

(11)



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

12 AUGUST 1988

The Minister for Resources, Senator Cook and the Minister for Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, Senator Richardson, will visit Tasmania next Thursday 18 August to carry forward the consultations I initiated yesterday on Tasmanian forestry and conservation issues. The Ministers will meet the State Government, the Labor Opposition, employers and the trade union movement.

An agenda of issues for discussion with the Tasmanian Government is being developed by the two Governments.

The consultations with the various parties are aimed at achieving the best possible arrangements for creating jobs through the industry assistance and restructuring package, by making alternative forest resources available and through new investments in the forest industries.

Commonwealth officials stand ready at any time to discuss these issues with their Tasmanian State counterparts, in preparation for next Thursday's meetings.

I will be holding a further meeting with Premier Gray soon after next Thursday's consultations by my Ministers.