



AUSTRALIAN SENATE
CANBERRA A.C.T.

8 June 1983

Statement from Senator Susan Ryan, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister
on the Status of Women

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN ON GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES

The Government has decided to actively seek more equitable representation of women on government boards, authorities and instrumentalities.

Ministers will put forward names of equal numbers of men and women for government appointments wherever possible. They will also seek to avoid criteria for appointments which would automatically preclude women from consideration.

All departments and statutory authorities are expected to comply with the Government's decision in this matter.

The Office of the Status of Women, in the Prime Minister's Department, will assist Ministers in identifying women suitable for nomination for such appointments.

The Government's decision will result in a significant increase in the number of women on government advisory bodies, statutory authorities and other instrumentalities. It is an important step in achieving the Government's objective of greater involvement of women in government decision-making.