

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE, MR BOB HAWKE, M.P.

Departmental Changes

In considering the appropriate departmental structure, I have borne in mind the need to ensure that:

- . the priorities of the Labor Government can be given effect to readily;
- . changes from the existing structure are kept to the minimum necessary, so that the public service is not distracted from the important tasks facing it; and
- . problem areas in the existing arrangements are remedied.

The new departments to be created are:-

- . Housing and Construction
- . Special Minister of State
- . Sport, Recreation and Tourism.

The following departments will be renamed in view of significant changes of functions:-

- . Education and Youth Affairs (previously Education)
- . Resources and Energy (previously National Development and Energy)
- . Territories and Local Government (previously Capital Territory)
- . Trade (previously Trade and Resources)
- . Transport (previously Transport and Construction)

The functions of several other departments are also to be altered in varying degree. The Department of the Vice-President of the Executive Council will be abolished.

(1) Economic Policy

The Taxation Office will be moved from the Treasurer's portfolio to the Minister for Finance, Mr Dawkins. This will enable the Treasurer, Mr Keating, to concentrate more closely on overall economic management.

The Treasurer will be responsible for the proposed price surveillance machinery, and also for the Grants Commission.

Co-ordination of the prices and incomes policy will be the responsibility of the Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations (Mr Willis). With these added responsibilities it seemed appropriate to move Youth Affairs from Employment and Industrial Relations to Education, to ensure that proper attention can be devoted to policies affecting our youth.

(2) Industries

The Minister for Industry and Commerce, Senator Button, will assume responsibility for the Industries Assistance Commission and the Australian Industries Development Corporation thus providing a single portfolio with the key industry responsibilities. Regional development will also go to Industry and Commerce.

The Department of Housing and Construction, which was abolished by the Fraser Government, will be reconstituted to provide a focus for policies affecting the housing and building industries, and housing assistance program. Responsibility for the important tourist industry will be a major focus of the new Department of Sport, Recreation and Tourism.

(3) Resources and Energy

The current split of responsibilities for minerals and resources policies between National Development and Energy and Trade and Resources is not sensible; it causes needless confusion and distraction from getting on with assisting the development of these important industries. All responsibilities for domestic resources and energy matters will be consolidated in a Department of Resources and Energy. The Department of Trade will, of course, retain responsibility for assisting the private sector in the development of overseas markets for our mineral resources as it does for other commodities.

(4) Other Important Changes

The new portfolio of Special Minister of State, under Mr Young, who will also be Vice-President of the Executive Council and Leader of the House, will take over electoral matters and police and protective services and certain other policy functions from the Department of Administrative Services, which will be a more clearly focussed 'common service' department. This change will also enable a greater concentration on important law enforcement responsibilities.

The new Department of Sport, Recreation and Tourism takes over responsibility for assistance to sport from Home Affairs and Environment which, with the addition of responsibilities for consumer affairs to its arts and environment functions, can concentrate more closely on these important areas.

As announced before the election, I will take responsibility for the Office of the Status of Women, assisted by Senator Ryan.

Although the Government will continue the Department of Defence Support, we have decided the defence science laboratories would be better located in Defence itself.

The Government has decided that the Territories and important local government responsibilities of the Commonwealth should be located with the Department of the Capital Territory, as a Department of Territories and Local Government. With our commitment towards self-government in the A.C.T., a department solely with Capital Territory responsibilities no longer seems warranted.

Heads of Departments

Because of the processes required by legislation for the appointment of Heads of Departments, legislation which the incoming Government will be reviewing, it is not possible to make final appointments of Heads of the new Departments tomorrow: nor to make any other consequent changes that the Government might have in mind. Acting Secretaries will therefore be appointed to the new Departments. The Chairman of the Public Service Board will be asked to report to me on appointments in accordance with the terms of the legislation and I expect that the complete list of appointments of Heads of Departments will be cleared in Cabinet next week. The Acting Secretaries of the new Departments, in addition to the appointments they currently hold, will be -

Housing and Construction	:	Mr. R.M. Taylor
Special Minister of State	:	Sir Peter Lawler, OBE
Sport, Recreation and Tourism	:	Dr D.F. McMichael, CBE.

Canberra

10 March 1983

11 March 1983

Robert James Lee Hawke, AC, MP, to be Prime Minister and to administer the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The Honourable Lionel Frost Bowen, MP, to be Minister for Trade and to administer the Department of Trade.

Senator John Norman Button to be Minister for Industry and Commerce and to administer the Department of Industry and Commerce.

Senator Donald James Grimes to be Minister for Social Security and to administer the Department of Social Security.

Ralph Willis, MP, to be Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and to administer the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations.

The Honourable Paul John Keating, MP, to be Treasurer and to administer the Department of the Treasury.

Michael Jerome Young, MP, to be Special Minister of State and to administer the Department of the Special Minister of State.

Stewart John West, MP, to be Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs and to administer the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.

Senator Peter Alexander Walsh to be Minister for Resources and Energy and to administer the Department of Resources and Energy.

The Honourable William George Hayden, MP, to be Minister for Foreign Affairs and to administer the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Senator Susan Maree Ryan to be Minister for Education and Youth Affairs and to administer the Department of Education and Youth Affairs.

Senator Gareth John Evans to be Attorney-General and to administer the Attorney-General's Department.

Gordon Glen Denton Scholes, MP, to be Minister for Defence and to administer the Department of Defence.

Peter Frederick Morris, MP, to be Minister for Transport and to administer the Department of Transport.

John Charles Kerin, MP, to be Minister for Primary Industry and to administer the Department of Primary Industry.

Kim Christian Beazley, MP, to be Minister for Aviation and to administer the Department of Aviation.

Christopher John Hurford, MP, to be Minister for Housing and Construction and to administer the Department of Housing and Construction.

John Joseph Brown, MP, to be Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism and Minister for Administrative Services and to administer the Department of Sport, Recreation and Tourism and the Department of Administrative Services.

John Sydney Dawkins, MP, to be Minister for Finance and to administer the Department of Finance.

Neal Blowett, MP, to be Minister for Health and to administer the Department of Health.

Barry Owen Jones, MP, to be Minister for Science and Technology and to administer the Department of Science and Technology.

Michael John Duffy, MP, to be Minister for Communications and to administer the Department of Communications.

Barry Cohen, MP, to be Minister for Home Affairs and Environment and to administer the Department of Home Affairs and Environment.

Allan Clyde Holding, MP, to be Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and to administer the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Senator Arthur Thomas Gietzelt to be Minister for Veterans' Affairs and to administer the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

The Honourable Thomas Uren, MP, to be Minister for Territories and Local Government and to administer the Department of Territories and Local Government.

Brian Leslie Howe, MP, to be Minister for Defence Support and to administer the Department of Defence Support.