



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

29 MARCH 1990

I note that the Leader of the Opposition has today conceded the defeat of the Liberal/National Party Coalition in the Federal election and I thank Mr Peacock for that concession.

Although the count of votes remains to be completed, it is obvious that the Australian Labor Party will have a clear workable majority in the House of Representatives. The Labor Party is therefore in a position to proceed to form a fourth Government.

I have today informed the Governor-General accordingly and he has agreed, in those circumstances, that the caretaker period is now over.

I have informed the Governor-General that I expect the party processes for the selection of a new Ministry to be completed by early next week in time for the formal swearing in of the Ministry on Wednesday 4 April 1990.

I wish to express, as I did on election night, my deep appreciation to the people of Australia for entrusting to us the responsibility of a fourth term in Government. It is my firm intention that this will be a Government concerned above all with the pursuit of the national interest and a government for all Australians.

I repeat the pledge which I made during the election campaign that the Government will devote all its energy, creativity and determination to pursuing our vision of the sort of Australia we want in the 1990s to take us as a people into the 21st century. The Government will move quickly to begin the implementation of the new policies for a fourth term which were announced during the campaign in areas ranging from economic management and economic reform to social justice and the protection of the environment.

It is the commitment of myself and my colleagues that we will, from the first day of the new Government, set about undertaking the hard work needed to secure an Australian future of greater prosperity, social justice, fairness and security.

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