

22(1)(a)

From: Rebecca Bryant
Sent: Tuesday, 29 January 2013 12:18 PM
To: Ian Bignall
Subject: FW: 47F(1) ADRAS application [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Ian – could you please give me a call about this issue at your leisure? 22(1)(a). Ta Rebecca

From: Rebecca Bryant
Sent: Friday, 25 January 2013 1:49 PM
To: Ewen McDonald
Cc: Scott Dawson
Subject: FW: 47F(1) ADRAS application [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Ewen,

Seeking your advice on an issue relating to the University of Sydney's Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies.

As you'll recall the Centre has been in the media recently because a) its Director, Jake Lynch, is a vocal supporter of the BDS campaign and b) we provided the organisation with two grants from ISSS in 2010 and 2012.

The issue now is that the Centre applied for and has been deemed suitable by an independent panel for an ADRA grant for research on violence against women in sub-Saharan Africa in excess of \$500,000.

47F(1) is the delegate for the ADRA grants. At his request the Research Section asked the lead researcher for the project whether her organisation, the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, was in any way associated with the BDS campaign. She has come back with a response (below) that states that neither she nor any of the members of her team have any association with the BDS campaign. She has not answered the question about the Centre's association with the campaign, presumably because she is not authorised to do so.

So the question now is whether we proceed to approve a grant of \$580,000 to the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies under the ADRA Scheme, possibly compounding the existing media focus on this issue. A broader question is whether we have any grounds to deny them a grant given they are not a proscribed organisation.

Very much welcome your advice.

Cheers
Rebecca

From: Ian Bignall
Sent: Friday, 25 January 2013 1:30 PM
To: Rebecca Bryant
Cc: Titon Mitra
Subject: 47F(1) ADRAS application [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Rebecca

As we discussed.

With thanks
Ian

Ian Bignall

Director Research | Governance and Social Development Branch | AusAID

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From: 47F(1)
Sent: Friday, 25 January 2013 1:07 PM
To: Ian Bignall
Cc: Steve Taylor; Matthew Clancy; Rita Shackel; Lucy Fiske; Carol Angir
Subject: RE: Your ADRAS applicaiton [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Ian,

Thank you for your email. We appreciate the opportunity to provide further information to assist in finalisation of the 2012 AusAID Development Research Awards.

We are pleased that our application has progressed to this final stage on consideration of its merits and are encouraged that our research project is recognised as worthy of potential funding by AusAID's review and assessment process. We believe the research will make a significant contribution to justice for women in vulnerable communities in sub-Saharan Africa, an area identified by AusAID as a priority.

We have assembled a strong diverse team of researchers with the necessary skills, experience and networks to produce high quality research outputs. While 47F(1) is the nominated principal investigator, as our application indicates, all three academic investigators have an equal role in the project design and implementation.

We note AusAID's concerns about any association of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies with the BDS campaign, and confirm that no individuals on the research team are associated with the BDS campaign. The administering organisation of the proposed project is the University of Sydney which has publicly stated it does not support the BDS campaign.

The two academic co-investigators, 47F(1), are attached to Sydney Law School and Curtin University respectively, both of which have no association with the BDS campaign. Our partner organisation, Action Aid, also has no association with the BDS campaign.

We are strongly committed to undertaking the proposed research and to facilitate the continued assessment of the project for AusAID funding, we request a change of the lead role in the project within the University of Sydney to 4 Sydney Law School. As indicated, our research project has been developed by the team in such a way that permits the designated leadership to change without impacting the success of the research in any way.

We trust this response will assist in your deliberations and look forward to hearing the outcome. Please do not hesitate to contact 47F(1) should you require any further information.

Sincerely,

47F(1)

47F(1)

From: Ian Bignall [<mailto:Ian.Bignall@ausaid.gov.au>]
Sent: Wednesday, 23 January 2013 9:02 AM
To: 47F(1)
Cc: Steve Taylor; Matthew Clancy
Subject: Your ADRAS applicaiton [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear 47F(1)

We are in the process of finalising the 2012 AusAID Development Research Awards.

We note your application *Making Transitional Justice Work for Women: Rights, Resilience and Responses to Violence Against Women in Northern Uganda, Kenya and Democratic Republic of Congo*.

To assist the process, could you please confirm that your organisation, the University of Sydney Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, is not in any way associated with the BDS campaign.

With regards

Ian Bignall

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