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# PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

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## EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS

An Interim Committee representing all Parties has been formed to develop exchange visits by young people in politics between Australia and other countries.

The Committee will seek to establish an early exchange program with the American Council for Young Political Leaders (ACYPL). The ACYPL is a bipartisan non-profit organisation which operates a number of programs, including exchange programs aimed at the development of an understanding of international affairs in young American political leaders and at providing insight into the American political process to young leaders from other countries.

The Committee will also make suggestions to Party Leaders on an appropriate form and functions for a permanent body to establish future programs with the United States and, it is hoped, with other countries.

It is envisaged that the exchanges could involve people in local government, members of party organisations, union leaders and others involved in the political process as well as State and Federal parliamentarians.

With the agreement of all Party Leaders, the Hon. Sir Robert Cotton has been appointed to chair the Interim Committee. Until recently, Sir Robert served as Australian Consul-General in New York following his earlier career in public life in Australia. The other members of the Committee are:

### Nominated by

Mr A G Cadman, MP  
Mr T Eggleton, CVO  
Mr A J MacKenzie, MP  
Senator the Hon.  
Douglas McClelland  
Mr R McMullen  
Mr S Spindler

The Prime Minister  
The Prime Minister  
Mr Anthony  
Leader of the Opposition  
Leader of the Opposition  
Senator Chipp

The future of this country depends in good part on the quality, knowledge and understanding of young people entering public life. The proposed exchange scheme will provide these people with opportunities to gain valuable experience and understanding through visits to countries of relevance to Australia's place in the world. The scheme will also facilitate visits to Australia by young leaders of other countries.

The interim Committee will be seeking to obtain a large part of the funding for the project from non-Government sources.

The Interim Committee's terms of reference are attached.

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## Exchange Visits of Young Political Leaders

### Terms of Reference for Interim Committee

On behalf of the Principals (parliamentary leader of the Liberal Party of Australia, leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party, parliamentary leader of the National Country Party and parliamentary leader of the Australian Democrats) the interim committee is to:

- arrange early exchange visit with the United States.
- recommend to the principals the form and functions of an ongoing organisation for exchange visits of young political leaders.

2. The interim committee is to:

- (a) establish contact with the American Council for Young Political Leaders and commence arrangements for exchange visit as soon as possible;
- (b) seek funding to enable Australia to host a United States delegation and for an Australian delegation to visit the United States. The interim committee may approach the Commonwealth Government, suitable private foundations, the political parties, businesses and other organisations;
- (c) make appropriate arrangements for receipt and payment of funds;
- (d) arrange and carry out a program of travel, meetings and discussions for the visit of the United States delegation to Australia;
- (e) put forward for approval by the principals an Australian delegation to visit the United States.

3. The interim committee is to provide a report to the principals on:

- (a) the form of an organisation to administer a program of exchange visits if the program were established on an ongoing basis;
- (b) prospects for expanding the scheme to include exchanges with countries in addition to the United States;
- (c) other activities which might appropriately be included in an ongoing program.