

**Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**  
Senate Budget Estimates, June 2011  
Questions on Notice: AusAID

**Question No.18**

**Senator Boswell** asked in writing

- a) How does AusAID monitor the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)'s work in 181 countries to ensure that no Australian funds are used on abortion services in violation of the August 2009 Guiding Principles?
- b) Please provide a list of all the countries in which IPPF expends AusAID funds on abortion services?

**Answer:**

- a) All recipients of family planning funding from AusAID, including the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), are contractually required to adhere to the Family Planning Guiding Principles. Non-compliance with the Guidelines would be a breach of the AusAID contract which could lead to penalties such as loss of funding, and a requirement to repay funds. AusAID monitors the operations and performance of IPPF in liaison with country program areas and in consultation with other areas of AusAID. AusAID meets annually with key IPPF international and regional staff and receives comprehensive reporting.
- b) Australia provides core funding to IPPF. This funding can be used by IPPF to provide grants to IPPF Member Associations in OECD DAC countries, providing this funding is used in compliance with AusAID's Guiding Principles. The following Member Associations eligible for AusAID funding received pooled donor funding through IPPF in 2010-11 and provided surgical or medically induced abortion services: Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Caribbean Affiliate (surgical or medically induced abortions only provided in St Lucia), Colombia, Democratic Rep of Congo, Cuba, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Vietnam and Zambia.

All IPPF Member Associations ensure that services provided are in compliance with the national laws of the countries in question. In many of the countries listed, the abortion laws are extremely restrictive and limit the provision of abortion to extreme circumstances such as threat of life to the mother or rape. In none of the countries included above, can abortion be provided legally after 20 weeks.