

PROTECTED CABINET

MC24-094819

VIP PRIORITY – SPECIAL ENVOYS TO COMBAT ANTISEMITISM AND ISLAMOPHOBIA

Prime Minister, we recommend you:

CC: Cabinet Secretary

1. Agree to the appointment of Ms Jillian Segal AO, as the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism.

Agreed / Not Agreed

2.  s 47C, s 47F

3. Agree to the Terms of Reference for the Special Envoys, and for announcement details to be settled with your office.

Agreed / Not Agreed

4. Agree to provide up to \$12.9 million in additional funding over three years (\$16.9 million in total) for the Special Envoys, with offsets to be settled in the MYEFO context.

Agreed / Not Agreed

5. Sign the draft response at Attachment A to the Hon Andrew Giles MP, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, advising him of your decisions.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Signed / Not Signed

ANTHONY ALBANESE

Date:

25/6/24

Comments:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

KEY POINTS

1. The Hon Andrew Giles MP, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs (Minister Giles), wrote on 21 June 2024 seeking your approval for:

- a. the appointment of Ms Jillian Segal AO as the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism

- b.  s 47C, s 47F

- c. an announcement for the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia at the same time.

2. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) recommends you sign the letter at Attachment A agreeing to appoint Ms Segal AO as the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and  s 47C, s 47F

- a. Ms Segal AO has a longstanding reputation as an advocate for the NSW Jewish community. She has abundant experience in senior management and board roles, both in Government and the Private Sector.

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s 47C, s 47F

3. s 47C

4. PM&C recommends you agree to the Terms of Reference for the Special Envoys, however notes the Terms of Reference could be strengthened by including information about how the Special Envoys will report to you and Minister Giles. The draft letter at Attachment A asks that Minister Giles resolve this with your office.
5. The 2024-25 Budget provided \$4.0 million over two years from 2023-24 for the appointment of the Special Envoys as a decision taken but not yet announced s 47E(d). During negotiations with the potential Special Envoys, we understand you verbally supported the roles moving from one to three years, and for additional support staff. The draft letter at Attachment A agrees to provide up to an additional \$12.9 million in total over three years from 2024-25 (\$16.9 million in total) with offsets to be agreed in the MYEFO context, subject to agreement with the Department of Finance.
 - a. The Special Envoys will be employed on a part-time equivalent basis and commensurate with an SES Band 2 level of remuneration (\$287,332 - \$350,626 per annum) for three years and report directly to you and Minister Giles.
 - b. As per the Terms of Reference, the Special Envoys will provide advice to inform policy development, legislative amendments, campaigns and programs to assist in combatting Antisemitism and Islamophobia. Secretariat, strategic communications and policy support will be provided by the Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Given these would be high profile appointments likely to attract media and public commentary, the nominees would usually go to Cabinet for consideration. However, given the time imperative for these positions to be appointed, you have discretion to approve without reference to Cabinet.
 - a. Special Envoys are not appointed by legislative instrument, or formal legal mechanism and would not have formal powers to make decisions.
 - b. All communications of the Special Envoys will be attributed to the Special Envoy and not the Department of Home Affairs, the Prime Minister, the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs or the Australian Government as a whole.

s 47C

s 47C

4. PM&C notes there is significant Government work underway to strengthen social cohesion, including the Multicultural Framework Review, the Counter Foreign Interference Strategy and \$71.8 million of funding committed to address the social cohesion impacts of the Hamas-Israel conflict. We will continue to work with Home Affairs to ensure this work is complementary rather than duplicative.

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Financial Implications

Indicative costs of the two Special Envoys is \$16.9 million over three years from 2024–25 to 2027–28. This includes 12 ASL (including one SES B1 level position) and the two Special Envoys who will be employed as non-ongoing contractors, up to \$1.5 million per year for communication creative services, \$0.5 million per year for communication translation services and an approximate \$0.5 million per year for Special Envoy accommodation.

Consultation

PM&C DIVISIONS – Government Division, Cabinet Division, Fiscal Policy, National Security Division, International Division, Legal Policy

Caitlin Delaney

Assistant Secretary

Education and Immigration Branch

24 June 2024

Policy Officer:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Phone no:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Circulation

PM&C Secretary; DS, Social Policy Group, **L Hefren-Webb**; FAS, Social Policy Division, **G Doherty**; FAS, International Division, **C Chittick**; A/g AS, Fiscal Policy Branch, s 22(1)(a)(ii); FAS, National Security Division, **P Kimpton**; AS, Immigration and Education, **C Delaney**; A/g FAS, Ministerial Support Division, **A Green**.

PMO Chief of Staff;

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Cabinet Secretary s 22(1)(a)(ii) CSO DLOs

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A DRAFT RESPONSE

ATTACHMENT B INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

ATTACHMENT C SPECIAL ENVOY TERMS OF REFERENCE, CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES AND PRIVATE INTERESTS DECLARATION

PROTECTED CABINET



PRIME MINISTER
The Hon Anthony Albanese MP

Reference: MC24-094819

25 JUN 2024

The Hon Andrew Giles MP
Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

Thank you for your Letter dated 21 June 2024 regarding the appointment and announcement of a Special Envoy to Combat Anti-Semitism, and a Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia.

I agree to the appointment of Ms. Jillian Segal AO as the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism, ^{s 47C, s 47F} [REDACTED] As this will be a non-statutory ministerial appointment, I approve this appointment, ^{s 47E(d)} [REDACTED] ^{s 47E(d)} [REDACTED] The appointments of the two Special Envoys is consistent with Government's commitment to addressing social cohesion in wake of the ongoing Hamas-Israel conflict, as previously agreed ^{s 47E(d)} [REDACTED] refers).

The 2024-25 Budget provided \$4.0 million over two years from 2023-24 for the appointment of the Special Envoys as a decision taken but not yet announced. Noting the appointments will now be for three years instead of one and additional support staff may be required, I agree to provide up to an additional \$12.9 million in total over three years from 2024-25 for up to 12 staff, with offsets to be agreed in the 2024-25 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) context, subject to agreement with the Department of Finance.

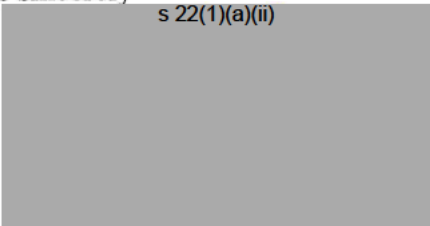
I agree to the proposed Terms of Reference for the positions, and ask that you work with my office to outline the planned reporting mechanisms to both you and I, as well as the details and timing of the public announcement of the Special Envoys.

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This letter has been copied to include Senator the Hon Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Mark Dreyfus KC MP, Attorney General, the Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP, Treasurer; Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher, Minister for Finance and the Hon Clare O'Neil MP, Minister for Home Affairs and Cyber Security.

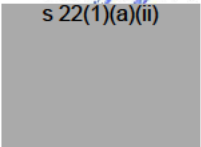
Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



ANTHONY ALBANESE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



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THE HON ANDREW GILES MP

MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

I write to seek your urgent agreement to appoint two Special Envoys – a Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and a Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia (Special Envoys). The appointment of a Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and a Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia is to address the immediate and significant rise in Antisemitism and Islamophobia in Australia.

The 2024-25 Budget provided \$4.0 million over two years from 2023-24 for the appointment of the Special Envoys as a decision taken but not yet announced. This funding was for a 12-month appointment for the two Special Envoys. Subsequent changes in the social cohesion impacts of the conflict has resulted in the requirement for the Special Envoy candidates appointment to be expanded from one to three years, an increase in support staff and additional property costs. Given the urgent and unavoidable nature of this proposal, I am also seeking your agreement to fund these additional activities with an indicative cost of an additional \$12.9 million over three years from 2024-25, without the need for offsets.

I also seek your agreement to announce both the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia at the same time, given the interrelated rise of Antisemitism and Islamophobia in Australia.

After consideration of several possible candidates and engagement with effected community groups, I recommend Ms. Jillian Segal AO as the preferred candidate for the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism. s 47C, s 47F

s 47C, s 47F

This is based on various criteria, including their significant contribution to Australian Jewish and Australian Muslim communities, respectively, and Australian society, their leadership and lived experience of combatting Antisemitism and Islamophobia, respectively and in bringing together communities and stakeholders across governments. The biographies of Ms. Segal s 47F are provided at **Attachment A**.

The appointment of each Special Envoy will be through a non-statutory ministerial appointment.

I also provide terms of reference on the role and function of the Special Envoy Combatting Antisemitism in **Attachment B** and terms of reference on the role and function of the Special Envoy Combatting Islamophobia for your consideration in **Attachment C**. I note the Special Envoys will report to the Prime Minister and Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs concurrently. They will report regularly, or as otherwise directed by your Office. The function and purpose of the Special Envoys will be supported by the Department of Home Affairs, in providing secretariat, strategic communications and policy support to implement the Special Envoys' advice on combatting the rise of Antisemitism and Islamophobia, respectively.

Remuneration of the Special Envoys will be consistent with the *Remuneration Tribunal (Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Part-time Public Office) Determination (No.2) 2023*.

Details to support Ms. Segal's appointment, including her Curriculum Vitae, Private Interest Declaration and Appointments Details pro-forma are at **Attachment D**.

s 47C, s 47F

[redacted] This appointment is considered a significant Government appointment. The Cabinet Handbook (15th Edition, 2023) notes that while a significant appointment requires Cabinet approval, you may determine that Cabinet consideration is not required and authorise the appointment. Should the appointment require Cabinet approval, rather than approval by an exchange of letters, I understand you will progress this proposal to Cabinet for consideration.

Following your agreement, the appointments of both Special Envoys are ready for public announcement. I will work with your office on details and timing of the public announcement of the Special Envoy.

Risks and Sensitivities

The impact of the Hamas Israel conflict, particularly the rise in Antisemitism and Islamophobia in Australia will be an ongoing challenge. It will take time for the work of both Special Envoys to yield measurable outcomes and the support provide by Home Affairs will in part take this monitoring role.

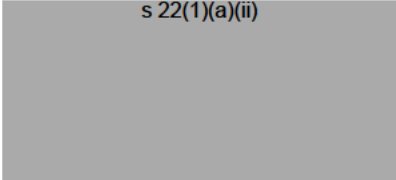
There may also be some overlap of responsibilities between the Special Envoys and the responsibilities of the Race Discrimination Commissioner and any future Religious Discrimination Commissioner within the Australian Human Rights Commission. The Department of Home Affairs, Attorney-General's Department and Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet will work together to clarify the interactions between the Special Envoy and the Commissioner(s) and promote collaboration between them.

Finally, both terms of reference have been drafted to ameliorate perceived and actual risks informed by community concerns. While the Special Envoy roles focus on combatting Islamophobia and Antisemitism, respectively, the terms of reference outline the work of the two Special Envoy's work to promote interfaith dialogue, harmony and acknowledge the intersectional aspects of Islamophobia and Antisemitism across the broader community.

I have copied in Senator the Hon Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP, Treasurer; Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher, Minister for Finance; the Hon Mark Dreyfus KC MP, Attorney-General; and the Hon Clare O'Neil MP, Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Cyber Security.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A large grey rectangular box redacting the signature of Andrew Giles.

ANDREW GILES
21 / 06 / 2024



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

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Special Envoys to Combat Antisemitism and Islamophobia

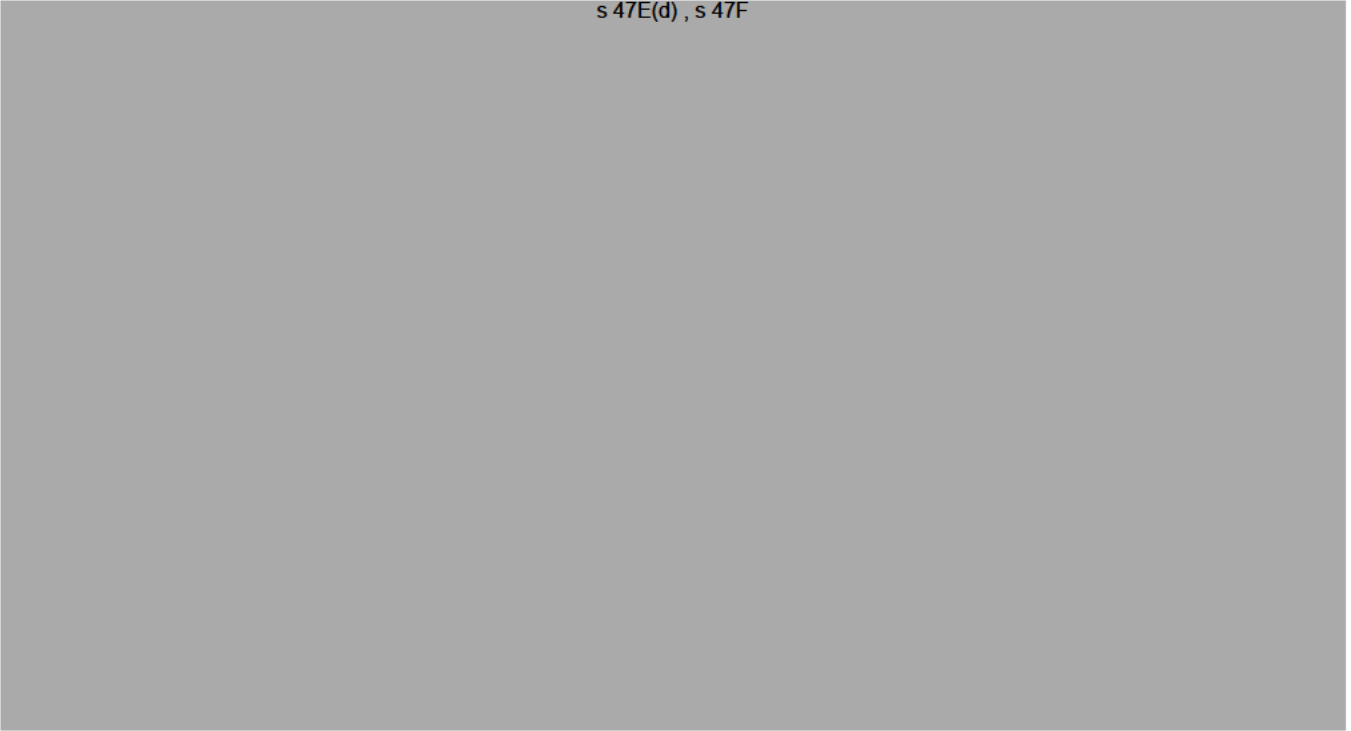
s 47E(d), s 47F



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s 47E(d) , s 47F



MB24-000099

To: Prime Minister

SUBJECT: Announcement of the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism**TIME/Date: Tuesday, 9 July 2024 – time TBC****Key Points**

- The Hon Andrew Giles MP, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs (Minister Giles), wrote to you seeking agreement to the appointment of a Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and a Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia on 24 June 2024 (MC24-094819 refers).
- The purpose of the appointments is to address the immediate and significant rise in Antisemitism and Islamophobia in Australia following the 7 October 2023 Hamas terrorist attacks on Israel, the ongoing Hamas-Israel conflict and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.
- You agreed to the appointment of Ms Jillial Segal AO as the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism s 47C , s 47F
- The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) understands it is intended that you announce Ms Segal's appointment on 9 July 2024.
- As per the Special Envoy Terms of Reference, the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism will assist the Government's response by:
 - providing advice to you and Minister Giles to inform policy development, legislation and campaigns to improve social cohesion
 - promoting public awareness and understanding of the impacts of Antisemitism by highlighting diverse Jewish Australian identities, the ongoing contributions of Jewish Australians to the building and progress of Australia, and combatting stereotypes and misinformation in communication channels
 - engaging with public and private sector stakeholders across whole of society and utilising research and data to identify the drivers of Antisemitic behaviour
 - supporting efforts to address systemic and interpersonal racism (including Antisemitism), hate speech, discrimination and divisive language through public education and awareness, through engaging in media opportunities, facilitating roundtables and participating in public discussion with the support of the Department of Home Affairs
 - identifying ways to strengthen broad social cohesion, including fostering inter-faith dialogue, for all Australians.
- s 47C
 - s 47C
 - s 47C , s 47F
 - If Ms Segal is announced as the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism as planned on 9 July 2024, it will be important to also announce that candidates are being considered for Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia role.

Background

- On 25 June 2024, you agreed to the appointment of Ms Segal as the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism for three years from 2024-25, with details of the Special Envoy reporting mechanisms and public announcement to be determined in collaboration with your office (MC24-094819 refers).
- You approved up to \$16.9 million over three years from 2024-25 for the Envoy roles, subject to agreement with the Department of Finance. PM&C recommend against the announcement of funding associated with the role at this time as the final amount is yet to be agreed with the Department of Finance.
- The appointment of a Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism has received support from various Members of Parliament, such as Ms Zoe Daniel MP, Ms Allegra Spender MP, Ms Monique Ryan MP and Mr Josh Burns MP.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The Age published an article on 4 July 2024 which mentioned the upcoming announcement of a Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism, with the author commenting that the Government had not yet managed to find a candidate for Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia. In response to that article, the Jewish Council of Australia posted and then deleted an article on 5 July 2024 critical of the Special Envoy position, saying that it undermines broader anti-racism work and overlaps with the role of the Race Discrimination Commissioner, as well as raising concern about Ms Segal's past positions on Palestinian Human Rights.
 - PM&C considers it important, as outlined above, to include messaging about the process to appoint the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia at the time of announcement to address concerns that the position is too narrowly focussed.

Greta Doherty
 First Assistant Secretary
 Social Policy Division
 8 July 2024

Policy Officer: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 Phone no: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Circulation

PM&C Secretary: DS, Social Policy Group, *L Hefren-Webb*; FAS, Social Policy Division, *G Doherty*; A/g AS, Immigration and Education, s 22(1)(a)(ii), A/g FAS Ministerial Support Division, *A Green*.

PMO Chief of Staff: s 22(1)(a)(ii). **Advisors:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Cabinet Secretary: s 22(1)(a)(ii); CSO DLOs