



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, RESOURCES, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY**

*Chair: The Hon Dick Adams MP  
Deputy Chair: Mr Alby Schultz MP*

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## **Committee hearing on overseas development**

Parliament's Agriculture Committee will today hear from representatives of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) about its work supporting Australia's overseas development agenda.

A statutory authority, ACIAR harnesses the expertise of Australia's agricultural scientists in assisting agricultural development in a range of countries in the Asia-Pacific and Africa. ACIAR funds research projects consistent with Australian aid priorities, national research capabilities and the agricultural research and development needs of partner countries.

One of ACIAR's key outcomes has been the development of the Australian International Food Security Centre. The Centre aims to help smaller farmers achieve a sufficient, accessible and nutritious food supply. The Centre also aims to facilitate market access for small landholders through assistance in overcoming economic and policy barriers.

Committee Chair, Dick Adams MP said: "Australia's international aid program is an integral part of Australia's interactions in the region. Today's hearing provides an opportunity for the Committee to hear how these links assist the agricultural sector, particularly in relation to food security in the Asia-Pacific".

The Committee will hear evidence from representatives of ACIAR commencing at 5:15pm in Committee Room 1R3 at Parliament House in Canberra.

Further information about the Inquiry is available on the Committee's website at:  
[www.aph.gov.au/arff](http://www.aph.gov.au/arff)

To view on webcast, go to: [http://www.aph.gov.au/News\\_and\\_Events/Watch\\_Parliament](http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament)

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, the Hon Dick Adams MP, on (03) 6398 1115 or 0418 132 828 or email [D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au)

**Further information:** contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4500, email [arff.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:arff.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/arff>