



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

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REPORT OF INQUIRY INTO WHALES AND WHALING

The Prime Minister today released the Report of the Inquiry into Whales and Whaling which has recently been completed under the chairmanship of Sir Sydney Frost.

The Inquiry's principal conclusion is that Australian whaling should cease and that internationally Australia should pursue a policy of opposition to whaling.

Other major recommendations in the Report are that whaling should be prohibited within Australia's 200 mile fishing zone, that, if the waters of the Australian Antarctic Territory are included in the fishing zone, this policy should also apply in that area, and that Australia should seek to achieve greater worldwide protection for all cetacea.

Mr. Fraser said that the Government will, early in the New Year, be reviewing Australia's whaling policy in the light of the Report's recommendations.

The Prime Minister added that copies of the Report have been sent to the Premiers and interested groups who had assisted the Inquiry. Comments from the States were essential to the Government's review of its policy with respect to whales.

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