



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

8 March 1984

To mark International Women's Day the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, today announced four important Government initiatives for women.

Mr Hawke said the Government had already demonstrated its commitment to advancing the status of women in many areas.

Government business was arranged so that the Sex Discrimination Bill completed its passage through the Parliament by International Women's Day.

Mr Hawke announced -

- . the establishment of a Working Party on Women in Sport, the membership of which will be announced shortly. The Working Party which will be headed by a prominent sportswoman, will draw the attention of the media to the accomplishments of women in sport and the popularity of women's sporting activities, especially team events, and will report to the Government on problems encountered by women's sporting bodies.
- . the establishment of Women's Telephone Information Services in each State capital city. Thirteen women have been employed under the Community Employment Program (CEP) for an eight month period to answer telephone calls from the public about Government policies for women. The WTIS will specifically answer queries about the Government's affirmative action proposals once the Green paper is released for public debate and discussion.
- . the employment of 11 Aboriginal women throughout Australia to act as regional co-ordinators to assist the Aboriginal Women's Task Force, which operates from the Office of the Status of Women and which is engaged in Australia-wide consultations about the needs of Aboriginal women as they see them. The regional co-ordinators are also employed under the CEP Program.
- . the funding of seminars in each capital city to inform women's organisations of the contents of the Sex Discrimination Act. The conferences will be chaired by women Caucus members and women's organisations in each State will be invited to hear speakers from the Office of Status of Women, the Human Rights Commission and the Attorney-General's Department explain the contents of the legislation.

The WTIS in each State can be contacted as follows:

Aboriginal Women's Task Force Co-ordinators -

Adelaide - (08) 2240004	Hobart - (002) 348941
Broome - (091) 921800	Darwin - (089) 277811
Perth - (09) 3258981	Sydney - (02) 2124831
Cairns - (070) 519959	Brisbane - (07) 2315394
Melbourne - (03) 8185764	Alice Springs - (089) 527083
Canberra - (062) 724960	

Women's Telephone Information Service -

Adelaide - (08) 2240004	Perth - (09) 3258744
Melbourne - (03) 8188248/ 8188112	Darwin - (089) 277166/ 277266
Sydney - (02) 2124831/ 2125589	Hobart - (002) 348308