



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Mr. Michael Cook, a senior career officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs, currently Deputy High Commissioner in London, is to be appointed to a new position of Chief Executive Officer in charge of the Prime Minister's Private Office.

Following announcement of Mr. Darcy Tronson's return to the Liberal Party Federal Secretariat from the position of Principal Private Secretary, the Prime Minister has decided to re-organise his private office. There will be a re-allocation of duties between existing staff and Mr. Cook's role, apart from managing the private office, will be that of a senior adviser and consultant located in the private office rather than in the Prime Minister's Department.

It is expected that Mr. Cook will take up duty in December. Mr. Cook has served in senior positions in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Canberra and in diplomatic posts abroad, including Vietnam, Jakarta, New York, Bangkok and Cairo.