



Ms Stacey King
6/1 Resort Drive
ROBINA QLD 4226

Dear Ms King

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter I received from the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Chris Gallus, in response to representations I made on your behalf regarding the Banaban community on Rabi Island in Fiji.

As you will note, the Government has provided over \$1 million in humanitarian relief to Fiji following Cyclone Ami, and recommends that Rabi Island acquire any further assistance required through the Australian Community Assistance Scheme.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Margaret May MP
Federal Member for McPherson

12 November 2003

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enc



- 6 NOV 2003

Office of the Hon Chris Gallus MP
Member for Hindmarsh

Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Telephone: 02 6277 4840

Ms Margaret May MP
Federal Member for McPherson
PO Box 291
PALM BEACH QLD 4221

- 3 NOV 2003

Dear Ms May

Thank you for your correspondence dated 13 October 2003 regarding Ms Stacey King's concerns for the Banaban community on Rabi Island in Fiji.

In response to a formal request for assistance from the Government of Fiji following Cyclone Ami, Australia provided more than \$1 million for initial humanitarian relief through support to the Fiji National Disaster Management Office, Red Cross and Save the Children Fund. This assistance was in the form of assessment and logistical support, tarpaulins, water containers, water purification tablets, family packs and blankets. Further assistance was provided for reconstruction of rural schools through the Ministry of Education (\$420,000), and for replenishment of pharmaceutical supplies and reconstruction of a nursing station through the Ministry of Health (\$610,000).

If there are outstanding needs on Rabi Island, the local community may seek support for a specific small scale initiative through the Australian Community Assistance Scheme, managed by the High Commission in Suva. Details of the Scheme's guidelines are available from the Development Cooperation Section of the Australian High Commission, 37 Princess Road, PO Box 214, SUVA FIJI, telephone +679 3382475.

I have asked AusAID to pass a copy of the information compiled by Ms King to the Australian High Commission in Suva, and thank Ms King for her interest in development issues in Fiji.

Yours sincerely

CHRIS GALLUS