



4 March 2020

(20-1696)

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Committee on Agriculture

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### NOTIFICATION

The following submission, dated 3 March 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of **Australia**. The notification concerns 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 (**Table NF:1**) during the **financial year 2018**.

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**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 FROM 01-07-2018 TO 30-06-2019

**1 QUANTITY OF FOOD ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO LEAST-DEVELOPED AND NET FOOD-IMPORTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

1.1. Australia is committed to providing a minimum of (AUD) \$80 million of food assistance per calendar year under the Food Assistance Convention (FAC). In financial year 2018-19, Australia provided (AUD) \$66.09 million in food assistance for LDCs<sup>1</sup> and NFIDCs<sup>2</sup> as part of its FAC commitments (see Annex A for a breakdown by recipient country). All funding was provided as cash-based support to the UN World Food Programme.

**2 INDICATION OF THE PROPORTION IN FULLY GRANT FORM OR APPROPRIATE CONCESSIONAL TERMS**

2.1. All Australian food assistance is provided in fully grant form.

**3 TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER PARAGRAPH 3(III) OF THE DECISION**

3.1. The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) is primarily responsible for delivering Australia's aid programme. This aid programme includes work to improve agriculture and rural development in LDCs and NFIDCs. Detailed information on Australia's aid programme is available at <https://dfat.gov.au/>.

3.2. The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) also assists LDC and NFIDCs through its Global Programme, delivering agricultural research programmes in collaboration with Australian institutions and their counterparts in developing countries. Detailed information on ACIAR's Global Programme is available at <https://www.aciar.gov.au/>.

3.3. In 2018-19, Australia provided \$400.5 million for programmes within the ambit of the Decision (see Annex B, column 4), including \$279.8 million directed to LDCs and NFIDCs (see Annex B, column 3). The expenditure was channeled through multilateral, regional and bilateral programmes; humanitarian/emergency assistance; non-government organisations (NGOs); ACIAR; and other government departments (OGDs).

**DFAT Bilateral and Regional Programmes**

3.4. The majority of Australia's aid is delivered through bilateral and regional programmes. Bilateral country strategies reflect recipient government priorities and Australia's capacity to assist. Specific activities are developed with partner countries in order to provide technical and financial assistance. Australia also supports several regional programmes which are often the most cost effective response to region-wide development challenges.

3.5. In 2018-19, the bilateral and regional technical and financial assistance provided to LDCs and NFIDCs within the ambit of the Decision was approximately \$139.8 million. This assistance focused on agricultural productivity and sustainability, crop storage, environmental management, developing markets, the provision of infrastructure related to food security and assisting countries adjust to changes in trade patterns.

<sup>1</sup> Based on Least-Developed Countries as recognised by the Economic and Social Council of the UN.

<sup>2</sup> See G/AG/5/Rev/10 of 23 March 2012.

***Other programmes***

3.6. A proportion of Australia's core contributions to multilateral development banks and other relevant multilateral organisations are used for food security, agricultural Australia supports scholarship students from LDCs and NFIDCs on agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

3.7. A number of Australian NGOs receive aid programme funding that has a direct impact on improving food security, agricultural productivity and infrastructure in developing countries.

**ACIAR**

3.8. ACIAR's mission is to achieve more productive and sustainable agricultural systems for the benefit of developing countries and Australia, through international agricultural research partnerships. In 2018-19, ACIAR directed \$97.6 million to programmes within the ambit of the decision, of which \$69.2 million was directed to programmes in LDCs and NFIDCs. See Annex C for a breakdown of ACIAR's administered expenditure for 2018-19.

**4 OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO ACTIONS TAKEN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE DECISION**

4.1. Outside of Australia's food aid and financial assistance delivered by DFAT and ACIAR, a number of Federal and State Government agencies ("Other Government Departments") sponsored official exchanges with developing countries on agriculture and food security, totalling around \$13.7 million in 2018-19, of which \$0.4 million was directed at LDCs and NFIDCs.

**ANNEX A****FOOD ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME FOR LEAST-DEVELOPED AND NET FOOD-IMPORTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, FINANCIAL YEAR 2018-19**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Total Value (AUD million)</b>
Afghanistan	11.6
Angola	0.5
Bangladesh	23.46
Bhutan	0.12
Burundi	0.9
Cambodia	0.73
DRC	3.8
Djibouti	0.46
Kenya	0.59
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.67
Lesotho	0.5
Madagascar	3.6
Myanmar	0.56
Nepal	1.6
Pakistan	4
South Sudan	6.5
Yemen	6
Zambia	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>66.09</b>

Source: DFAT.

**ANNEX B****DIRECT AID FLOWS FOR FOOD SECURITY, BY PROGRAMME, 2018-19  
(AUD MILLION)**

<b>1 Programme</b>	<b>2 Sub Programme</b>	<b>3 To LDCs and NFIDCs</b>	<b>4 Total all programmes</b>
Bilateral & Regional Programmes	Bilateral Programmes	113.6	113.6
	Regional Programmes	26.2	51.9
Global Programmes	Humanitarian	39.2	47.4
	Other International	31.2	76.2
Non-DFAT Programmes	ACIAR	69.2	97.6
	Other Government Departments	0.4	13.7
<i>Total LDCs and NFIDCs</i>		<b>279.8</b>	
<b>TOTAL all programmes</b>			<b>400.4</b>

Source: DFAT.

**ANNEX C**

## ACIAR EXPENDITURE 2018-19

<b>ACIAR Administered expenditure</b>	<b>Total value (AUD million)</b>
<b>Multilateral partnerships (including funding for international agricultural research centers including CGIAR)</b>	<b>19.20</b>
<b>Bilateral research projects &amp; co-investment programmes</b>	<b>70.90</b>
<i>Pacific</i>	18.01
<i>East &amp; South-East Asia</i>	34.74
<i>South Asia</i>	11.41
<i>Eastern &amp; Southern Africa</i>	6.73
<b>Capacity building</b>	<b>9.34</b>
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>2.86</b>
<b>Impact evaluation</b>	<b>0.36</b>
<b>Programme support</b>	<b>10.55</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>113.21</b>

Source: ACIAR.