



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

29 March 1983

In my invitation to representatives of many sectors of the Australian community to the National Economic Summit conference I sought views as to matters that should be covered by the Conference Agenda.

I have been gratified by the many considered and detailed responses that I have received.

Consultations have also been taking place with representatives of employers and the A.C.T.U. on the broad shape of an agenda for the conference.

In addition, a number of inquiries about the agenda have been received from conference participants who are preparing submissions.

I have decided therefore, to release the attached draft agenda for the conference.

The draft will be discussed further with a Conference Steering Committee that I will be convening shortly, and will be subject to adoption by the conference itself.

This conference will be dealing with some of the most pressing national economic issues ever faced in this country and I am confident that participants will wish to see discussion concentrated on those fundamental issues.

The draft agenda has, therefore, been couched in broad terms so as not to restrict discussion that will make a real contribution to an understanding of our current economic difficulties, while at the same time focussing discussion of possible solutions on the crucial issues.

The structure of the Conference Steering Committee will be myself, two of the Premiers, two employer representatives and two ACTU representatives.

However, the conference cannot be an occasion for detailed discussion of specific sectoral problems and measures.

The Government will be providing other forums for discussion of such problems, including the Economic Planning Advisory Council, industry advisory councils, advisory councils to Ministers and pre-Budget discussions.

## AGENDA

### 1. BASIC DIRECTIONS AND OBJECTIVES

- (a) keynote address by Prime Minister and opening statements by States, Employers, ACTU, small business and ACOSS
- (b) major expositions by Government (Treasurer), Employers and ACTU on dimensions of current economic problems and the broad ingredients of appropriate remedial measures.

### 2. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

- general contributions from other participants on problems and solutions.

### 3. STRATEGY FOR RECOVERY

- discussion of central policy issues identified by Steering Committee, within following broad areas
  - incomes and prices guidelines (including hours and conditions of work) and machinery,
  - the macro-economic policy framework,
  - industrial development, including savings, profitability, investment, industry assistance, technology, infrastructure, the fiscal and industrial relations environments, etc.
  - supportive policies,
  - follow-up to the conference (including EPAC)

### 4. CONFERENCE CONCLUSION