

DOORSTOP, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA

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Question:

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Prime Minister:

I think the basis of the bipartisan approach is there if Mr Hayden is prepared to do what he has already indicated - that is over Afghanistan. He has said very plainly that a boycott of the Olympic Games is the most effective means of getting the message through to the Russian government and people. He has also said that he is prepared to join a boycott if it is going to be an effective one. All he has to do is to join with the Government, and to work to make it effective.

Nobody can guarantee that it will be - we believe it will be, but it won't be if everyone just sits back and does nothing. On the other issues, of course, he and at least Mr Young have said that it is nonsense to talk about any trade sanctions, because they wouldn't be effective, and that is what they have said, so they ought to stop talking about all the nonsense about wool.

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