

Recommendations

Recommendation 1

3.78 The committee recommends that the Australian Government reverse funding cuts made to the Papua New Guinea aid budget as part of a broader commitment to progressively increase Australia's official development assistance to 0.5 per cent of gross national income by 2024-25.

Recommendation 2

3.79 The committee recommends that the Australian Government reassess the priorities of the aid program in the context of the PNG Government's recent budgetary cuts to education, health and infrastructure.

Recommendation 3

3.83 The committee recommends that the objectives of the Australian aid program to Papua New Guinea explicitly include inclusive and equitable outcomes in development.

Recommendation 4

3.84 The committee recommends that the key policy documents of the Australian aid program to Papua New Guinea articulate how development objectives align with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Recommendation 5

3.85 The committee recommends that the Australian aid program to Papua New Guinea include increased support for non-government organisations, civil society and churches delivering assistance to rural and remote communities.

Recommendation 6

3.88 The committee recommends that the Australian Government conduct an assessment of the impact of the closure of the Manus Island Regional Processing Centre on development activities.

Recommendation 7

3.90 The committee recommends that the Australian Government examine an expanded program to link institutions in Australia and Papua New Guinea for the purpose of capacity building.

Recommendation 8

3.92 The committee recommends the Australian Government assess how cross-border initiatives with Papua New Guinea and Indonesia could contribute to the objectives of Australia's aid program.

Recommendation 9

4.74 The committee recommends that the Australian Government's Governance Facility include a social accountability program to support local communities in Papua New Guinea demand better services.

Recommendation 10

4.79 The committee recommends that the Australian Government increase:

- its support for measures to prevent the spread of tuberculosis in the Western Province of Papua New Guinea; and
- funding for the development of new treatments for tuberculosis suitable for development countries.

Recommendation 11

4.81 The committee recommends the Australian Government prioritise a new program to reduce childhood malnutrition and stunting in Papua New Guinea and track childhood malnutrition and stunting as a human development performance benchmark of the Australian aid program.

Recommendation 12

4.83 The committee recommends that the Australian Government increase the support for the training of primary school educators in Papua New Guinea.

Recommendation 13

4.85 The committee recommends that the Australian Government investigate options to coordinate and support aid programs focused on cultural change in gender inequality and gender based violence.

Recommendation 14

5.51 The committee recommends that the Australian Government, in supporting economic growth and public sector partnerships in Papua New Guinea through the aid program, ensures and demonstrates that:

- there is an appropriate focus on micro-businesses, small to medium enterprises and the agricultural sector; and
- locally affected communities are consulted and involved in the development of programs.

Recommendation 15

5.53 The committee recommends that the Australian Government support:

- an increasing number of Papua New Guineans accessing the Seasonal Workers Program;
- the request of the Papua New Guinea Government to expand the Seasonal Workers Program to other relevant sectors;
- an investigation of remittance costs between Papua New Guinea from Australia.

Recommendation 16

5.56 The committee recommends that the Australian Government:

- **target increasing infrastructure aid funding on transport and road infrastructure in Papua New Guinea; and**
- **support efforts to develop public private partnerships to invest in transport and road infrastructure.**

Recommendation 17

6.37 The committee recommends the Australian Government target illegal activities undertaken in Australia which are linked to corruption in Papua New Guinea.

Recommendation 18

6.40 The committee recommends that the Australian Government:

- **continue to support research activities which promote the effectiveness of the aid program to Papua New Guinea; and**
- **ensure that this research is considered in decisions made regarding the aid program to Papua New Guinea.**

