



The Hon. Bob McMullan MP
Parliamentary Secretary for International
Development Assistance

Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Joint Media Release

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FIGHTING GLOBAL POVERTY – A NEWCASTLE PERSPECTIVE

Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance, the Hon. Bob McMullan MP, Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP and Compassion Australia will tomorrow host a forum to discuss progress towards to Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In 2000, Australia joined 189 countries in committing to the Millennium Development Goals. These goals aim to halve extreme poverty by 2015 and end it by 2025.

“Since signing on to the MDGs in 2000, we have made significant progress in the fight against extreme poverty, but there is still a lot to do. It’s great to see Australians are so concerned about this very important issue.” Mr McMullan said.

‘The Forum will look at Australia’s current and future commitment to international aid and development funding – a very topical issue at the moment – and how that funding is helping the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including addressing child mortality,’ said Ms Grierson.

During the forum Compassion Australia will be launching a major national campaign called *5 Million More*, which seeks to highlight the challenging yet achievable goal of reducing preventable deaths of children under five by five million, around the world, every year.

The Public Forum will be held at Compassion Australia’s national office, 30 Warabrook Blvd, Warabrook at 10.30am.

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