

**PRIME MINISTER**

71/93

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING, MP**COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS FOR CO-ORDINATION OF
PLANNING FOR CELEBRATION OF THE CENTENARY OF FEDERATION**

The year 2001 will be the centenary of federation. On 1 January 1901, the six British colonies in Australia federated as the Commonwealth of Australia. As well as commemorating that event, we will want to commemorate the centenaries of the various milestones which, through the 1890s, marked Australia's progress towards nationhood in 1901.

The commemoration of the centenary of federation, and the events leading up to it, is fundamentally a national matter, and I hope the entire community will participate whole-heartedly in it.

I have asked the Special Minister of State, the Hon Frank Walker, MP, to co-ordinate the Commonwealth's arrangements for its activities linked to the centenary.

9 JUNE 1993
MELBOURNE