



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

27 SEPTEMBER, 1978

SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL
PARKS AND RESERVES

The Commonwealth Government has agreed to share with New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland the costs of the second South Pacific Conference on National Parks and Reserves. The Conference will be held in Sydney in April/May next year.

Formal sessions of the Conference will concentrate on practical conservation problems common to the South Pacific Region. The object will be to encourage effective solutions compatible with the cultural background, existing resources and national aspirations of the countries of the Region. The Conference will include tours of National Parks in Queensland and Victoria.

All overseas delegates will be responsible for the cost of travel to and from Australia. This could deter representation from some of the smaller countries of the Region, and therefore the Commonwealth Government is approaching the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) seeking assistance to subsidise the air fares of delegates from these countries.