

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS CANBERRA

Ms Karin Christiansen
Director
Publish What You Fund
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UNITED KINGDOM

0 4 MAY 2011

Dear Ms Christiansen

I refer to your letter of 25 January 2011 to Kevin Rudd MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of a number of non-government organisations, about delivering effective aid and the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). Mr Rudd has asked me to reply on his behalf.

The Minister is committed to accountability and transparency through the publication of comprehensive and detailed information about the aid program.

You will be aware of Australia's commitment (as a signatory, co-funder and member of the steering committee) to IATI. You will also be aware of Australia's balanced and pragmatic approach to the discussions, such as those held in Paris on 9 February 2011. Australia is pleased that a significant level of agreement has been reached on the IATI Standard.

The Australian Agency for International Development is now developing Australia's IATI implementation schedule, in concert with other measures Australia is taking to improve transparency of its aid program.

Thank you for bringing your views to the attention of the Minister.

Yours sincerely

Philip Green Chief of Staff