



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

31 January 1986

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, Mr Lho Shin-yong, is to visit Australia from 6 to 10 March at the invitation of the Australian Government.

Mr Lho will be accompanied by his wife and also by the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and a party of officials.

The Australian Government places importance on maintaining and further developing the relationship between Australia and the Republic of Korea. Mr Lho's visit will provide an opportunity to continue the useful and broad-ranging discussion which I had during my visit to the Republic of Korea in February 1984 and will also provide an opportunity for Australia to return the kind hospitality extended to me and my wife at that time by President Chun Doo-whan and the people of the Republic of Korea.

Australia and the Republic of Korea share an important trading relationship which is both mutually beneficial and increasing in size. Both bilateral and international economic issues will be areas for discussion between Mr Lho and myself as well as international political issues.

Mr Lho is expected to visit Sydney and Canberra during his stay in Australia. The details of his program are now being developed in consultation with the Government of the Republic of Korea.