



Thursday, 27 October 2016

## OPEN LETTER IN SUPPORT OF MARRIAGE EQUALITY:

Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA writes to express our support for marriage equality.

Unions around the world fight for a just and fair society for everyone. People who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) still face repression and death in some countries in the world today. Luckily in Australia you will not be killed by the government for loving someone of the same sex, although of course discrimination continues as does bullying, violence and homicide. The Australian laws that currently ban same-sex couples from getting married continue a culture and practice of discrimination.

Our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) brothers and sisters deserve the same rights as any other Australians, at work and at home. They have the same right to happiness and to have their loving, committed relationships treated equally in Australian law. Unions in Australia have been fighting for recognition of same sex partnerships in industrial agreements since 1976, and supported the recognition of same sex “interdependent relationships” in Australian immigration law in 1985.

Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA stands 100% in solidarity with all who want marriage equality.

We know that when we take action together, we can change the world.

As the global justice organisation of the Australian union movement, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA says Yes to marriage equality.

In solidarity,

Kate Lee  
Executive Officer  
Union Aid Abroad APHEDA