



MESSAGE OF WELCOME FROM THE RIGHT-HON.  
H. HOLT, PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA

*Prime Minister  
Canberra*

*INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOIL SCIENCE*

*I am pleased to have this opportunity of supporting an invitation for soil scientists to come to Australia in August 1968, and I can assure them that they will be welcomed in the true spirit of international co-operation in science.*

*As hosts for this Congress we like to think that delegates from whatever nation they represent will find a new interest in Australian soils and in the agricultural, pastoral and silvicultural activities that have been imposed on them; often without the benefit of guidance or the shackles of prejudice in conventional land use. Much ingenuity has been employed in the development of techniques for land clearing, in the use of a large annual tonnage of fertilisers and ancillary trace elements, and in the developing use of water resources for irrigation.*

*Australia is not favoured by excellent soils and abundant rainfall and what has been achieved in the space of little more than a century has been the result of a combination of the pioneering spirit with scientific enterprise and its application. During the Congress we hope to share some of this knowledge with the rest of the world and we also hope to gain new ideas from the many soil scientists who can contribute by their discussion to the further advancement of soil science in this continent.*

*I extend a warm invitation for you to attend and a hope that you will return to your homelands with some advantage from this international congress held for the first time in Australia.*

*Harold Holt.*

HAROLD HOLT  
*Prime Minister*

Canberra, 17th August, 1966