



~~7~~
16-19

PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

13 JUNE 1976

THE AUSTRALIA-JAPAN FOUNDATION

As announced on 30 January, 1976, the Government undertook to proceed during the Autumn Session of Parliament, with legislation to establish the Australia-Japan Foundation. This Bill to create the Foundation passed the House of Representatives on 16 March 1976, the Senate on 6 April 1976, and received Assent on 7 April 1976.

The objectives of the Foundation are to deepen and widen contacts between Australia and Japan in all fields, including business, academic, cultural, scientific and trade unions. The Foundation will promote the study by Australians and Japanese of the language, culture, social, economic and political institutions of one another's country. It will enrich Australian-Japanese relations, both by the understanding that knowledge can bring, and no less importantly, by the personal contacts between Australians and Japanese that the Foundation's work will make possible.

Those to receive grants from the Foundation will be competent persons who are already making a marked contribution to their own sphere of activity, and, who given the opportunity, may be expected to make an even greater contribution.

The Australia-Japan Foundation Act, proclaimed on 27 April 1976, came into effect on 10 May 1976 thus setting up the Foundation as an independent statutory authority.

The Foundation will comprise a minimum of five and a maximum of fifteen members.

Mr Russell T. Madigan, O.B.E., Chairman, Hammersley Holdings Ltd, has been appointed Chairman of the Foundation.

The following have also accepted appointment to membership of the Foundation:

The Hon. Gordon Freeth
Former Ambassador to Japan and Minister
for External Affairs.

Emeritus Professor Sir John Crawford, C.B.E.,
Chancellor of the Australian National University

Mr Baillieu Myer
Director, Myer Emporium

Mr John L. Menadue
Secretary, Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet

Associate Professor Owen Harries
Department of Political Science
University of New South Wales

Mrs Rosemary Trott
Honours Student, Japanese Studies
Australian National University

Mr Milton Moon
Potter and Lecturer
South Australian School of Art

Sir Kenneth Humphreys
Chairman, United Telecasters, and
Commonwealth Industrial Gases

Dr Sydney Crawcour
Professorial Fellow
Research School of Pacific Studies
Australian National University

A Deputy Secretary
representing the Department of Foreign
Affairs will also be appointed to
membership of the Foundation.

The President of the Australian Council of
Trade Unions, Mr R.J. Hawke, has been approached
and asked to nominate a Union representative.
Details of the appointee will be announced
following the ACTU Executive Meeting to be held
on 21-22 June 1976.

Details of other appointments will also be announced
at a later date.

The inaugural meeting of the Foundation will be
held in mid-July 1976.