



**DEPARTMENT OF  
FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS**

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AID FOR KARACHI WATER SUPPLY

Australia is to give aid worth \$250,000 towards the maintenance and expansion of the Karachi water supply.

Announcing this today, the Minister Assisting the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator Willesee, said the aid would be in the form of new equipment for the factory where concrete pipes are made for the city's water supply.

It would also provide for an Australian expert to spend several months in Pakistan to supervise the installation of the new equipment.

The pipe-making factory and its existing equipment, made by Rocla Industries of Victoria, were given to Pakistan by Australia under the Colombo Plan in the early 1950's.

The Karachi water supply was built between 1960 and 1964 and the Australian equipment has been used to provide pipes for the system of canals, mains, tunnels and siphons which carry water to Karachi from the Indus River seventy miles away.

The new equipment will be used to make pipes to replace corroded sections of the existing lines and to extend the reticulation system to meet the needs of Karachi's growing population.