



PRIME MINISTER

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VISIT OVERSEAS BY ELIZABETH REID

Elizabeth Reid, Adviser to the Prime Minister, left today for a study tour that will take her to ten major European and North American cities. While away she will also represent Australia at a United Nations forum on the Role of Women in Population and Development.

The purpose of her visit will be to establish contact with women and groups in other countries who are working in the same field and to inform herself of developments elsewhere relating to the status of women. Areas she will be studying include future patterns of employment for women, parliamentary and government organisations responsible for matters relating to women and the evolution of government policy to cope with the effects of changes in society on women in employment and in the home.

These problems are at present being discussed in northern America and within the European Economic Community where extensive research is being undertaken. Miss Reid's tour will include visits to the O.E.C.D. in Paris, the I.L.O. headquarters in Geneva and the E.E.C. headquarters in Brussels. She will also meet women's groups and trade union and government representatives.

The Australian Government is in a good position to learn from the experiences of other countries in their efforts to formulate policies and initiate changes to improve the status of women.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.