



**DEPARTMENT OF
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AFFAIRS**

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AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION TO 29TH
ECAFE CONFERENCE

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr E.G. Whitlam, announced today that the Special Minister of State and Minister assisting the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator Don Willesee, would lead the Australian Delegation to the 29th Session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), to be held in Tokyo beginning on Wednesday 11 April.

Mr Whitlam said that the annual sessions of ECAFE review the economic situation in the region and the Commission's activities throughout the previous year. They also decide the Commission's future priorities and work programmes.

The Session will provide a welcome opportunity for the new Australian Government to demonstrate its willingness to foster regional economic co-operation with the countries of Asia and the Pacific.

Senator Willesee will make the Australian statement in the General Debate at the Session.

The delegation will include officers of the Departments of Foreign Affairs, Overseas Trade and the Treasury.