



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANNUAL REPORT
2008-09



ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Annual Report 2008–09 has been prepared in accordance with the *Requirements for Departmental Annual Reports – Document as approved by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (updated June 2009)*.

It is available in print from 39 libraries around Australia. It is also available online at www.pmc.gov.au/annual_reports/index.cfm

CONTACT US

If you have any queries about this report or suggestions about how we could improve it, please contact: Assistant Secretary, People and Governance Branch, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (ABN 181 080 0191).

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2008–09 Annual Report Team

The Corporate Governance Section is responsible for coordinating PM&C's annual report. A graduate is engaged during the second rotation to project manage this significant task. The PM&C 2008–09 annual report team comprised from left to right: Nicola Fookes, Wayne Beswick, Marielle Smith (graduate), and Michelle Janas.

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Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

SECRETARY

30 September 2009

The Hon Kevin Rudd MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

I am pleased to present the annual report of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) for the year ended 30 June 2009.

This report has been prepared in accordance with section 63 of the *Public Service Act 1999*, which requires that you table the report in Parliament. It reflects the *Requirements for Departmental Annual Reports – Document as approved by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (updated June 2009)*.

The report includes PM&C's audited financial statements as required by section 57 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.

In addition, and as required by the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines, I certify that I am satisfied that PM&C has in place appropriate fraud control mechanisms that meet PM&C's needs and that comply with the guidelines applying in 2008-09.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry Moran'.

Mr Terry Moran, AO

SUMMARY OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2008–09

Provision of advice and support to the Prime Minister on:

- The global financial crisis
- Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Reform Agenda
- National security
- Victorian bushfires
- International engagement
- Climate change
- Pandemic influenza
- Education Revolution
- Murray-Darling Basin

In 2008–09 some of our key achievements included:

Leading –

- preparation of the Prime Minister's inaugural National Security Statement
 - Mr Duncan Lewis appointed to the new position of National Security Adviser
- development of a broader framework for National Intelligence priority setting.
 - Setting up the National Intelligence Coordination Committee
- Australia's involvement in G20 efforts to address the global economic crisis
- historic reform of the Federation through the Council of Australian Governments (COAG):
 - Signing the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations
 - Streamlining over 90 special purpose payments down to five new national specific purpose payments
 - 16 National Partnership agreements agreed through COAG
- development of other key national agreements including:
 - the Jobs and Training Compact
 - the National Strategy on Energy Efficiency
 - an intergovernmental agreement for Murray-Darling Basin reform
- preparations for the Pacific Islands Forum to be held in August 2009, and
- preparation of the Nation Building Plan released in December 2008.

Delivering –

- the Prime Minister's first annual statement to parliament on Closing the Gap on Indigenous disadvantage
- the inaugural Families in Australia report
- the Green Paper on Electoral Reform
- exposure draft legislation driving reforms to Freedom of Information law, and
- 235 Cabinet and Committee meetings, including Community Cabinet meetings, 27 meetings of the Federal Executive Council and 14 meetings of the Secretaries' Committee on National Security

Coordinating –

- the government's \$42 billion Nation Building and Economic Stimulus Plan
 - Office of the Commonwealth Coordinator-General established in the department
- input, handling and advice on the Defence White Paper
- whole of government advice on ways to improve the national innovation system and increase the international competitiveness of Australian businesses
- 165,000 items of correspondence to the Prime Minister, other portfolio ministers and their offices, and
- 1,860 briefs to the Prime Minister, other portfolio ministers and their offices.

Supporting–

- the transition of the incoming Governor-General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC
- development of the 2009–10 Federal Budget and the 2008–09 Updated Economic and Fiscal Outlook
- work on the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme White Paper
- development of the \$4.5 billion Clean Energy Initiative
- the development and launch of the Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute
- further recognition for the Battle of Long Tan and the awarding of the first 'Victoria Cross for Australia' to Trooper Mark Donaldson VC
- 37 guest-of-government visits to Australia, 11 official visits overseas by the Prime Minister and many other events
- development of the government's teleconferencing project to reduce the need for official travel, and
- work on the National Compact with the non-profit sector.

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