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## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

27 SEPTEMBER 1990

I am delighted that Nelson Mandela, the Deputy President of the African National Congress, has accepted my invitation to visit Australia as a guest of the Government. Mr Mandela's visit is expected to take place from 23-25 October, and he will visit Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne.

During his visit, Mr Mandela will have the opportunity to meet political, business and community leaders as well as the many ordinary Australians who have admired his courage and vision over so many years. In Canberra, Mr Mandela will meet with me and my Cabinet colleagues for discussions about recent and future developments in South Africa.

I wholeheartedly welcome Mr Mandela's visit. It is a chance to express our admiration for the spirit of tolerance and human dignity which he has brought to the South African political scene, and our support for the process of negotiation that he and President de Klerk have begun. I look forward to discussing with him not only the state of South Africa at present, but the shape of the new South Africa that is now emerging, and Australia's relations with it.