



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

20 DECEMBER 1990

The present Secretary of the Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce, Dr Malcolm McIntosh, has accepted an appointment with the Government of the United Kingdom - initially for a period of three years - as Chief of Defence Procurement in the Ministry of Defence, and will be taking up duty in that position early in the new year.

The Government will be recommending to the Governor-General the appointment in his place of Mr Neville Stevens, a Deputy Secretary in the Department.

Mr Stevens has been a Deputy Secretary in the Department for over five years and has played over that period a crucial role in the development and implementation of the Government's industry policy.

He has also held responsibility, at deputy level, for the management of the Department.

He has had oversight of the Bureau of Industry Economics, and has been a member of the Management and Investment Companies Licensing Board, and the Government Industrial Research Development Board.

He has been the Ministerial Observer on the Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation Board, has been part of the group of senior officials responsible for the coordination of the economic relationship with China, and the Australian Chairman of the Japan-Australia industrial cooperation talks.

Mr Stevens began his career in the Treasury, and moved from there to the Priorities Review Staff in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in September 1975.

He then held a range of senior positions in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet until his appointment in June 1985 as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce.

Mr Stevens will take up the appointment as Secretary from 22 December 1990.