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Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**MEDIA TALKING POINTS**  
**DISTRIBUTION: STANDARD**

**Topic: POLITICAL-ECONOMIC****Originating Division: MAD****Subject: Reversal of recognition of West Jerusalem****Version Date: 20/10/2022****Reason for Update: New talking points****Version: 1****Expiry: 19/01/2023****Talking Points**

- The Australian Government has reaffirmed Australia's previous and longstanding position that Jerusalem is a final status issue that should be resolved as part of any peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian people.
- This reverses the former Government's recognition of West Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.
- Australia's embassy in Israel remains in Tel Aviv.
- Australia is committed to a two-state solution in which Israel and a future Palestinian state coexist, in peace and security, within internationally recognised borders.
- Australia will always be a steadfast friend of Israel. We were among the first countries to formally recognise Israel under Prime Minister Ben Chifley.

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(a)(iii)

**Any use or disclosure of personal information about individuals and the incidents contained in this background should not be made public. To do so may constitute a breach of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).**

**Background**

Nil

**Handling Notes**

**Media Interest**

**|Approval**

Consultation	MAD
Author	s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cleared by	Marc Innes-Brown; FAS MAD

**Distribution**

Media Liaison Section, SES, HOMs/HOPs, STO Directors, Secretary's EO and Senior Executive PAs, A-based public affairs officers, A-based HOM PAs, FMO, TTMO, MIDPO, ATMO, AFMO, PMO and PM&C addressees.

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## Talking Points – Reversal of recognition of West Jerusalem

Last update: 18/01/2023 11:41 AM

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- Australia will always be a steadfast friend of Israel. We were among the first countries to formally recognise Israel under Prime Minister Ben Chifley.

s 33(a)(iii)



**From:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** s 22(1)(a) International - Middle East Africa and Multilateral Issues; s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
s 22(1)(a)(ii); s 22(1)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: Estimates briefing on Israel/PTs  
**Date:** Tuesday, 18 October 2022 9:11:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)

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Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii),

Yes, FMO has now cleared. Please see below.

The Australian Government continues to consider the final status of Jerusalem as a matter to be resolved as part of any peace negotiations.

The former Government made the decision to recognise West Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

No decision to change that has been made by the current Government.

Australia remains a longstanding friend and strong supporter of Israel.

Happy to discuss further.

Cheers,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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A/g Director | Levant Section  
Middle East Branch  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

