



PRIME MINISTER  
CANBERRA

**MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER JULIA GILLARD**

**AUSTRALIA ARAB BUSINESS FORUM AND EXPO 5-6 JUNE 2012**

I am very pleased to provide a message of support for the second Australia Arab Business Forum and Expo in Sydney on 5-6 June 2012.

Relations between Australia and the countries of the Arab world continue to flourish. We enjoy strong cultural and political linkages and our economic relationship is expanding, particularly in the areas of agriculture, energy, education, finance, banking, construction and tourism.

The Australian Government also recognises the potential for greater economic engagement between our countries and supports efforts to promote our trade and business relationships. I am convinced the economic prosperity of Australia and that of the Arab world will be closely linked in the years ahead.

In this regard, I commend the Australia Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry (AACCI) for establishing the Australia Arab Business Forum and Expo. The inaugural forum in 2011 was a great success and I applaud the AACCI's decision to hold a second forum in 2012.

I am confident business people, investors and entrepreneurs from Australia and across the Arab world are aware of the great opportunity the Australia-Arab relationship presents and I encourage them to participate in the Australia Arab Business Forum and Expo in 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Julia Gillard'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line under the name.

The Honourable Julia Gillard  
Prime Minister of Australia