



**DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN
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AUSTRALIAN-INDONESIAN RELATIONS : VISIT
OF THE INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, MR ADAM MALIK,
AND OFFICIAL CONSULTATIONS

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, announced today before his departure for visits to Japan and China that the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Mr Adam Malik, will visit Australia from 6-10 November as a guest of the Australian Government. Mr Malik will be accompanied by Mrs Malik.

Mr Whitlam said that Mr Malik's visit will be his fourth to Australia. He visited here in December 1967, as leader of the Indonesian delegation to the memorial service in Melbourne for the late Prime Minister, Mr Harold Holt; in April 1968, to lead the Indonesian delegation to the 24th Session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) in Canberra, following which he held discussions with the Australian Government; and in February 1972, when he accompanied President Suharto on his State Visit to Australia.

Mr Whitlam said Mr Malik would be a very welcome visitor. His visit would provide yet another opportunity to continue the close and constructive dialogue, at a high level, that had developed between the two countries on matters of mutual interest. Following his visit to Australia, Mr Malik will visit Papua New Guinea as a guest of the Papua New Guinea Government.

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Mr Malik's visit will, he said, follow the second in the series of annual consultations between senior Australian and Indonesian officials on foreign policy matters of common interest to be held in Canberra on 6-7 November.

Mr Whitlam recalled that the first round of annual talks had been held in Jakarta in August 1972, as a result of a decision by the Australian and Indonesian Governments during President Suharto's visit to Australia in February 1972, that the two countries should keep in close touch through frequent and frank consultations. The Jakarta talks had been most successful and officials were looking forward to a useful exchange of views in the forthcoming discussions on such matters as developments in the South East Asian region and Australian-Indonesian bilateral relations.

The Australian delegation would be led by the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Sir Keith Waller, C.B.E., who also led the Australian delegation to the first round of talks. The Indonesian delegation will be led by Mr Djajadiningrat, the Director-General of Political Affairs in the Indonesian Department of Foreign Affairs.