



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

10 APRIL 1990

### APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS

The present Secretary of the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Ron Brown, has advised that he intends to make a career change from the Commonwealth Public Service.

On behalf of the Government, I express appreciation for the contribution that Mr Brown has made in Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs, and before that as Executive Director of the Special Broadcasting Service and in senior positions in the Department of Social Security.

Pending retirement in July, Mr Brown will be assigned to special duties.

The Government will be recommending to the Governor-General that Mr Christopher Conybeare, currently a Deputy Secretary in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, be appointed Secretary of the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs with effect from today.

Mr Conybeare joined the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in 1981 and has held a number of senior positions in that Department. He was Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister from 1986-88.

The early part of his career, from 1965 until 1979, was in the Department of Foreign Affairs. During that period he was posted in London, in Bonn and in Manila, as well as spending two years at the Asian Development Bank as an Alternate Director.

From 1980 to 1981 Mr Conybeare was the Head of Secretariat for the Committee of Review of the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC).

He was Eisenhower Fellow for Australia for 1989 and spent three months in the United States under that Fellowship.