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ACMC/OUT/2012/110

Dr Kathleen Dermody  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade  
References Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

Thank you for your request on 13 September 2012 inviting the Australian Civil-Military Centre (ACMC) to provide a submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Inquiry into the administration, management and objective of Australia's overseas development programs in Afghanistan in the context of the 'Transition Decade'.

Please find attached the ACMC's submission to the inquiry. The role and responsibilities of the Centre as established by the Government are to assist Australian government departments and agencies to build national capability to prevent, prepare for and respond more effectively to conflicts and disasters overseas. Part of this function involves working with Australian and international non-government organisations to further best practice on civil-military coordination. The Centre does not have a role in the delivery of overseas development, its main focus being to build government capability through improving efficiency and effectiveness. The Centre has worked with a variety of overseas aid and development organisations to promote effective coordination with and within government. This submission identifies the role that the Centre has played in promoting civil-military interaction to build whole-of-government capability to support operations and programs overseas, including in Afghanistan.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you require further support or information.

Yours sincerely

**Alan Ryan**  
Executive Director

17 October 2012

**Enclosure:**

1. SSCFADT Submission – Australian Civil-Military Centre