



**DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN
AFFAIRS**

NO

DATE

M/97

14 June 1973

VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR
OF THE UNITED NATIONS' STUDY ON DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS, MR MARTINEZ COBO

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, announced today that Mr Jose R. Martinez Cobo, Special Rapporteur for the United Nations' Study on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations, would visit Australia from 16 - 23 June, to obtain information about Australian Aborigines.

Mr Martinez Cobo, currently the Ambassador of Ecuador to Mexico, is a member of the Sub-Commission on Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the United Nations' Commission of Human Rights.

He is also visiting Malaysia and New Zealand as part of the study he has been appointed to undertake by the Sub-Commission.

While in Australia, Mr Martinez Cobo will visit Aborigines in Sydney, Townsville, Cairns and Darwin..

He will also hold talks in Canberra with the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, members of the Council for Aboriginal Affairs and with officers of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.