



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 1 December 2014

**Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee**

*Chair: The Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP
Deputy Chair: Senator Alex Gallacher*

A PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE INDO-PACIFIC

A key partner of the Australian Government in delivering development aid in the Indo-Pacific region will give evidence at a public hearing on Monday.

Coffey International is currently managing contracts in PNG, Fiji, the Philippines and Indonesia, Kiribati and Vanuatu covering services in health, education, financial management and governance capacity building. The company also delivers a major part of the Australia Awards scholarships program, which provides opportunities for regional leaders to study and train across 13 countries in the region.

The public hearing is part of the Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade's inquiry, which is considering how best to engage the private sector as partners in promoting economic development and reducing poverty in the Indo-Pacific region.

Coffey International has been working with the Australian Government in PNG since 2009. Much of the work done has been in partnership with the PNG Government including the internal revenue commission and customs. Coffey was also responsible for marketing and managing the Enterprise Challenge Fund for DFAT, which provided grants to stimulate business development in eight countries across the Asia Pacific over a six year period.

When: Monday, 1 December 2014

5.30pm to 6.30pm

Where: Committee Room 1R3

Parliament House, Canberra

The hearing will be broadcast live at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>

Further details about the inquiry, including the terms of reference, copies of submissions, and how to contribute can be obtained from the committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/jfadt or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 2313 or emailing jscfadt@aph.gov.au.

For media inquiries: contact the Sub-Committee Chair, the Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP on (03) 5821 5371 (Electorate Office) or 02 6277 4477 (Parliament House)