



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

13 FEBRUARY 1990

Discussions between my Ministers and the Victorian Government on the forests of East Gippsland have at all times been on the basis of commitments regarding job security and security of resource for the forest industries.

I confirm the following undertakings:

- . Any agreement reached by the Commonwealth with the Victorian Government will be on the basis of the implementation of that agreement causing no loss of jobs; and
- . All of the contracts between the Victorian Government and the industry will be honoured.

Should the industry or the unions at any time believe that the implementation of any such agreement has resulted in job losses, I would be happy to meet with representatives of the industry and its employees to discuss their concerns.

Furthermore, my Ministers will consult with the industry and the trade union movement on the processes for giving effect to any agreement reached with the Victorian Government.