



MEDIA RELEASE

EXPANSION OF SKILLS AUSTRALIA'S ROLE

Skills Australia has welcomed the Deputy Prime Minister's announcement that its role will be expanded to encompass the full scope of Australia's labour market needs and to give advice on the effectiveness of the VET and university systems in meeting Australia's skills needs.

Philip Bullock, Chair of Skills Australia said, "I am pleased with the Deputy Prime Minister's announcement. It recognises that we need to think holistically about Australia's workforce needs to fully equip us for the future".

Mr Bullock said, "We will now have greater scope to provide advice on the full range of Australia's workforce – from unskilled to professionals across all sectors of the economy. Our advice will continue to draw on the intelligence of a wide range of stakeholders as well as broader information on the economy and the labour force.

Our job is to look at Australia's skills requirements and this will continue to be our focus in considering the demand for professional skills and their provision. "

Mr Bullock welcomed the opportunity to discuss Australia's workforce needs with the higher education sector, "We have already consulted extensively with industry groups, State and Territory governments and the VET sector on Australia's workforce needs. I look forward to similar discussions with the higher education sector," he said.

