

EMBARGOED UNTIL 9.00PM



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PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

20 February 1985

The Prime Minister today welcomed the announcement by H.R.H. Prince Philip that the sixth Duke of Edinburgh Commonwealth Study Conference will be jointly hosted by Australia and India in May 1986.

"I have a particular interest in the Conference, not only as the Prime Minister of the host country but also as a past Conference member.

"In the latter role I can attest to the value to be obtained from attending.

"I believe that the Conference will be of significant long term benefit to the participating nations of the Commonwealth."

The theme of the Conference is "Managing Change in an Industrial Society".

As President of the Conference, Prince Philip will conduct the opening ceremonies in Bombay on May 10 1986 and in Melbourne two days later. He will also close the full Conference in Sydney on May 30.

Sir Zelman Cowen is Chairman of the Conference Council, the governing body of the Conference.

The Committee organising the Australian segment of the Conference is headed by Sir Eric Neal, Managing Director of Boral Ltd, while the vice-president of the Committee is the New South Wales Minister for Transport, Mr Barry Unsworth.

Both are past conference members.

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