



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

5 August 1983

The President of the Republic of Korea, Mr Chun Doo Hwan will visit Australia on 16-20 October, 1983 at the invitation of the Governor-General. President Chun will be accompanied by his wife, Mrs Chun. President Chun will be the first Korean Head of State to visit Australia since President Park Chung Hee in 1968.

President Chun's visit, which follows Mr Hayden's recent visit to the Republic of Korea, reflects the importance both Australia and the Republic of Korea attach to their relationship.

I look forward to meeting President Chun in Canberra, and discussing with him a wide range of international regional and bilateral issues. The meetings and discussions will contribute to the strengthening of the links between our two countries.

Relations between Australia and the Republic of Korea have grown very rapidly over recent years. Australia has of course always taken a close interest in Korean and regional security questions. More recently the two countries have developed a substantial, mutually beneficial and expanding economic relationship.

President Chun's itinerary will include visits to Perth, Canberra and Sydney. Further details will be announced shortly.

Senior Republic of Korea government Ministers, officials and business leaders will be travelling with the President and will hold discussions with their Australian counterparts.