



**DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN
AFFAIRS**

NO

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RATIFICATION OF ILO CONVENTIONS

(This corrects our statement of yesterday, which inadvertently referred in the second paragraph to the Conventions, "numbers 87 and 108". The correct numbers are 87 and 98.)

The Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, said today he was pleased to announce that Australia had deposited instruments of ratification of two Conventions of the International Labour Organisation with the Director-General of the ILO in Geneva.

Mr Whitlam said that the two Conventions, numbers 87 and 98, dealt with the rights of workers and employers to join organisations of their choice, provided against Government interference, guaranteed rights to protection against discrimination within unions and promoted collective bargaining.

"These are two of the important ILO Conventions dealing with fundamental human rights, and have been widely ratified by the 123 member States of the ILO," Mr Whitlam said.

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"The Australian Government's ratification of these Conventions is a significant step towards the goal of ratifying all ILO Conventions in the field of human rights, in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December this year."