

1. **In regard to our government aid review I urge the government to consider seriously the following principles.**
2. **Achieving the Millennium Development Goals** that are most lagging behind, and in the poorest countries in our region.
3. **Prioritising the most marginalised people**, as a result of their disability, HIV positive status, gender, ethnic minority, mental illness or other cause.
4. **Establishing AusAID as a separate department** (it is currently under Foreign Affairs & Trade), with a Cabinet-level Minister for International Development, focused primarily on good outcomes for the poor.
5. **Implementing the Paris and Accra agreements on aid effectiveness** to make aid more long term, aligned with country systems and needs, coordinated with all other donors, and accountable to beneficiaries.
6. **Empowering local communities** through effective consultation and community ownership over projects, employing local people instead of large Australian corporations to implement the projects.
7. **Reducing high-paid Western consultants** and expenditure on '[technical assistance](#)', which in 2009 consumed almost half of Australia's aid budget.
8. **Working through NGOs** by increasing the share of our aid delivered through NGOs to at least 10% of the aid budget.
9. **Improving the transparency and accountability** of the aid program by providing up-to-date information about all funded aid activities to all stakeholders.
10. **Investing in effective multilateral funds** like the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS.

11. **Engaging civil society** in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the aid program.

This should include relevant groups in Australia, in each country and in the communities affected by Australia's aid.

**Related links**

[AusAID Website](#)

Yours truly,

Mrs Frances D'Ambra