



**DEPARTMENT OF  
FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS**

**NO**

**DATE**

M/69

5 April 1973

AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION TO ECAFE

The Special Minister of State and Minister assisting the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator Willesee, announced today that he would leave for Tokyo tomorrow (6 April) to lead the Australian Delegation to the 29th Session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE).

The 29th Session of ECAFE, from 11 - 23 April, will review the work of the Commission during the past year and decide on policy and programs of work for ECAFE for the coming year.

The Minister said that the Australian Delegation would seek to be as helpful as possible to ECAFE in its attempts to promote economic and social development in the ECAFE region.

He expected to deliver Australia's principal statement in the general debate at the 29th Session on 13 April and to provide further details in that statement of the Government's approach to the work of ECAFE and to regional economic and social co-operation.

Senator Willesee will return to Sydney on 16 April and proceed to Apia on 17 April to participate at the meeting of the South Pacific Forum, from 17 to 19 April.

Senator Willesee will then proceed to Tonga on 21 April at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Tonga, H.R.H. Prince Tu'ipelehake. During his visit to Tonga he will discuss with the Tongan Government matters of mutual interest.

The Minister announced that the Australian Delegation to the 29th Session of ECAFE will be:

The Special Minister of State, Senator Willesee - Leader

The Honourable Gordon Freeth, Australian Ambassador to Japan

Mr J.R. Kelso, Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs

Mr J.S.F. Bowan, First Secretary, Australian Embassy, Bangkok

Mr J.A. Benson, First Secretary, Australian Embassy, Tokyo

Mr B.L. Ryan, Trade Policy Officer, Department of Overseas Trade

Mr N. Stuparich, Senior Finance Officer, The Treasury

Mr C.G.S. Willis, Second Secretary, Australian Embassy, Tokyo

Mr J.A. Tilemann, Private Secretary to the Minister of State