

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

This petition of **members of the congregation of Holy Family Catholic Church, Menai, NSW**  
**Draws to the attention of the house the following:**

A large proportion of the world's population still live in terrible poverty and suffering without access to clean water, sanitation, health services and education.

Australia has been party to a number of international declarations including the Millennium Declaration and the agreement from the Monterrey Financing for Development Conference which committed the Australian government to tackling this problem of global poverty and in particular to "make concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7 percent of gross national product (GNP) as ODA"

Furthermore, Australia has outstanding debt from Indonesia and the Philippines, two poor countries in our region. Much of this debt is suspected of being illegitimate, that is, debt that does not benefit the people of the country to which the loan was granted and was incurred without their consent.

**We therefore ask the House to:**

- Make a timetabled commitment to increase Australia's overseas aid to 0.7% of GNI by 2015.
- Increase aid for basic health to \$1 billion by the 2010-2011 budget
- Conduct an audit of Australia's lending to Indonesia and the Philippines and cancel any debt found to be illegitimate.