



MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Peter Garrett MP

Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts

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MINISTER CELEBRATES BUREAU'S CENTENARY

Minister for the Environment, Peter Garrett, today celebrated 100 years of outstanding science and service from the Bureau of Meteorology, in a speech delivered in Melbourne.

Mr Garrett said this year's World Meteorological Day theme "*Observing our planet for a better future*" provided an excellent opportunity for the community to consider the important role the Bureau will play into the future in the addressing climate change.

"The Bureau is one of those rare national institutions which we all have a day-to-day relationship with. It affects our life in many ways like whether to take an umbrella to work. But it also plays a pivotal role in monitoring, recording, analysing, researching and predicting our climate – a task made more difficult as we deal with the ongoing impacts of climate change," Mr Garrett said.

"Over the last 100 years the Bureau has, through establishing a comprehensive record of weather observations across the nation, laid the essential building blocks which will help us in this challenge. By understanding the past, we are better armed to predict the future."

"The Rudd Labor Government well understands that responding to the impacts of climate change offers a range of new possibilities – new industries , new development and new ways of thinking.

"After 100 years, The Bureau of Meteorology has emerged an accomplished organisation whose service better equips Australia to respond to the many challenges we face. I am sure the next 100 years will build on this success"