

FOR PRESS :P.M. No. 16/1965ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONSStatement by the Acting Prime Minister, the Rt.Hon. J. McEwen

The Acting Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. John McEwen, announced tonight that invitations had been extended to representatives of national organisations to participate in a further series of economic consultations to be held on 24th and 25th of February. The Government has had very useful discussions with representatives of industry and commerce over the past few years and the present meetings are being arranged to enable the Government to get the most up-to-date views of business and other organisations on developments in the Australian economy.

A committee of Ministers will meet representatives of a group of national organisations in Canberra on the afternoon of Wednesday, 24th February. The organisations invited to attend are :-

Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia.
 Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia
 National Farmers' Union of Australia
 Australian Primary Producers' Union
 Australian Woolgrowers' and Graziers' Council
 Australian Wool and Meat Producers' Federation
 Australian Bankers' Association
 Master Builders' Federation of Australia
 Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries
 Australian Council of Retailers

On the evening of Wednesday, 24th February, Ministers will have discussions with representatives of the Australian Council of Trade Unions. At 2.30 p.m. on 25th February, Ministers will meet representatives of the Manufacturing Industries Advisory Council, and at 4 p.m. representatives of the Export Development Council.

CANBERRA,
 February 7, 1965.