



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

10 March 1985

The President of Ireland, His Excellency Dr Patrick Hillery, will make a State Visit to Australia from Monday, May 27 to Monday, June 10, 1985 at the invitation of the Governor-General, Sir Ninian Stephen. The President will be accompanied by Mrs Hillery.

President Hillery's visit to Australia will be the first by a Head of State of Ireland. The Australian Government warmly welcomes the visit as a mark of the very strong traditional and historical ties between Australia and Ireland.

The large community of Irish origin in Australia has made an outstanding contribution to the development of this country. The President's visit will be a timely manifestation of the relationship that exists between the two countries.

It is planned that Dr Hillery will visit all States, the Northern Territory and Canberra. Details of the itinerary and program will be announced following consultation with State authorities.