



# PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA:

11 DECEMBER 1984

## CHANGES TO THE MINISTRY AND DEPARTMENTAL ARRANGEMENTS

### THE MINISTRY

I have today written to the Governor-General recommending the composition of the Second Hawke Ministry. The new Ministry, which will be sworn into office on Thursday morning, is:

|   |                               | Representation in<br>other Chamber |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| *Prime Minister   | The Hon. R.J.L. Hawke, AC, MP | Senator Button                     |
| *Deputy Prime Minister,<br>Attorney-General, Minister<br>Assisting the Prime Minister<br>for Commonwealth-State<br>Relations and Vice-President<br>of the Executive Council | The Hon. Lionel Bowen, MP     | Senator Evans                      |
| *Leader of the Government<br>in the Senate and Minister<br>for Industry, Technology<br>and Commerce   | Senator the Hon John Button   | **Mr Dawkins<br>**Mr Jones         |
| *Deputy Leader of the<br>Government and Manager<br>of Government Business in<br>the Senate and Minister for<br>Community Services   | Senator the Hon Don Grimes    | Dr Blewett                         |
| *Minister for Employment and<br>Industrial Relations and<br>Minister Assisting the<br>Prime Minister for Public<br>Service Industrial Matters                               | The Hon Ralph Willis, MP      | Senator Walsh                      |
| *Treasurer  | The Hon P.J. Keating, MP      | Senator Walsh                      |
| *Special Minister of State<br>and Leader of the House   | The Hon Michael J. Young, MP  | Senator Evans                      |
| *Minister for Finance and<br>and Minister Assisting the<br>Prime Minister for Public<br>Service Matters   | Senator the Hon Peter Walsh   | #Mr Hurford<br>#Mr Willis          |

|   |                                 |                  |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Minister for Foreign Affairs  | The Hon Bill Hayden, MP         | Senator Evans    |
| *Minister for Education and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on the Status of Women  | Senator the Hon Susan Ryan      | Mr Dawkins       |
| *Minister for Resources and Energy, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister and Minister Assisting the Minister for Foreign Affairs | Senator the Hon Gareth Evans QC | Mr Jones         |
| *Minister for Trade and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Youth Affairs   | The Hon J.S. Dawkins, MP        | Senator Button   |
| *Minister for Primary Industry  | The Hon John Kerin, MP          | Senator Walsh    |
| *Minister for Housing and Construction  | The Hon Stewart West, MP        | Senator Ryan     |
| *Minister for Defence   | The Hon Kim C. Beazley, MP      | Senator Evans    |
| *Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs and Minister Assisting the Treasurer   | The Hon Chris Hurford, MP       | Senator Grimes   |
| *Minister for Social Security   | The Hon Brian Howe, MP          | Senator Grimes   |
| Minister for Transport and Minister for Aviation  | The Hon Peter Morris, MP        | Senator Gietzelt |
| Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism and Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence  | The Hon John Brown, MP          | Senator Ryan     |
| Minister for Health   | The Hon Neal Blewett, MP        | Senator Grimes   |
| Minister for Science and Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce                                    | The Hon Barry O. Jones, MP      | Senator Button   |
| Minister for Territories  | The Hon Gordon Scholes, MP      | Senator Gietzelt |
| Minister for Communications and Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence   | The Hon Michael Duffy, MP       | Senator Walsh    |
| Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Bicentennial                        | The Hon Barry Cohen, MP         | Senator Ryan     |
| Minister for Aboriginal Affairs   | The Hon A.C. Holding, MP        | Senator Ryan     |

- . a number of departments will be reorganised and renamed in view of significant changes of functions:
  - Industry, Technology and Commerce (previously Industry and Commerce);
  - Science (previously Science and Technology);
  - Education (previously Education and Youth Affairs);
  - Arts, Heritage and Environment (previously Home Affairs and Environment);
  - Territories (previously Territories and Local Government);
  - Local Government and Administrative Services (bringing together functions from Territories and Local Government and Administrative Services).
  
- . the Department of Defence Support will be abolished, and most of its functions allocated to Defence.

The major departmental changes, which will be reflected in new Administrative Arrangements to be gazetted on Thursday, are as follows:

#### 1. Industry Policy

There will be a substantial expansion of the department primarily responsible for industry policy, through the creation of a Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce, under Senator Button. He will be assisted by the Minister for Science, Mr Jones. The inclusion in this Department of responsibility for technology and civil offsets, and for the implementation of the Government's deregulation initiatives, will enable a better integration of our industry and technology policies, and should increase the competitiveness of Australian industry stimulating growth and greater employment opportunities. The Department will work closely with the Departments of Trade and of Employment and Industrial Relations to promote the Government's competitiveness, growth and employment objectives. Mr Jones will have special responsibility for assisting Senator Button in regard to Information Technology and Biotechnology.

It is the Government's intention to have a separate Comptroller of Customs, and a review of the functions of Customs is being conducted, with a further announcement to be made early next year.

Minister for Veterans'  
Affairs

Senator the Hon A.T. Gietzelt Mr Holding

Minister for Local  
Government and  
Administrative Services

The Hon Tom Uren, MP

Senator Gietzelt

- \* Minister in the Cabinet
- \*\* Mr Dawkins to represent the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce in Industry and Commerce matters, and Mr Jones in Technology matters.
- ‡ Mr Hurford to represent the Minister for Finance, and Mr Willis to represent the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Matters.

#### THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITIES AND DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES

The Government's major priority and achievement during its first term in office was to bring Australia out of the recession which it had inherited.

The Government's priorities during its second term are to sustain the recovery, and to ensure that the benefits of that recovery are shared in a fair and equitable way among all Australians. This has necessitated some changes in departmental arrangements, but these have been kept to a minimum.

The changes that I will be making reflect the following shifts in emphasis:

- . a reordering of industry and technology policy functions to reflect the Government's priorities for industry development, to ensure the achievement of continued high growth and employment;
- . a more rational organisation of the welfare policy area, to ensure that the Government's programs are delivered in the most effective way;
- . a concentrated effort to improve and more effectively integrate the Government's overall policies for youth;
- . a better integration of defence administration.

To give effect to these changes in Government priorities, the following departmental changes will be made:

- . a new Department of Community Services is to be created;

offsets will be transferred to the Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce (the precise split will be guided by the report of the current inquiry into offsets). All other responsibilities of Defence Support will move to Defence. The new Minister for Defence, Mr Beazley, and his Ministers Assisting, Mr Duffy and Mr Brown, will be responsible for a smooth transition to the new arrangements.

#### 5. Other Important Administrative Changes

In addition to being appointed Minister for Resources and Energy, Senator Evans will be Minister Assisting the Minister for Foreign Affairs, having represented both Mr Hayden and the Minister for Defence in the Senate during the Government's first term. Senator Evans has also been appointed to the new position of Minister Assisting the Prime Minister, to assist me and the relevant Minister or Ministers with particular areas of policy difficulty, or when portfolio responsibility for particular issues overlap or are not clear.

The responsibility for the Bicentennial Authority, which will demand greater attention by the Government between now and 1988, will be transferred to my portfolio. The current Minister, Mr Cohen, will assist me in Bicentennial matters. His Department will be renamed Arts, Heritage and Environment. Responsibility for the Australian War Memorial will be transferred to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

In the interest of greater administrative efficiency, responsibility for local government, regional development and Commonwealth common services, including property services, has been brought together in the Department of Local Government and Administrative Services, with Mr Uren as Minister.

Responsibility for animal and plant quarantine will be transferred to the Department of Primary Industry, subject to necessary technical changes to the Quarantine Act.

The Department of Sport, Recreation and Tourism is to be given responsibility for the Government's information and advertising programs, as well as tourism promotion and international expositions. It will also gain responsibility for the National Sports Centre. The Department will have overall responsibility for projecting the Australian achievement overseas.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

I have asked Senator Walsh, as Minister for Finance and Minister Assisting me for Public Service Matters, to take responsibility for the implementation of the above changes, to ensure that consequential questions of finance, staffing and physical location of offices are resolved speedily.

## 2. Welfare Policy

A new Department of Community Services will be created under Senator Grimes to coordinate all Government social security, community services and health and welfare policies, and to administer programs which provide or subsidise services to the aged, the disabled, children and others in special need. The Department will include the Offices of Aged Care (as promised during the election campaign), Child Care and the Disabled, together with a Policy Coordination Office - formerly the Social Welfare Policy Secretariat.

The establishment of this Department will enable the Government to concentrate overall policy development in the welfare area in the one department, and to focus more effectively on the important service programs, many of which the Government is currently reviewing in conjunction with the States.

The Minister for Social Security will retain responsibility for payment of pensions and benefits.

Responsibility for nursing homes, home nursing and assistance for the disabled in the Department of Health will be transferred to the new Department of Community Services. Community health centres will remain the responsibility of the Minister for Health. The Minister for Health's primary responsibilities will be for Medicare, health research, medical services and community health matters. The Minister will have responsibility for the coordination of the national campaign against drug abuse, which will have a high priority for the Government during its second term.

## 3. Youth Policy

The Office of Youth Affairs will be transferred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and it will function in the same way as the Office of the Status of Women. It will have an input into the development of all relevant Government programs, and it will be the focal point within the Government for the concerns and interests of our nation's youth, including next year's International Youth Year programs. School to work transition programs will remain in Education. Mr Dawkins will be Minister Assisting for Youth Affairs.

## 4. Defence

The experience of the Government's first term suggests that the needs of Defence policy making, and of the Defence industries, will be better served if all related responsibilities are brought together within the one portfolio. It has, therefore, been decided to transfer most of the functions of Defence Support into Defence, under the supervision of a very senior officer working to the Minister and Secretary of Defence. The close working relationship developed by the Minister for Defence Support with the defence industry will be continued under the new arrangements. Responsibility for offsets policy, and administration of non-Defence

## **SECRETARIES OF DEPARTMENTS**

Until a permanent appointment can be made, Mr Ayers (Secretary to the Department of Social Security) will act as Secretary to the Department of Community Services.