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PRIME MINISTER

99/95

**STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING, MP
APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER**

The Government will recommend to the Governor-General the appointment of Dr Peter Shergold as the new Public Service Commissioner when Mr Denis Ives' five year term ends on 24 September 1995.

Dr Shergold is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Comcare Australia. In 1987, following a career as an academic in Australia and overseas, he became head of the Office of Multicultural Affairs in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. He became Deputy Secretary of the Department in 1990 and from 1991 to 1994 he was the Chief Executive Officer of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.

Mr Ives has provided leadership as Public Service Commissioner over the last five years during a demanding period of change for the Australian Public Service (APS). It has been a time when the APS has given unprecedented attention to its accountability for its actions and to the provision of dedicated and flexible service to the community. Mr Ives has played a major role in promoting management reforms throughout the APS. His work has been directed in particular towards ensuring a skilled public service, free of discrimination and with high standards of professional and ethical behaviour.

Pending the availability of a further senior appointment, Mr Ives will undertake special duties for the Government in public administration and the delivery of government services.

The Government is grateful for Mr Ives' contribution to the strengthening of public service in Australia.

**CANBERRA
6 September 1995**