

Media Release – 6 November 2020

MINISTER FOR DEFENCE INDUSTRY TO SPEAK AT SUBMARINE CONFERENCE

Another high-profile speaker has been confirmed for the upcoming 10th Biennial Submarine Institute of Australia (SIA) Conference 2020 – Australia’s Minister for Defence Industry, Hon Melissa Price MP.

Delegates will hear from Minister Price at the Opening Reception, which will be held on Monday week, 16 November. The conference plenary sessions will take place over the following two days in Canberra and via online subscription.

SIA Executive Director, David Nicholls said: “Minister Price’s involvement in this year’s conference means it is now shaping as one of the strongest ever line-up of speakers at an SIA conference, Indo-Pacific’s leading forum on submarines.

“Anyone who wishes to attend the conference in person – especially now that many coronavirus pandemic restrictions have eased – or who wishes to subscribe to the online stream of the conference is encouraged to do so to avoid missing out.

“We would particularly urge those who are considering signing up to the online stream to do this as soon as possible to, among other things, ensure you maximise the value of your participation in the conference.”

The SIA is also pleased to announce that the maximum number of people who can attend the conference in person at the Hotel Realm in Canberra has been increased to 190 (up from 100).

“The SIA acknowledges that because of the pandemic, forward planning has been difficult, but hopefully the increased capacity, together with a higher degree of certainty about interstate travel between now and the conference will result in more people being able to attend,” Mr Nicholls said.

The theme of this year’s conference is “Submarine build and sustainment programs: the strategic nature of reliable sovereign supply chains”.

In addition to Minister Price, other confirmed speakers/presenters are:

- Senator the Hon Linda Reynolds CSC, Australia’s Minister for Defence;
- Hon Richard Marles MP, Shadow Minister for Defence;
- Mr Gregory Sammut, General Manager, Submarines, Capability, Acquisition and Sustainment Group, Department of Defence;

- Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO, RAN, Chief of Navy;
- Professor Don Winter, Chair, Naval Shipbuilding Advisory Board;
- Commodore Tom Phillips RAN, Director General, Submarine Capability, Royal Australian Navy;
- Mr John Davis, Chief Executive Officer, Naval Group Australia;
- Mr John Chandler, Director, Future Submarine Combat System Program, Lockheed Martin Australia;
- Rear Admiral David Goggins USN, Program Executive Officer for Submarines, US Navy;
- Vice Admiral Jean-Philippe Chaineau FN, Commander, Strategic and Ocean Submarine Force, French Navy;
- Professor Tanya Monro – Chief Defence Scientist (Australia);
- Mr Peter Jennings, Executive Director, Australian Strategic Policy Institute;
- Mr Brent Clark, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Industry and Defence Network;
- Mr Ian Irving, Chief Executive, Naval Shipbuilding College;
- Ms Tanya Pimblett, Head of Commercial and Supply Chain, Maritime Services Group, ASC;
- Mr Innes Willox, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Industry Group;
- Mr Glenn Thompson, Assistant National Secretary, Australian Manufacturing Workers Union; and
- Mr Ian McPhedran, journalist and author.

Registrations for in-person attendance and for the online stream of the conference can be made through the SIA website, by clicking [here](#).

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