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## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

20 FEBRUARY 1991

### APPOINTMENT OF MINISTER ASSISTING THE PRIME MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION

When the Government announced its in-principle support for a framework for advancing a process of reconciliation between Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders and the wider community, it was also indicated that the proposed Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation would be supported by a secretariat located in my Department.

An Aboriginal Reconciliation Unit has recently been established in my Department to service the Council and to carry forward the reconciliation process.

As a further development, I have today appointed the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon Robert Tickner MP, as Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Aboriginal Reconciliation.

Mr Tickner will assist me with both the policy and operational issues involving the proposed Council and the reconciliation process. The Minister will also be responsible for administrative matters involving the Aboriginal Reconciliation Unit.