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The basic principles underlying the shaping and conduct of Australia's foreign policy are that Australia is a significant middle-level power with democratic institutions, having strong affiliations with other Western countries but an emerging Asia-Pacific identity through its increasing regional involvement.

Australia's prosperity is largely dependent on trade; it is geographically remote from some of its major markets and its main allies; it is a relatively affluent and resource rich country in a populous, developing and rapidly changing region.

While links with the United States, Britain and Europe remain important factors in Australian foreign policy in terms of cultural tradition, security, strategic interests and trade and investment, the specific focus of policy has shifted in the past 25 years to the Asia-Pacific region.

Australia is located in a region which includes the politically, economically and strategically significant countries of North Asia, South-East Asia, South Asia, the Indian Ocean and many newly independent nations of the South Pacific. Awareness of the importance of these neighbouring states has led successive Australian Governments to seek to promote and maintain friendly and cooperative relations with them, not only to ensure the stability and security of the region, but also to develop mutually profitable trade, investment, exchange of technology, and cooperation in the development process. Australia gives special attention to its relations with China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the member countries of ASEAN (the Association of South-East Asian Nations), New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the other South Pacific states.

International issues including economic cooperation, disarmament, trade access, global environmental protection, human rights, refugees, and new concepts of national interest in the post cold war world have assumed importance together with an increasing recognition of the growing interdependence of the world community. This is reflected in such issues becoming priorities in Australia's foreign policy. Australia recognises the importance and growing complexity of economic issues, particularly the need to maintain the recovery of world trade and to promote ecologically sustainable economic development and to deal with the major

problem of world debt affecting both developed and developing countries. The growing interdependence of national economic and foreign policies and the increasing vulnerability of Australia's economy to international trade and other developments will remain at the heart of Australia's foreign policy concerns for some time to come. Australia places a high priority on its participation in the resolution of these global issues not only in the United Nations and other multilateral forums, but also in the regional context through multilateral bodies such as Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

The United Nations

Australia was an original member of the United Nations. At the San Francisco Conference in 1945, which drafted the Charter of the United Nations, Australia succeeded in having the collective security measures contained in the UN Charter strengthened. With the passing of the Cold War, the Charter's collective security provisions were put successfully to their first real test in the international response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The United Nations' system also provides the forums in which Australia can pursue its objectives in relation to disarmament, peacekeeping, human rights, international economic issues, women, control of drug trafficking, decolonisation and international law. Australian membership of the United Nations specialised agencies provides Australia significant benefits, particularly from the agencies responsible for the establishment of new international norms and standards.

Australia has served on many United Nations' bodies. It was a member of the Security Council in 1946-47, 1956-57, 1973-74 and in 1985-86. In 1975, a long period of Australian membership of the Trusteeship Council came to an end with the independence of Papua New Guinea. Australia was a long-standing member of the Special Committee on Decolonisation until its withdrawal in January 1985 following UN recognition of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' decision to integrate with Australia.

Australia supports the work of the specialised agencies and subsidiary bodies in such areas as development assistance, drug control and human rights. It is an active participant in the economic work of the United Nations, through

such forums as the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Food Program (WFP), and the UN Development Program (UNDP). Australia also participates in regional consideration of social and economic issues in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the United Nations' regional body. In 1989 Australia was re-elected for a further four-year term on the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. It is a member of the Governing Council of the UN Environment Program (UNEP) and is a long-standing member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Australia is an active member of the UN Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) (former Minister, the Honourable Barry Jones, M.P., was elected to UNESCO's Executive Board in 1991) and its prominent role in world refugee assistance is reflected in membership of the Executive Committee of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Australia has been a major contributor to UN peacekeeping operations since these began. Australia contributes its assessed share of the costs of UN budgets (1.51%), and similar percentages to all other UN bodies of which it is a member. In addition it makes voluntary contributions as well as providing personnel and equipment for peacekeeping forces. At present Australia provides personnel for the UN Forces in Cyprus, the UN Truce Supervision Organisation in the Middle East, the UN Mission for a referendum in the Western Sahara and the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia, and will be a major contributor to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

Australia is fully involved in the work of the UN on disarmament and outer space, and is a member of the main subsidiary bodies working in these areas. Australia continues to play an active role in the UN Commission on Human Rights and fully participates in the work of other UN bodies dealing with the implementation of international human rights conventions. Australia was re-elected to the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term which began in January 1991. Australia was elected to the International Law Commission in 1991 and also elected to ECOSOC for the period 1992-94. Australia is seeking election to the Commission on the Status of Women in 1992.

Australia accepts the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice and plays an active role in bodies concerned with the development of international law.

The Commonwealth

The Commonwealth is an association of 50 countries, drawn from every region of the globe, which now comprise one quarter of the world's population. Australia seeks, through its Commonwealth membership, to foster international peace and security, and political, social and economic advancement. The last Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in October 1991.

South-East Asia

Australia maintains wide-ranging relations with the countries of ASEAN (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Brunei), both bilaterally and as a group. These relationships include political, economic and trade consultations, commercial, cultural and defence ties and wide-ranging personal contacts. There are regular Ministerial visits in both directions. Two-way trade between ASEAN and Australia is growing rapidly and now represents eight per cent of Australia's total trade with the world.

Indonesia is one of Australia's closest regional neighbours and straddles major sea and air routes. Australia is committed to the maintenance of sound and productive relations with Indonesia. Accordingly, Australia has pursued an active relationship with Indonesia in the areas of trade, investment, science, defence and culture. Australian aid to Indonesia is expected to be around \$114 million in 1991-92. Efforts to add further substance to the relationship through building on concrete areas of mutual interest have resulted in the development of a more substantial bilateral trade and commercial relationship as well as close cooperation on international economic issues. The commencement of the Timor Gap Zone of Cooperation Treaty on 9 February 1991 was a significant milestone in expanding practical areas of cooperation. There was also an increase in people-to-people contact through the activities of the Australia Indonesia Institute.

The Australian Government expressed its deep concern over the 12 November Dili killings in public statements and in representations to the Indonesian Government. The outcome of the Indonesian National Commission of Inquiry into the killings has been encouraging and the Indonesian Government's response to the Commission's advance report has been both positive and useful. The Government is continuing to follow closely several unresolved aspects arising from the killings making clear our position with continuing direct representation to the Indonesian Government.

Australia and Thailand share a range of political, strategic and economic interests. Thailand's impressive progress towards industrialisation and its success in international markets has made it increasingly important to Australia as a trading and investment partner. Cooperation in multilateral trade matters through the Cairns Group is also an important aspect of the relationship. Australia's relationship with Thailand is given added substance through development assistance, defence cooperation, and cooperation in narcotics control. Australia's concern at the February 1991 military coup and wish to see an early return to democratic government were conveyed to the Thai authorities.

Malaysia and Australia have a long history of close and constructive relations, covering the full range of political, defence, commercial and social links. Education links are particularly strong and have contributed significantly to continuing personal contacts between people, business, academic and government circles. Malaysia and Australia cooperate closely on defence and international trade issues.

Australia has a tradition of close interest in and association with Singapore. Relations are broadly based, encompassing the whole range of bilateral areas including trade and investment, defence, education, civil aviation, tourism and cultural relations.

The Philippines is important to Australia because of its strategic location and close cooperation on a range of matters of mutual interest. Australia has a substantial development assistance program with the Philippines, and there are important linkages through trade, migration and tourism.

Relations between Brunei and Australia are developing steadily, especially in the fields of trade, defence and education.

Relations with Myanmar slowed significantly after the brutal suppression of the pro-democracy movement in that country in 1988 and the military regime's continuing failure to implement the result of the 1990 election. Aid will not be resumed until a democratically-elected government is installed. Trade and other contacts remain at low levels.

Australia is concerned by the destabilising effects on the South-East Asian region posed by the situation in Cambodia. Australia's policy has been to promote dialogue among the parties to the conflict in order to achieve a comprehensive political settlement. Australia has proposed that in the transitional period leading to elections, the United Nations has a role in civil administration, in providing security and in organising and conducting elections, so that Cambodians will be able to determine their future without fear of coercion.

Australia is also developing a more broad-based relationship with Vietnam through increased trade, visits and cultural exchanges. Bilateral aid remains suspended pending resolution of the Cambodian conflict, but humanitarian aid is given indirectly through multilateral and non-government organisations. Australia is also developing relations with Laos, principally through development assistance, the main element of which is a commitment to build a bridge across the Mekong near Vientiane.

Japan

Japan remains Australia's largest trading partner, with a two-way trade in 1990 of \$22.7 billion — over 20 per cent of Australia's total trade. While traditional markets in minerals and energy and agriculture continue to dominate Australia's export market to Japan, manufactured and processed products comprised almost 25 per cent of this market in 1990. Tourism has also expanded rapidly in recent years, with some 470,000 Japanese visitors to Australia in 1990. Japan remains our primary source of foreign investment, largely in mining, agriculture and tourism. While this investment is welcomed, Australia is aiming to attract more foreign investment to the manufacturing sector. At the eleventh meeting of the Australia-Japan Ministerial

Committee in May 1991, both sides reaffirmed their close economic, political and cultural cooperation and agreed to further diversify the relationship, commensurate with global developments.

China

Following a review of bilateral relations in February 1991, the Australian Government lifted most of the remaining restrictions that had been imposed on contacts with China after the suppression of the 1989 pro-democracy movement. Senator Evan's visit to Beijing in April 1991 marked the formal resumption of the high level dialogue and demonstrated Australia's commitment to long-term cooperation with China. The Australian Government pursued its continuing concern about the human rights situation in China through the visit of an official Australian delegation to China during July 1991. Total two-way trade increased from \$2.4 billion in 1989 to \$2.6 billion in 1990 and economic cooperation continued to be facilitated during 1991 by meetings of several Joint Working Groups focusing on different industry sectors.

Hong Kong

With two-way trade of \$2.3 billion, Hong Kong, is Australia's fifth largest Asian export market, following Taiwan, Singapore, Korea and Japan. Hong Kong is also an important source of migration, tourism and investment, as well as a major target for the export of education services.

Taiwan

While Australia has no official links with Taiwan, the commercial relationship is growing and likely to increase significantly following the commencement of direct air services between Australia and Taiwan in October 1991. Taiwan is an important source of tourism for Australia and is Australia's main export market for manufactures. Two-way trade in 1990-91 was valued at \$3.7 billion and Taiwan ranks as Australia's fourth largest Asian export market and sixth largest export market overall.

Korea

Australia enjoys close and expanding relations with the Republic of Korea based on a dynamic

trading relationship. The Republic of Korea is Australia's third largest export market, with exports of \$3 billion in 1990, up 21 per cent from the previous year. The second and final meeting of the Australia-Korea Forum was held in Seoul in April 1991. Its recommendations included practical measures to enhance dialogue on political and strategic issues, to diversify the economic relationship, and to broaden the base of cooperation to include expanded science and technology, educational and cultural exchanges. To this end, the Australian and Korean Governments have decided to establish reciprocal Foundations.

Australia has no diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, but there were limited contacts during 1991.

South Pacific

Australia is a member of the South Pacific Forum, the Forum Secretariat (formerly the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation), the Forum Fisheries Agency, the South Pacific Commission, the South Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP) and the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission. Australia actively participates in meetings of these organisations and provides significant financial support to them and to other regional and international programs providing assistance to the South Pacific region. To assist in the preservation and development of indigenous Pacific cultures, Australia has established the South Pacific Cultures Fund. Australia and New Zealand have entered into a non-reciprocal preferential trade agreement in favour of the South Pacific Forum Island States, the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement. Australia is a party to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty of Rarotonga). Australia ratified the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region (SPREP Convention) on 19 July 1989 and the Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific (Apia Convention) on 28 March 1990. The Apia Convention provides for the protection of natural resources through the creation and management of protected areas, the protection of flora and fauna, cooperation and coordination in respect of research and exchange of information. The SPREP

Convention and its protocols provide for the protection, development and management of the marine and coastal environment. Both Conventions came into force in 1990 and the first meetings of parties to both Conventions were held in July 1991. Australia has also signed the Wellington Convention on the Prohibition of Driftnet Fishing in the South Pacific, which came into force in May 1991.

Relations between Australia and New Zealand reflect their shared history, similarities in political and social structure and the importance of the economic links. While Australia and New Zealand still have some differences of view in the defence policy area, specifically in relation to ANZUS, other aspects of the relationship have continued to expand. This has been exemplified in the 1988 Review of the Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement which provided for free trade in goods from 1 July 1990, the extension of CER into trade in services and increased harmonisation of the commercial environment. The encouragement of political and cultural exchanges through the Australia New Zealand Foundation reflects another dimension in the close relationship. Australia and New Zealand also often work closely in their approaches to the international political and economic environment.

Papua New Guinea

Australia and Papua New Guinea (PNG) enjoy a very close and cooperative bilateral relationship based on shared political, strategic and economic interests and ties that have continued at all levels of society since PNG attained its independence in 1975. In 1990, Australian exports were valued at \$757 million, imports \$369 million and the total level of Australian investment in PNG was about \$1.5 billion. Major resource developments, most notably the Kutubu oil project, should see Australian investment increase further in the 1990s.

PNG is the largest single recipient of Australian development assistance, accounting for around one quarter of the aid program. In 1990-91, PNG received \$322 million in total aid from Australia including \$275 million in budget support and \$31 million in project aid. The 1989 Treaty on Development Cooperation establishes principles, levels and forms of aid to PNG for the period ending 30 June

1994 and reflect Australia's continuing commitment to contribute to PNG's development and self-reliance. Additional Australian aid to that provided for under the Treaty was made available in 1990 as part of an international effort to help PNG overcome especially difficult budgetary circumstances.

The 1987 Joint Declaration of Principles (JDP) provides the framework for bilateral relations between Australia and PNG and covers a broad range of issues including defence, trade, investment, development assistance, consular relations, communications and border administration. An important element of the JDP is its consultative mechanism, the PNG Australia Ministerial Forum. The fourth Forum took place in Madang in February 1992.

The Torres Strait Treaty between Australia and PNG entered into force in February 1985. The Treaty defines the maritime boundaries between PNG and Australia and sets down provisions to protect the traditional ways of life of inhabitants on both sides of the border, to protect the environment, to ensure freedom of navigation and overflight, and regulate the exploitation of resources.

The Americas

Australia has a long-standing relationship with the United States which extends across the whole range of national life. Government-to-government relations are one part of a larger and more extensive interaction between the two societies with interlinked culture and language. Relations between the countries are warm and cooperative, with a high degree of official consultation, most notably shown in the recent visit by President Bush. The affinity is underpinned by substantial economic and commercial relations, although perspectives can and do differ on aspects of trade policy.

Australia's defence links with the United States under ANZUS serve the vital interests of both countries by contributing to regional security and the maintenance of global stability.

Canada is a country comparable with Australia in terms of institutions and traditions, geographical size, and international outlook. This has allowed a close degree of cooperation and interchange of ideas between the two countries.

Australia takes an increasing interest in developments in Latin America. Recent positive political and economic developments in Latin America, including an increasing focus on the Asia-Pacific region and constructive cooperation on multilateral trade and Antarctic issues, are fostering closer relations between Australia and many Latin American countries. Relations with the Caribbean are warm, particularly through the Commonwealth.

Europe

Australia seeks to maintain constructive and profitable relations with the countries of Western Europe, with the European Community (EC) and its institutions, including the European Parliament.

Bilateral relations with the individual Western European countries continue to be of considerable importance. These relations, while founded on close historical, social and cultural links, continue to develop through extensive trade and investment links. Trade, however, is constrained by the EC's continued adherence to agricultural protectionism.

The EC is one of Australia's most important trading partners and our most important source of investment funds and technological expertise, as well as a significant importer of Australian raw materials. The establishment of the EC single market and its proposed extension to embrace the EFTA countries will present Australia with important new commercial opportunities. Despite tensions caused by trading difficulties in the agricultural sector, Australia remains committed to the strengthening of a positive relationship with the EC on the principle of mutual advantage, and has secured EC agreement to a collaborative work program in science and technology, business links, the environment, energy, development assistance, industry cooperation and to regular contacts at a senior level on foreign policy questions.

In recent years revolutionary changes have swept through Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Australia has an interest in encouraging the trend in these countries towards democratic processes of government and market-oriented economies. Elections held throughout Eastern Europe have been largely free and fair and the newly elected

governments have generally shown a desire to respect the basic human rights of their people.

Australia has been quick to react to the changes and in August 1991 decided to enter into diplomatic relations with Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. In December 1991 Australia recognised eleven former republics of the USSR but not Georgia where the political situation remained uncertain. In January 1992 Australia recognised Croatia and Slovenia.

While the pace of democratic change will obviously vary from country to country, these changes will result in a reorientation both politically and economically away from the previous political and trading relationships.

Australia has been active in providing practical assistance to Eastern Europe through the Group of 24 OECD member countries and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

There are up to half a million Australians who trace their origins to Eastern Europe and many of them have retained their language skills. This should provide a sound base from which to extend Australia's contacts with Eastern Europe in trade, investment and tourism.

Australia's trade with Eastern Europe is led by sales of wool and other commodities. While Eastern Europe will remain a significant market for Australia, the transition away from central planning is creating dislocations in these countries' economies which may, in the short term, affect their ability to service high levels of imports.

The Middle East

Australia has substantial trading interests in the area and long-standing friendly relations with the Arab nations, Iran and Israel. Australia's policy towards the Middle East is based on two main premises: a total commitment to Israel's right to exist within secure and recognised boundaries; and recognition of the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people, including their right, if they choose, to independence and the possibility of their own independent state. Australia supports efforts to bring about negotiations of differences in the region, e.g., in such areas of conflict as the Arab-Israeli dispute and the problems facing Lebanon. Australia supports

all efforts to negotiate the Arab-Israeli dispute, and believes a settlement should be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 (which, *inter alia*, recognises the right of all States in the area to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries and calls on Israel to withdraw from territories captured in 1967) and 338 and the principle of land for peace. The Government recognises, however, that any such arrangement will depend on decisions involving people of the immediate region. Australia supports the Middle East peace talks which began in Madrid in October 1991.

Australia was in the forefront of the international condemnation of Iraq for its invasion and annexation of Kuwait, and continues to observe and encourage the implementation of all Security Council resolutions pertaining to Iraq. Australia responded promptly to the call for participation in the multinational naval force to enforce sanctions against Iraq following the invasion of Kuwait, and has continued the deployment of elements of the Royal Australian Navy in support of the sanctions regime. At the same time, the Government believes that sanctions should not be imposed at the expense of the Iraqi people, and endorses action taken by the Security Council to permit the sale of Iraqi oil to allow the purchase of food, medicines and essential civilian needs for the population of Iraq.

Africa

Australia maintains a broad range of contacts with African states, and is closely concerned with developmental and humanitarian issues affecting Africa.

Its strong and continuing opposition to racial discrimination and the apartheid system was reflected in its adoption of all measures against South Africa agreed at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings (CHOGMs) in Nassau (1985) and London (1986), its financial sanctions initiative agreed to at CHOGM in Kuala Lumpur (1989) and its active role in encouraging peaceful change in South Africa through the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa (CFMSA). Australia has welcomed progress towards the normalisation of the political situation in South Africa since February 1990 and the commencement of formal all-party negotiations

in December 1991 with the first meeting of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA). Sir Ninian Stephen was Australia's representative in the Commonwealth Observer Group invited to the meeting. The Australian proposal for the phased lifting of sanctions in response to South African Government reforms was adopted by CFMSA in London (February 1991) and endorsed in New Delhi (September 1991). These meetings also agreed to a selective easing of the sports boycott, on a sport-by-sport basis, as individual sports achieve unity, are readmitted to international governing bodies, and receive the agreement of the non-racial sporting movement in South Africa for a return to international sports competition. In October 1991 the Harare CHOGM adopted CFMSA's recommendations on the phased lifting of sanctions and agreed on the immediate lifting of all people-to-people measures. Australia acted quickly to remove restrictions on cultural and academic contact, visas, tourist promotion and airlinks.

The Australian Government's commitment to an economically robust post-apartheid South Africa was demonstrated by visits to South Africa by an Economic Planning Assistance Team in May 1991 and by Senator Evans in June 1991, the first visit by an Australian Foreign Minister for 40 years. South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha reciprocated with a visit to Australia in October 1991.

Australian aid to Africa is focused on eastern and southern Africa. This includes assistance given through the Southern African Development Coordination Conference as well as humanitarian assistance for the reintegration and development of South Africans disadvantaged by apartheid. Food aid constitutes the dominant share of Australian aid to Africa because of growing food deficits and the continuing famine crisis in the horn of Africa and Mozambique.

Indian Ocean

Australia, as an Indian Ocean littoral state with wide interests in the region, is committed to the development of the concept of an Indian Ocean Zone of Peace (IOZP). For many years Australia has played an active and constructive role in the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean. The Ad Hoc Committee has so far not succeeded in

its attempt to convene an international conference on the Indian Ocean to develop the IOZP concept. Australia maintains a modest aid program to Mauritius and other smaller Indian Ocean states.

ANZUS

Following a review in 1983 of the ANZUS Treaty by the Australian Government, including a re-examination with its ANZUS partners at the 1983 ANZUS Council Meeting in Washington, the Government reaffirmed the alliance as fundamental to Australia's national security and foreign and defence policies. The text of the ANZUS Treaty of 1952 can be found in Treaty Series No. 2, for 1952, printed by the then Department of External Affairs. In 1984, the New Zealand Government implemented a policy not to permit the entry to New Zealand of nuclear powered warships or of warships (or aircraft) which might carry nuclear weapons. Consequently the United States, at the Australia-United States ministerial talks in August 1986, formally suspended its security obligations to New Zealand under the ANZUS Treaty pending adequate corrective measures. Both the United States and Australia agreed that the relationship between the United States and Australia under the ANZUS Treaty and the rights and obligations assumed by the United States and Australia towards each other under the Treaty would remain constant and undiminished. ANZUS continues to govern the bilateral defence relationship between Australia and the United States, and that between Australia and New Zealand.

Nuclear issues

Australia's strong commitment to effective nuclear disarmament and arms control is reflected in its support for the international non-proliferation regime. Australia ratified the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1973 and encourages universal adherence to it.

The response of the international community to the Gulf conflict has revealed a new political climate within which to address nuclear non-proliferation problems. A feature of this has been the adoption of a more forthcoming attitude toward the international non-proliferation regime by a number of important countries, including the decisions to accede to the Treaty of France, China and South Africa.

Australia has continued to encourage new adherents to the NPT and scrupulous fulfilment of the obligation for all Non-Nuclear Weapon States Parties to conclude a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Australia is a founding member of the IAEA and provides political and financial support to the IAEA. Australia's active participation in the IAEA, including contributions to the IAEA regular budget and to the Technical Assistance and Cooperation Fund, helps the Agency to continue to function in an effective and efficient manner. Australia has a particular interest in the strengthening of the international nuclear safeguards regime in the light of the lessons of the Gulf War.

The stringent nuclear safeguard conditions applied to exports and subsequent use of Australian uranium are set out as binding international legal obligations in the bilateral nuclear safeguards agreements which customer countries must enter into before any uranium exports from Australia are permitted. These conditions include an undertaking not to use Australian-obligated nuclear material for any military or explosive purpose, and the acceptance of IAEA safeguards in order to verify that undertaking. Australia has concluded fifteen bilateral nuclear safeguards agreements covering twenty-three countries and two international bodies.

Australia is also a member of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Australia values the NEA as an essentially technical forum for international consultation on nuclear issues.

Disarmament and arms control

Australia promotes arms control and disarmament objectives at the United Nations, the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and other world forums.

Australia attaches great importance to the early conclusion of an effective, verifiable treaty banning all nuclear testing by all States in all environments for all time (a Comprehensive Test Ban) and is committed to strengthening the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). Through membership of the IAEA since its inception in 1957, it is able to promote non-proliferation policies and

contribute to regional and wider nuclear cooperative projects. Australia, together with other South Pacific countries, was instrumental in negotiating the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga) which came into force on 11 December 1986.

Australia is committed to the conclusion of a fully effective and verifiable Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) which would ban the production, trade in and use of chemical weapons and require the destruction of existing stockpiles. In 1990, Australia was Western coordinator in the Conference on Disarmament's Chemical Weapons Committee, which is charged with the negotiation of a CWC. Australia also chairs a group of countries called the Australia Group, which meets twice a year and comprises 22 western industrialised countries and the Europe Commission. The group works towards harmonising the export controls of members countries over chemicals and equipment used in the production of chemical weapons. Its work has been expanded to include biological weapons proliferation.

In September 1989 Australia hosted an international Government-Industry Conference Against Chemical Weapons which obtained industry support for the CWC. A Chemical Weapons Regional Initiative (CWRI) has since 1988 raised awareness of chemical weapons issues in South-East Asia and the South Pacific with the objective of developing support for the CWC and preventing proliferation of chemical weapons into the region. The CWRI has resulted in two seminars in Australia in 1989 and 1990 and a technical workshop for government chemists from the region in 1991.

Australia has been concerned about the implications for strategic stability of research into ballistic missile defences. Australia continues to press for international arrangements and agreements which will prevent an arms race in outer space.

Australia has acceded to the following disarmament and arms control agreements: the Partial Test Ban Treaty, the Geneva Protocol (on the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating Poisonous or Other Gases and of Bacteriological Weapons), the Outer Space Treaty, the Sea-Bed Arms Control Treaty, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Biological Weapons Convention, the

Environmental Modification Convention, the Antarctic Treaty, and the Inhumane Weapons Convention. Australia was the first signatory to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty on 6 August (Hiroshima Day) 1985.

Trade relations

One of Australia's highest priorities is to continue to improve international economic and trade performance through a range of bilateral and multilateral strategies, as well as through structural adjustments and micro-economic reforms.

The economic recession of the world economy in the 1970s and early 1980s led to the growth world-wide of protectionist pressures and moves towards seeking solutions to economic problems through bilateralism and the formation of trade blocs. The Australian Government has endeavoured to counter trends towards increased protectionism and to encourage freer trade through active participation in forums such as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). GATT is the principal multilateral institution for the pursuit of the further liberalisation of world trade. Australia has consistently supported a reduction in barriers to trade and the concept of an open and multilateral trading system, and is playing an active role in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations taking place under GATT auspices.

In particular, Australia initiated the formation of the 14 member Cairns Group of Fair Traders in Agriculture, which has established itself as an effective proponent of reform in international agricultural trade. It is also participating actively in Uruguay Round negotiations in other areas, notably services trade.

Australia also has a strong commitment to the freedom of international capital flows. Because it is a net capital importer, it is of considerable importance to Australia that the international system be increasingly open and adaptable to facilitate the global exchange of goods, services, labour and capital. This is all the more so in view of the significant challenges imposed on the international monetary system by the continuing significant world economy changes in the world economy.

The last two decades have seen the economies of the Asia Pacific region (in this case taken as the Western Pacific region plus North America) emerge as the fastest growing in the world. The region accounts for over half the world's economic output and more than 40 per cent of world trade. While containing some of the world's most dynamic economies, these too have been affected adversely by the general downturn in the international economy — although not to the same extent as elsewhere. It was against this background that Australia launched the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) process in January 1989.

The initiative reflected Australia's major stake in economic developments in the dynamic Asia Pacific region. The extent of Australia's integration will be critical to Australia's economic future. The region already accounts for 70 per cent of our merchandise exports and 66 per cent of our merchandise imports. Australia's primary objectives in greater regional economic cooperation, particularly through APEC, are to enhance the prospects for sustained regional growth and development, and to take part in that growth.

The initial APEC Ministerial-level meeting was held in Canberra in November 1989; the second in Singapore in July 1990; and the third in Seoul in November 1991. The next APEC Ministerial meeting will take place in Bangkok in September 1992. Participants in APEC now include the six ASEAN nations, Japan, The Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Canada, the USA, China, Chinese Taipei and Hong Kong. (The last three were admitted at the Seoul Ministerial meeting.) The ASEAN and South Pacific Forum Secretariats, as well as the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference (PECC) have observer status in APEC. As a result of the three Ministerial meetings to date, an ongoing process of cooperation that will benefit all Asia Pacific economies has been established. It is now widely regarded as the leading economic forum of the region. While considerable progress has been achieved in consolidating the APEC process, the Seoul Ministerial meeting authorised a study of the options for an APEC support mechanism (such as a secretariat) and funding arrangements.

A major focus of APEC activity to date has been on the detailed work program. Initially, this comprised seven projects: review of trade

and investment data; trade promotion; investment and technology transfer; human resources development; energy; marine resource conservation; and telecommunications. Australia is coordinator of the energy project. During 1991 there was encouraging progress on these work projects, and three new projects were commenced, in the areas of fisheries, transportation and tourism. Australia hosted a seminar on trade promotion in Sydney in May 1991. This was the first major APEC activity which had sought to involve private sector representatives directly.

This group identified the principles, scope and possible process by which trade liberalisation in APEC might be carried forward, and its report was endorsed by Ministers at the Seoul meeting in November 1991. The subject of regional trade liberalisation will thus be the major policy focus of APEC's agenda in 1992.

Australia maintains its commitment to accelerating the economic development of Developing Countries (DCs). To this end, Australia extends preferential import treatment to DCs for all dutiable goods. Other concessions also apply to handicraft type goods which meet certain criteria regarding content, character and method of manufacture.

An efficient and internationally competitive services exports sector is integral to improving Australia's international trade performance. Australia's expanding services exports have been given impetus by a series of major micro-economic reforms over recent years in areas such as telecommunications, aviation and financial services. Increased services exports, highlighted by the rapid growth of inbound tourism — now Australia's largest foreign exchange earner, are not only expanding Australia's export base but also tapping into rising Asia-Pacific and global demand for innovative, high value added products. Apart from tourism and aviation, education, telecommunications, computing and consultancy services now feature among Australia's growing export industries. In addition, Australian exporters are achieving increasing success in new fields such as health and medical services, audio-visual products and environmental management. There is a growing awareness of the export potential in such areas as financial services, and construction. Efforts are being intensified to take greater advantage

of the important synergies between various services export activities.

Australia's participation in multilateral economic organisations supports a broad range of foreign policy, economic and trade objectives. Australia gives particular priority to encouraging agencies to promote the expansion of practical and policy measures which support trade liberalisation. While the Uruguay Round on multilateral trade negotiations has been a principal focus, Australia has taken the opportunity to highlight the contribution which open trading systems can make to economic growth and development and in the resolution of specific issues such as debt.

Australia's membership of the OECD provides a forum in which its views on a broad range of trade and trade related issues can be pursued collaboratively with other industrialised countries.

In response to the emphasis which developing countries have given to international economic issues, Australia participates actively in the economic forums and institutions of the United Nations' system. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development provides a very useful forum to emphasise the importance of trade liberalisation in the development process.

To complement regional policy perspectives on trade, economic and development issues, Australia has been actively encouraging the strengthening of the dialogue between OECD and Dynamic Asian Economies (Republic of Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia and Thailand). Also at a regional level Australia has been active in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in order to define more clearly the role and responsibilities of that organisation for broadly based development activities and to ensure the most effective use of resources.

Law of the Sea

Australia participated in all sessions of the Law of the Sea Conference, the largest and potentially the most important conference in the history of the United Nations, involving major strategic, economic, transport, scientific and environmental issues. The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea opened for signature on 10 December 1982 and Australia signed that day.

It had attracted 158 other signatures by the time it closed for signature two years later. The Convention will enter into force twelve months after it receives 60 ratifications or accessions. As of February 1992 there were 51 ratifications/accessions. The text includes articles on the system of exploration and exploitation of the deep seabed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction; extension of the territorial sea to 12 nautical miles; establishment of coastal state sovereign rights in the living and non-living resources of an 'exclusive economic zone' of 200 nautical miles; recognition of coastal state sovereign rights over the exploration and exploitation of the natural resources of the continental shelf, defined in terms of the natural prolongation of the land-mass; protection and preservation of the marine environment; marine scientific research; and the settlement of disputes. Rights of freedom of navigation and passage through straits and archipelagos, which are important to trading nations such as Australia, are also recognised. A preparatory commission for the establishment of the International Seabed Authority and its various organs has been meeting biannually since 1983. In addition, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has recently been chairing consultations aimed at resolving some outstanding issues regarding deep seabed exploitation. Australia has been an active participant in both the Preparatory Commission and the Secretary-General's consultations.

Antarctica

Australia has had a long association with Antarctica commencing with early expeditions and continuing with an active scientific program. Antarctica's importance to Australia derives from its geographical proximity, the history of Australian involvement there and Australian administration of the Australian Antarctic Territory. Australia maintains three permanent bases in the Territory; at Casey, Davis and Mawson (as well as one on Macquarie Island). See also the chapter on Territories of Australia.

As one of the twelve original signatories, Australia attaches particular significance to the 1959 Antarctic Treaty, which serves important Australian scientific, environmental and security interests. Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings (ATCM) are held about every two years in one of the Consultative Party States. Australia was last the host in 1983 for the twelfth meeting. The sixteenth ATCM was held in Bonn from 7 to 18 October 1991. There are now

40 governments which are parties to the Antarctic Treaty. Of these 26 are Consultative Parties entitled to participate fully in Consultative Meetings.

Hobart is host to the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources established by a Convention adopted in Canberra in 1980. The Commission and its Scientific Committee meet annually. The Commission is the only international organisation based in Australia.

On 22 May 1989 the Australian Government announced that it was opposed to mining taking place in Antarctica and it would not sign the Convention on the Regulation of Antarctic Mineral Resource Activities (CRAMRA) but that it would pursue the negotiation of a comprehensive environmental protection regime for Antarctica. On 18 August 1989 the Australian and French Prime Ministers announced that Australia and France would pursue this initiative jointly.

Following consideration of the joint Australia/France proposal, ATCM XV (October 1989) recommended the establishment of Special Consultative Meeting XI (SCM XI) to explore and discuss all proposals relating to the comprehensive protection of the Antarctic environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems. A series of SCM XI Sessions were held in Chile and Madrid. Consensus was reached in July 1991 on a draft Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty which will prohibit mining. The negotiations were concluded and the Protocol opened for signature in Madrid on 4 October 1991. When fully implemented the Protocol will establish a comprehensive regime for assessing the environmental impact of activities in Antarctica and specific guidelines for waste disposal, marine pollution and the conservation of fauna and flora.

Treaties

The texts of bilateral and multilateral treaties to which Australia is a party are printed in the *Australian Treaty Series* (ATS) when they enter into force. Australia's current position in regard to individual treaties may be ascertained by referring to the *Australian Treaty List* (ATS 1989 No. 38) which was up-to-date at 31 December 1989, and supplements to the List which appear annually in *Treaty Action* (No. 1 of ATS each year). Monthly updates are

contained in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade publication *Backgrounder*.

In addition, the texts of multilateral treaties in the negotiation of which Australia has participated but to which it has yet to become a party are printed in annual volumes of *Select Documents on International Affairs*. The foregoing publications are available from Commonwealth Government Bookshops, except *Backgrounder* which is available from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Canberra.

Cultural relations

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade administers a program of cultural relations overseas. This program supports Australian foreign policy and economic objectives through cultural activities and exchanges. These include tours overseas of all types of performing and visual arts, promotion of Australian studies, sport exchanges, film screenings, visits to Australia by people able to facilitate cultural exchange and activities in support of the commercial marketing of Australian culture overseas. Formal priorities have been established for the program, with major emphasis being given to countries in Asia, the Pacific and North America.

The Department collaborates closely with other departments, institutions and agencies in the development of its program. The Department seeks to build up programs which will increase understanding and comprehension overseas of Australian society and culture, and thus help foster a favourable environment for the promotion of foreign policy goals. At the same time it seeks to promote professional opportunities for Australian practitioners in all cultural and sporting fields.

The Department also provides secretariats for the Australia-China Council, the Australia Japan Foundation, the Australia New Zealand Foundation, the Australia-Indonesia Institute, and the Australia Abroad Council.

Consular services and passports

The Department is responsible to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade for the protection and welfare of Australian citizens and their interests overseas. Consular services to the Australian public are available from Australian diplomatic and consular posts throughout the world.

In recent years, the service has been expanded through arrangements with Canada and the introduction of the Honorary Consul Program.

The Australia Canada Consular Sharing Agreement, signed in 1986, was extended to a larger range of countries in 1989. The agreement enables Australian citizens to obtain consular assistance from Canadian diplomatic and consular posts in certain countries where Australia has no representation. The countries where Canada provides consular services to Australians are Norway, Tunisia, Peru, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Ethiopia, Guinea, Tanzania, Senegal, Zaire, Gabon, Morocco and Cameroon. Australia reciprocates with the provision of consular services to Canadians in Hawaii, Bali, Western Samoa, Solomon Islands, Nauru, Tonga, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Mauritius, Brunei, Myanmar and Cambodia.

Honorary Consuls have been appointed at the following locations: Lae, Papua New Guinea; Guayaquil, Ecuador; Barcelona, Spain; Sante Fe de Bogota, Colombia; Sao Paulo, Brazil; Boston, United States and Kuching, Malaysia. Honorary Consuls will be appointed at twelve additional locations.

In 1990-91, 827,317 passports were issued. 73.6 per cent of all applications were lodged through Australia Post. The passport telephone enquiry service provides country and city residents with equal cost telephone access. In 1990-91, it answered some 465,552 passport and 82,571 other calls. The telephone service also provides the initial point of contact for callers when there is an emergency overseas which might involve Australians, such as occurred during the Gulf crisis in 1990-91.

AUSTRALIAN OVERSEAS AID PROGRAM

The objective of the Australian Development Cooperation Program is to promote the economic and social advancement of the peoples of developing countries, in response to Australia's humanitarian concerns as well as Australia's foreign policy and commercial interests. In pursuing this objective the program focuses on the surrounding Pacific and South-East Asia regions. A major aim of Australian development cooperation in the 1990s is to assist developing countries to achieve a growth path that is

environmentally sustainable and brings benefits to the poor.

In 1991-92, Australia will provide around \$1,319 million as official development assistance (ODA). This represents an increase on last financial year of about one per cent in real terms. This level of expenditure is expected to yield an ODA/GNP ratio of 0.35 per cent, the same as in 1990-91. At that level Australia's performance will remain about the average of OECD countries.

New initiatives for 1991-92 include an expanded Environment Assistance Program for developing countries totalling \$80 million over four years; an increased Development Import Finance Facility (DIFF) by \$14 million to \$98 million; and an increase in direct funding for Australian Non Government Organisation (NGOs) of around 10 per cent to \$17 million. Funding for the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) will also be increased by over \$1 million in real terms, as will funding for other international agricultural research activities.

In 1991-92, work will continue on how best Australia's development cooperation program can respond to the growing challenge of poverty. Other initiatives in areas such as health, women-in-development and population will continue.

The Australian Development Cooperation Program is divided into four sub-programs: Country Programs; Global Programs; Corporate Services; and ACIAR. The implementation of most of Australia's development cooperation is carried out on a country program basis. These programs are designed to promote sustainable development in developing countries. They assist governments and regional organisations to plan and implement programs and activities designed to improve economic and social conditions. In 1991-92, \$769 million will be provided through Country Programs.

Through Global Programs, Australia contributes to development activities not planned on a country-by-country basis. Activities supported include emergency relief, assistance for refugees, activities undertaken by Australian non-government organisations, the DIFF, development of education and public information, as well as contributions to international development organisations. In 1991-92,

\$454 million has been allocated to Global Programs.

The development cooperation program is administered by the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB). Corporate Services, which represents the costs of administering the program, will total \$33.8 million in 1991-92. It is estimated that another \$43.2 million will be spent by other government departments on activities classified as ODA. In addition, ACIAR, funded under a separate sub-program, has been allocated \$18.9 million for international agricultural research.

Country programs

Most country programs are provided on a government-to-government basis. Country programming involves designing a strategy for developing cooperation which meets recipient country needs and Australia's objectives and capacity to assist. Individual country programs are worked out in annual discussions with recipient countries. Within Country Programs support is also provided to individual countries through regional organisations and multi-country activities.

In financial terms, the most important forms of development cooperation through country programs are project aid, education and training, food aid and commodity assistance.

Projects supported by Australia range from large-scale, long-term, integrated regional development programs to small-scale village level projects. Projects involve assistance to develop the recipient country's physical capital (e.g., bridge construction in Indonesia), the provision of technical assistance to enhance local expertise, (e.g., forestry assistance in Nepal and curriculum development in Vanuatu), or more direct poverty alleviation projects (e.g., income generation for minority nationality areas in China).

The majority of education and training activities occur within Australia, either at colleges and universities, or at AIDAB's Centre for Pacific Development and Training. Australia also undertakes aid activities in the education sector of developing countries and often provides training assistance as elements of projects. Recipient governments are encouraged to identify

education requirements which relate to their national development priorities in areas where Australia can offer relevant expertise.

Australia continues to be one of the world's largest providers of food aid and budgets for a minimum of 300,000 tonnes of wheat or its equivalent each year as food aid to developing countries. This is in accordance with Australia's treaty commitment under the Food Aid Convention of the International Wheat Agreement. In 1990-91, Australia exceeded this commitment providing 380,000 tonnes of wheat (or its equivalent in other grains), an increase of 50,000 tonnes on the previous year. This was largely due to the lower cost of wheat.

The Commodities Assistance Program (CASP) involves the provision of Australian manufactured goods to developing countries in the South Pacific, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean regions. Under this program, commodities are purchased for the recipient government to use in development activities or for resale to raise funds for the implementation of development activities.

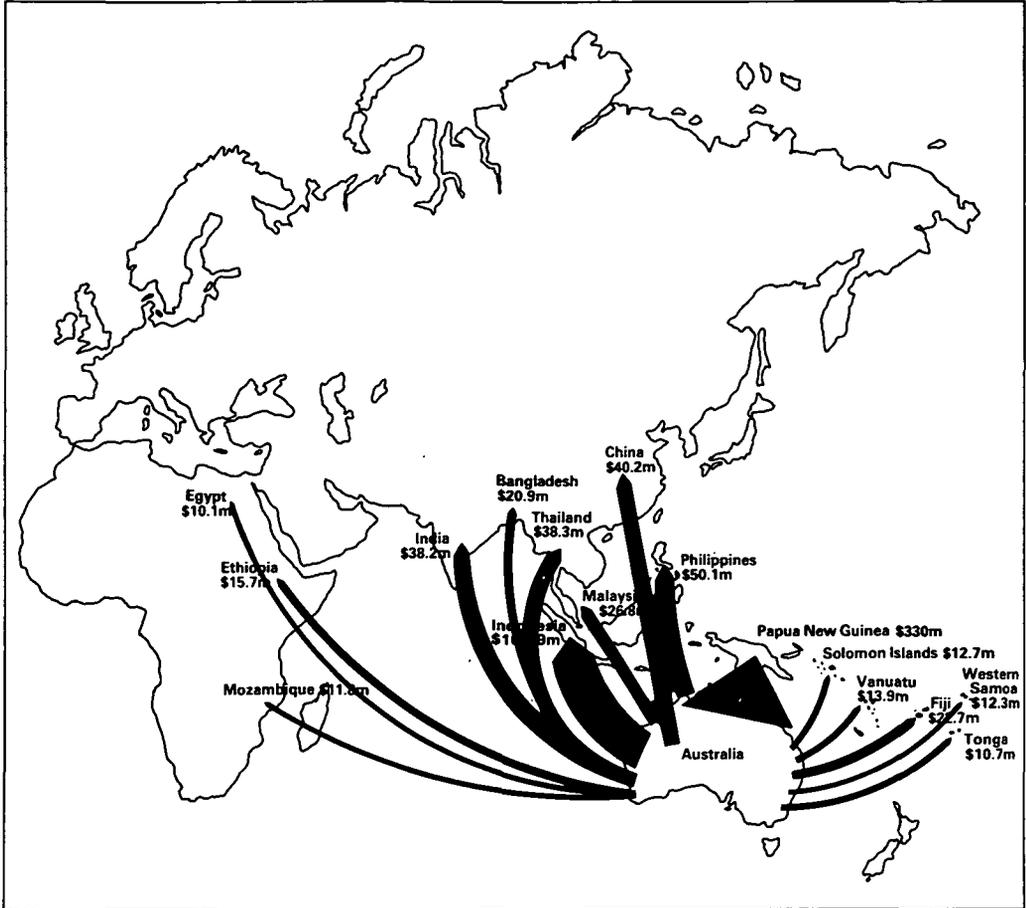
TOTAL AUSTRALIAN AID FLOWS TO MAJOR RECIPIENTS, 1990-91(a)

<i>Country</i>	<i>\$ million</i>
Papua New Guinea	330.0
Indonesia	107.9
Philippines	50.1
China	40.2
Thailand	38.3
India	38.2
Malaysia	26.8
Fiji	22.7
Bangladesh	20.9
Ethiopia	15.7
Vanuatu	13.9
Solomon Islands	12.7
Western Samoa	12.3
Mozambique	11.8
Tonga	10.7
Egypt	10.1
Laos	8.4
Cambodia	8.3
Zimbabwe	6.8

(a) This includes assistance provided under both Country Programs and Global Programs.

Source: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

AUSTRALIAN AID FLOWS TO MAJOR RECIPIENTS, 1990-91



Source: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Papua New Guinea and the South Pacific

Development cooperation with PNG is aimed at promoting sustainable economic growth with equity. The Australian and PNG Governments have agreed to progressively reducing the overall level of Australian assistance and moving away from budget support to programmed activities.

PNG receives the largest share of the Australian aid program. In 1991-92, PNG will receive \$323.2 million, which represents almost one quarter of the total Australian development cooperation program. Most of this allocation is in the form of untied budget support. As a proportion of the program, programmed activities have continued to increase from 3 per cent in 1987-88 to almost 10 per cent in 1991-92.

Australia maintains a strong commitment to assisting the countries of the South Pacific. In 1991-92 country programs to the region will total around \$92 million. The objective of Australian development cooperation is to promote the equitable economic and social development of South Pacific island states, consistent with Australia's foreign policy and commercial interests, while paying special attention to the needs of small island economies.

South-East Asia

Australian development cooperation activities to the South-East Asian region have traditionally emphasised rural development, infrastructure upgrading and education. In poor areas especially, poverty alleviation has been a particular focus. However, as countries in the region have approached middle-income status Australian development cooperation programs have become more commercially oriented.

Indonesia, with an allocation of \$57 million, is the largest recipient of assistance through country programs in the region. Other major recipients include the Philippines (\$37 million) and Thailand (\$25 million). Support is also provided for regional organisations and programs like the ASEAN-Australian Economic Cooperation Program (AAECP).

The Indo-China regional program provides funding for cooperative activities through international development agencies and NGOs with Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. The focus of the program is humanitarian and it is aimed at meeting priority needs in health, agriculture and education sectors.

Other regions

Australian development cooperation to regions outside the South Pacific and South-East Asia generally cover a narrower range of development activities than is the case for programs to countries closer to Australia. Development cooperation with these other regions will total about \$103 million in 1991-92.

The largest allocation for a group of countries is that for Southern Africa, where \$40 million has been allocated in 1991-92. This represents the second annual allocation of a three year pledge of \$110 million by the Australian Government. Other countries benefiting from Australian development cooperation in 1991-92 include China (\$17 million), Bangladesh (\$13 million) and India/Pakistan (\$7 million).

It is important to note that country program activities represent only one Australian response to the development needs of these countries. For example, China and India also receive significant amounts of funding through the DIFF. Other countries such as those in the Horn of Africa receive substantial amounts of emergency aid. Other countries are primary beneficiaries of development assistance provided by international agencies to which Australia contributes.

Global programs

International development organisations and programs

Australia supports a range of key international financial and development institutions as part of our obligations as a good international citizen. These organisations can undertake development cooperation activities on a scale that might not be possible for Australia as a single donor. Australia's active participation in these agencies also enable Australia to have a policy influence on each institution's activities. In addition, cooperation with international development institutions can lead to more complementary bilateral programs that benefit both recipient countries and Australian business. Participation may thus provide greater opportunities for Australian business than are available just under a bilateral program.

In 1991-92 contributions from AIDAB administered funds will total about \$266 million. Australia contributes toward a range of United Nations organisations, international financial institutions, international agricultural research activities, international health programs and

international non-government organisations. These include the World Bank (\$110 million), the Asian Development Bank (\$50 million), the World Food Program (\$45 million) and the United Nations Development Program (\$17 million).

Emergencies and refugees

Emergency assistance remains a key part of Australia's development cooperation program. In 1990-91, the scope and number of crises throughout the world were especially great and Australia responded to more than 40 emergency and refugee relief situations at a total cost of more than \$64 million. Types of assistance include food aid, temporary shelter materials, medical supplies and accountable cash grants. Australia also supports the general programs of a number of international relief agencies by making contributions to their core budgets. These include the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN Relief and Works Agency and the International Committee of the Red Cross. Australia also provides assistance for disaster preparedness and mitigation measures, especially in the South Pacific.

Community and commercial programs

A wide range of Australian community interests are reflected in development cooperation activities. The participation of the business community, non-government organisations, academic and other professional groups in the program is important to inform the wider community of conditions in developing countries. It also enhances the understanding and support of the Australian public of Australia's development cooperation activities.

In 1991-92, the Government will provide about \$17 million directly to non-government organisations (NGOs), an increase of about 10 per cent on the last financial year. These funds subsidise development activities designed

and implemented by the NGOs themselves including overseas development projects, volunteer programs, emergency relief assistance and some development education activities. Overall, NGOs will cooperate with AIDAB in implementing an estimated \$60 million in development cooperation activities.

The direct participation of the academic and research community in the program is generally encouraged by the Government through the support of development oriented seminars and through the provision of funds to the National Centre for Development Studies at the Australian National University in particular.

The involvement of Australian commercial organisations is a feature of Australia's development cooperation program. The quality of development assistance is increased by using efficient Australian suppliers. The program also offers substantial returns to Australian firms — each dollar provided as aid is estimated to provide well over a dollar of business for Australian firms. AIDAB communicates widely with commercial organisations in order to increase their understanding of commercial opportunities under the program.

The Development Import Finance Facility (DIFF) provides opportunities for Australian businesses to supply developmentally important goods and services to developing countries. Mixed credits combine grant aid funds with commercial export credits. DIFF helps offset the disadvantages facing Australian industry in developing countries when competing with aid subsidised finance packages provided by other governments. From 1980 to July 1991, 56 projects in 12 countries were funded involving DIFF payments of \$360 million and supporting total export contracts for Australia of over \$1 billion. In 1991-92, DIFF funding will increase by \$9 million to \$93 million.

AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATION OVERSEAS

As at 30 June 1991, Australia maintained the following diplomatic and consular

representation overseas (full details of these missions are available from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Canberra, ACT, 2600).

<i>Country</i>	<i>Post</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Post</i>
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Mexico	Mexico City
Austria	Vienna	Micronesia, Federated States of	Pohnpei
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Myanmar (Burma)	Rangoon
Belgium	Brussels	Nauru	Nauru
Brazil	Brasilia	Nepal	Kathmandu
Brunei	Bandar Seri Bagawan	Netherlands	The Hague
Cambodia	Phnom Penh#	New Zealand	Wellington
Canada	Ottawa	Nigeria	Lagos
Chile	Santiago	Pakistan	Islamabad
China	Beijing	Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby
	Shanghai*	Philippines	Manila
Cyprus	Nicosia	Poland	Warsaw
Czechoslovakia	Prague	Portugal	Lisbon
Denmark	Copenhagen	Russia	Moscow
Egypt	Cairo	Saudi Arabia	Riyadh
Federal Republic of Germany	Berlin*	Singapore	Singapore
	Bonn	Solomon Islands	Honiara
Fiji	Suva	South Africa	Pretoria
France	Paris	Spain	Madrid
New Caledonia	Noumea*	Sri Lanka	Colombo
Greece	Athens	Sweden	Stockholm
Hong Kong	Hong Kong*	Switzerland	Berne
Hungary	Budapest	Syria	Damascus
India	New Delhi	Thailand	Bangkok
	Bombay*	Tonga	Nuku'alofa
Indonesia	Jakarta	Turkey	Ankara
	Bali**	United Kingdom	London
Iran	Tehran	United States	Washington
Ireland	Dublin		Chicago*
Israel	Tel Aviv		Honolulu*
Italy	Rome		Houston*
Jamaica	Kingston		Los Angeles*
Japan	Tokyo		New York*
Jordan	Amman		San Francisco*
Kenya	Nairobi	Vanuatu	Port Vila
Kiribati	Tarawa	Vatican	Holy See
Korea, Republic of	Seoul	Venezuela	Caracas
Laos	Vientiane	Vietnam	Hanoi
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	Western Samoa	Apia
Malta	Malta	Yugoslavia	Belgrade
Mauritius	Port Louis	Zimbabwe	Harare

Australia also maintained five separate permanent missions in:

New York — UN
 Geneva — UN
 Geneva — Disarmament
 Geneva — GATT
 Paris — OECD

The Australian Trade Commission maintained trade missions with diplomatic or consular status in the following cities:

Auckland*, Frankfurt*, Istanbul*, Milan*, Osaka* and Toronto*.

The Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs maintained offices with consular status in Manchester**, Edinburgh** and Vancouver**.

*Consulate-General

**Consulate

#Resident mission