

~~HONOURS IN CONFIDENCE~~Ref: B11/3207  
Routine/Low Complexity

## DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

PM&C  
Secretary  
Ms Welch  
Ms Lynch  
Mr Rush

To: Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (for decision)

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S 22

## HUMANITARIAN OVERSEAS SERVICE MEDAL - INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF TWO EVENTS

File:

**Recommendation** - that you agree in principle that service in response to the following events merits recognition through the *Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal* (HOSM):

1. The earthquake in Sumatra in 2009

 Agreed /  Not Agreed

2. The earthquake in Haiti in 2010

 Agreed /  Not Agreed

Kate Lundy

Date: 21.12.11

**Purpose:** To assess the service of Australians in response to earthquakes in Sumatra in 2009 and Haiti in 2010 with a view to making such service eligible for the HOSM.

**Key Points:**

1. PM&C has assessed the scale and conditions of the earthquakes in Sumatra in 2009 and Haiti in 2010 and considers each of these operations meets the threshold for declaration of a new HOSM operation.

*Sumatra earthquake 2009*

2. In September 2009, Sumatra experienced a 7.6 magnitude earthquake. Approximately 1,100 people died with many others adversely affected and approximately 100 buildings were destroyed with many others damaged in connection with the earthquake.

*Haiti earthquake 2010*

3. On 12 January 2010, Haiti experienced a 7.0 magnitude earthquake. An estimated 3,000,000 people were affected by the quake with approximately 316,000 people deceased, 300,000 injured and 1,000,000 made homeless. Major infrastructure such as roads and bridges were destroyed with over 30,000 commercial buildings severely damaged.

**Next steps:**

4. If you agree, we will consult stakeholders on the criteria for the award of the HOSM in each case: geographical extent, start and end dates, duration of service and eligible organisations.
5. Attachment A is a draft list of organisations with which Australians served in response to these events.
6. Following consultation, we will brief you on proposed criteria before instructing the Office of Legislative Drafting and Publishing to draft the relevant declarations.

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7. Finally, we will brief you to recommend that the Governor-General declares the operations.

**Financial implications:**

8. The establishment of a HOSM has minor financial implications for PM&C (drafting) and for the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat at Government House (production of clasps) which would be absorbed within existing resources.

**Background:**

9. The HOSM is awarded to individuals who provide humanitarian service with eligible organisations during operations in hazardous circumstances overseas.
10. The process of consideration for recommendations for the award of the HOSM is first to consider whether humanitarian response operation/s, in this case for the earthquakes in Sumatra in 2009 and Haiti in 2010, merit recognition through the HOSM by comparison with operations recognised by the HOSM to date (Attachment B refers). If so, a recommendation is made to the Governor-General, to declare an operation/s under the HOSM Regulations including which organisations should be eligible.

11 Not released

*Pakistan floods 2010, New Zealand earthquake and Japan earthquake and tsunami 2011*

12. You agreed in principle on 8 September 2011 that service in response to the Pakistan floods in 2010 and the earthquakes in New Zealand and Japan in 2011, merit recognition under the HOSM. PM&C has consulted stakeholders to develop criteria for these proposed HOSM declarations, and we will be briefing you on these operations in the near

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Peter Rush  
Assistant Secretary  
Awards and Culture Branch  
19 December 2011

Policy Officer: s 22  
Phone no: s 22  
Consultation: Government House

**ATTACHMENTS**

**ATTACHMENT A** Draft list of organisations deploying Australians to provide assistance in response the various disasters.

**ATTACHMENT B** List of operations recognised by HOSM to date.

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**ATTACHMENT A**

Organisations deploying Australians to these events (Sumatra 2009 and Haiti 2010)

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- AusAid
- Department of Defence
- Emergency Management Australia
- Australian Federal Police
- Various state and territory police services
- Various state and territory fire and rescue services
- CARE
- Red Cross
- World Vision

## SUMMARY OF HOSM CLASPS (\*The qualifying period of service for each declaration is 30 days unless otherwise specified)

	<b>Clasp</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>Geographical extent of hazardous area</b>	<b>Date of operation</b>	<b>Specified organisations</b>
1	Afghanistan (16/4/06)	The ongoing humanitarian aid operation arising out of the civil unrest in Afghanistan following the invasion by the former Soviet Union on 8 December 1979	Afghanistan and areas in adjoining countries	8/12/79	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• International Committee of the Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingents to UN organisations</li> <li>• World Vision</li> </ul>
2	the Balkans (8/10/99, amended 24/5/01, 5/12/02, 29/3/06)	The humanitarian aid operation arising out of the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia and the crisis in, and in relation to, Serbia (including Kosovo)	<p><i>Zone 1</i> – Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia</p> <p><i>Zone 2</i> – Serbia (including Kosovo) and areas in the Republic of Albania and the Former Yugoslavia Republic of Macedonia</p>	<p><i>Zone 1</i> – 21/292</p> <p><i>Zone 2</i> – 24/3/99</p>	<p><i>Zone 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian contingent to International Committee of the Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingent to UN organisations</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul> <p><i>Zone 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian contingent to UN organisations</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul>

	<b>Clasp</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>Geographical extent of hazardous area</b>	<b>Date of operation</b>	<b>Specified organisations</b>
3	Cambodia (7/7/99, amended 5/12/02)	The humanitarian aid operation arising out of the conflict in Cambodia from 1979 until 1991	Cambodia and areas in adjoining countries	1/7/79 to 31/12/93 inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian contingent to the International Committee of the Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingent to UN organisations</li> <li>• Australian Lutheran World Service</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• Overseas Service Bureau</li> <li>• Save the Children Fund Australia</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul>
4	East Timor (14/6/00, amended 18/10/00, 24/5/01, 18/12/01, 29/3/06)	The humanitarian aid operation arising out of the civil unrest in East Timor during the UN Popular Consultation Process on autonomy for East Timor and the UNAMET, INTERFET and UNTAET operations	East Timor, including the Oecussi Ambeno enclave and the Island of Atauro, and West Timor	1/6/99 to 19/5/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian civilian contingents to UN organisations</li> <li>• Australian contingent to East Timor Ambulance Service</li> <li>• Australian contingent to International Medical Corps</li> <li>• Australian contingent to International Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingent to the Jesuit Refugee Service</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• Caritas Australia</li> <li>• Community Aid Abroad – Oxfam Australia contingent to Oxfam International</li> <li>• Timor Aid Inc</li> </ul>

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul>
	<b>Clasp</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>Geographical extent of hazardous area</b>	<b>Date of operation</b>	<b>Specified organisations</b>
5	Great Lakes (Africa)  (7/7/99, amended 24/5/01, 5/12/02)	The humanitarian aid operation arising out of the civil war in Rwanda during 1994	Rwanda and areas in adjoining countries	1/5/94	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adventist Development and Relief Agency</li> <li>• Australian contingent to International Committee of the Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingent to International Federation of the Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingent to UN organisations</li> <li>• Australian Lutheran World Service</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• Church Missionary Society Australia Inc</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul>
6	Iraq  (21/4/04)	The humanitarian operation that commenced on 20 March 2003 arising out of the civil unrest in Iraq following the commencement on 20 March 2003 of operation Iraqi Freedom carried out in Iraq by the United States led coalition forces from that date	Iraq and areas in adjoining countries	20/3/03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> <li>• Australian contingent to the International Committee of the Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingent to UN organisations</li> <li>• Australian contingent to the rehabilitation program in Iraq carried out by the Coalition Provisional Authority</li> </ul>

	<b>Clasp</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>Geographical extent of hazardous area</b>	<b>Date of operation</b>	<b>Specified organisations</b>
7	Mozambique (8/6/01, amended 5/12/02)	The humanitarian operation resulting from the civil war in Mozambique during the period 1 January 1985 to 31 January 1995	Mozambique and areas in adjoining countries	1/1/85 to 31/1/95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• Lutheran World Service</li> <li>• OSB (now Australian Volunteers International)</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul>
8	Northern Iraq (29/6/01)	The humanitarian operation known as the International Kurdish Relief Operation carried out in northern Iraq and southern Turkey during the period 1 February 1991 to 31 May 1995 inclusive	Northern Iraq and areas in adjoining countries	1/2/91 to 31/5/95 inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian civilian contingents to UN organisations</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> </ul>
9	Somalia (7/7/99)	The humanitarian aid operation arising out of the civil war in Somalia in 1992	Somalia	1/3/92 to 1/1/96 inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adventist Development and Relief Agency</li> <li>• Australian contingent to UN organisations</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul>
10	South Sudan (22/3/00, amended 24/5/01, 5/12/02)	The humanitarian aid operation arising out of the civil war in southern Sudan	South Sudan and areas in adjoining countries	23/5/92	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian civilian contingent to UN organisations</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• TEAR Australia</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul>

	<b>Clasp</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>Geographical extent of hazardous area</b>	<b>Date of operation</b>	<b>Specified organisations</b>
11	South Vietnam (7/7/99)	The humanitarian aid operation arising out of the war in South Vietnam from 29 May 1964 to 30 April 1975	South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam), south of latitude 178 degrees North	29/5/64 to 30/4/75 inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Concern Australia</li> <li>• The organisation comprising Australian volunteers who worked at the Holy Family Hospital in Qui Nhon, South Vietnam</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> </ul>
12	the Indian Ocean  (30/5/05, amended 19/10/05, 6/10/06, 27/3/07, 9/12/09)	Operations that occurred as part of the emergency relief efforts following the tsunami that struck countries bordering the Indian Ocean on 26 December 2004 and the related earthquake that struck Nias Island in Indonesia on 30 March 2005  (At least 7 days service between 26/12/04 and 8/1/05; at least 14 days service between 26/12/04 and 12/2/05; at least 7 days immediately after the Nias Island earthquake on 30/3/05)	Sumatra, Indonesia; Phuket, Thailand; Sri Lanka; the Maldives; Nias Island, Indonesia	26/12/04 to 12/2/05 or the period immediately following 30/3/05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adventist Development and Relief Agency Australia</li> <li>• Australia Sri Lanka Medical Aid Team</li> <li>• AusAID</li> <li>• Various state emergency response teams</li> <li>• ADF</li> <li>• AFP and state and territory police forces</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian Volunteers International Maldives Short Term Teacher Project</li> <li>• CARE Australia</li> <li>• Caritas Australia</li> <li>• DFAT</li> <li>• EMA</li> <li>• Australian contingents to the humanitarian relief operation of GE Infrastructure, Water &amp; Process Technologies; Oxfam Great Britain, Surfaid International; and UN organisations</li> <li>• World Vision Australia</li> <li>• Youth Off the Streets</li> </ul>



	<b>Clasp</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>Geographical extent of hazardous area</b>	<b>Date of operation</b>	<b>Specified organisations</b>
13	Pakistan (22 May 2008, amended 15 December 2009)	The humanitarian aid operation arising out of the earthquake in Pakistan on 8 October 2005  (At least 14 days service between 8/10/05 and 8/11/05; at least 30 days service between 8/10/05 and 31/5/06)	Various administrative districts of Pakistan administered Kashmir.  Various administrative districts of North West Frontier Province.	8/10/05 to 31/5/06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AusAID</li> <li>• Australian Aid International</li> <li>• ADF</li> <li>• Australian contingent to the International Committee of the Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingent to the International Federation of the Red Cross</li> <li>• Australian contingent to Oxfam Great Britain</li> <li>• Australian contingent to UN organisations</li> <li>• Australian contingent to World Vision International</li> </ul>