

## DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

**Nº** M/119 DATE

17 August 1973

## FLOOD RELIEF FOR PAKISTAN

The Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, announced today that as an immediate measure, the Government had arranged for the despatch by air of over 60,000 doses of cholera vaccine and 12 tons of skim milk powder for the relief of the flood victims in Pakistan.

"We have had reports", Mr Whitlam said, "of the flooding in the sub-continent and an officer of our Embassy in Pakistan has visited some of the affected areas." According to reports the flooding in Pakistan was more severe than in India and Bangladesh where the waters had begun to recede.

Mr Whitlam said that the Government of Pakistan had appealed for medicines and foodstuffs, and Australia was pleased to be able to respond. The situation would be kept under review.