or negative impacts of their work. ACFOA will disseminate the information to members and AusAID is working on changes to the NGOPI to reflect the new requirements.

### **Aid Effectiveness Conference**

AusAID will hold an Aid Effectiveness Conference on 8 April 2002 followed by workshops for NGOs in Melbourne and Sydney on 11 and 12 April respectively. Dr Alan Fowler will be the key speaker and facilitator.

### **Dates for future CDC meetings**

The following dates were confirmed:	CDC 100	6 June 2002
	CDC 101	10 October 2002
	CDC 102	6 March 2003.

## **NGO Calendar**

### **April 2002**

8	Aid Effectiveness Conference
11	Aid Effectiveness Workshop for NGOs, Melbourne
12	Aid Effectiveness Workshop for NGOs, Sydney
30	Annual Performance Report Due

### **May 2002**

15	Base agency project proposals due
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### **June 2002**

1	IPF figures available
6	CDC 100

### **July 2002**

21	Fully accredited agencies are allocated 50% of their funding for 2002-3
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### **August 2002**

15	Base agency project proposals due
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### Accreditation Status of NGOs at 7 March 2002

<b>FULL ACCREDITATION</b>		<b>BASE ACCREDITATION</b>	
1	Adventist Development & Relief Agency (ADRA)	1	Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)
2	African Enterprise (AE)	2	Anglicans Cooperating in Overseas Relief and Development (AngliCORD)
3	Australian Baptist World Aid (ABWAid)	3	Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief and Aid Fund (ORAF)
4	Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP)	4	ASSISI Aid Projects India (ASSISI)
5	Australian Legal Resources International (ALRI)	5	Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF)
6	<b>Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS)</b>	6	Australian Cranio-Maxillo Facial Foundation (ACMFF)
7	Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad (APHEDA)	7	Credit Union Foundation Australia (CUFA)
8	<b>Australian Red Cross (ARC)</b>	8	Education Development Association (EDA)
9	Australian Volunteers International (AVI)	9	Every Home for Christ Ltd (EHC)
10	Australians Caring for Refugees (AUSTCARE)	10	For Those Who Have Less- Action Aid Australia (FTWHL-AAA)
11	CARE Australia (CARE)	11	International Needs Australia (INA)
12	CARITAS Australia	12	Interplast Australia (INTERPLAST)
13	<b>Christian Blind Mission International (Australia) (CBMI)</b>	13	Marist Mission Centre (MMC)
14	Christian Children's Fund of Australia (CCFA)	14	Nusatengarra Association (NTA)
15	Family Planning Australia Inc (FPAI)	15	OzChild Children Australia (OZChild)
16	Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF)	16	OzGREEN - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Aust) (OZGREEN)
17	International Women's Development Agency (IWDA)	17	Quaker Service Australia (QSA)
18	<b>Interserve (provisional)</b>	18	Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd (RAWCS)
19	Leprosy Mission (TLM)	19	Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL)
20	MacFarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research (MBCMR)	20	Sudan Interior Mission Aid Fund (SIMAID)
21	Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF)	21	Uniting Church Overseas Aid (UCOA)
22	<b>National Council of Churches Australia (NCCA)</b>		
23	Opportunity International Australia (OIA)		
24	Oxfam Community Aid Abroad (OCAA)		
25	<b>PALMS (provisional)</b>		
26	PLAN International Australia (PLAN)		
27	Salvation Army (SA)		
28	Save the Children Fund Australia (SCFA)		
29	TEAR Australia (TEAR)		
30	UNICEF Australia (UNICEF)		
31	<b>World Vision Australia (WVA)</b>		
32	World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)		
	<b>32 Full accredited agencies</b>		<b>21 Base accredited agencies</b>