



MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Departmental No. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Minute Paper for the Executive Council

Executive Council Meeting No.

Subject

The Constitution

Termination and Commission of Appointment of Ambassador of Australia

Recommended for the approval of Her Excellency the Governor-General in Council that she:

- a) terminate the appointment of The Hon Kevin Michael Rudd AC, on and from a date to be determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as:
i. Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America.
b) appoint by Commission in the attached form Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO to the aforementioned Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America on and from a date to be determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, being a date not earlier than the date on which the respective appointment of The Hon Kevin Michael Rudd AC shall terminate; and subject to agrément by the receiving State;
c) authorise that Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO be paid such salary and allowances as may be determined from time to time by the Minister for Foreign Affairs; and
d) authorise that the appointment of Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO be subject to such other terms and conditions as may be approved from time to time by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Approved in Council

.....

Sam Mostyn AC Governor-General

.....

Filed in the Records of the Council

.....

Secretary to the Executive Council

Penny Wong Minister for Foreign Affairs



COMMISSION OF APPOINTMENT OF
AMBASSADOR OF AUSTRALIA

I, the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council and in the exercise of all powers me thereunto enabling, appoint

MR GREGORY LAURENCE MORIARTY AO

to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Australia to the United States of America on and from such day as is determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Signed and Sealed with the
Great Seal of Australia on
2026

Sam Mostyn AC
Governor-General

By Her Excellency's Command

Penny Wong
Minister for Foreign Affairs

ENTERED ON RECORD by me, in Register of Patents No. page , on

Secretary to the Federal Executive Council

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Minute No. s 22(1)(a)(ii) Minister for Foreign Affairs

Subject – *The Constitution*

Termination of Appointment and Commission of Appointment of Ambassador of Australia

The purpose of this instrument is to make a diplomatic appointment as Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America.

The power to appoint Australian diplomatic and consular representatives is exercisable by the Governor-General by virtue of Chapter II of the *Constitution* which provides, among other things, that the executive power of the Commonwealth is vested in the King and is exercisable by the Governor-General.

The Minute recommends the termination of the appointment of the Hon Kevin Michael Rudd AC as Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America from a date to be determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the appointment of Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO as Ambassador of Australia to the above-listed country. This appointment will be effective from a date to be determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and subject to *agrément* by this State. The granting of *agrément* by the receiving State for the person a sending State proposes to accredit as head of mission is a requirement of the *Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations*, to which Australia is a party. The Minute also seeks authority for the Minister for Foreign Affairs to determine the salary, allowances and other terms and conditions to apply to Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO's appointment.

Mr Moriarty is expected to take up his position in April 2026, succeeding Dr Rudd who has been Ambassador since 2023. Dr Rudd will relocate at the end of March 2026 to assume his role as President of the Asia Society.

Mr Moriarty is currently Secretary of the Department of Defence, a position he has held since 2017. He previously served as Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister (2017); International and National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister (2016-2017); Commonwealth Counterterrorism Coordinator (2015-2016); Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) (2014-2015); Ambassador to Indonesia (2010-2014); First Assistant Secretary, Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division, DFAT (2009-2010); Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Media Branch, DFAT (2008-2009); Ambassador to Tehran (2005-2008); Assistant Secretary, Maritime Southeast Asia Branch, DFAT (2002-2005); Counsellor, Australian Embassy Jakarta (1999-2002), Senior Negotiator of the Peace Monitoring Group on Bougainville and other diplomatic and defence roles with responsibility for relations with Papua New Guinea (1991-1999), defence officer attached to US CENTCOM HQ (1991), and analyst with the Department of Defence. Mr Moriarty served with the Australian Army Reserve from 1983 to 1995.

Mr Moriarty holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) from the University of Western Australia, and a Master of Arts (Strategic and Defence Studies) from the Australian National University.

Mr Moriarty is suitable for appointment as Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America by virtue of his prior experience and relevant background. Mr Moriarty's curriculum vitae is attached.

The Minute recommends that the appointment be made in the form proposed.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO

Address: c/- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

Date of birth: 4 April 1964

Present position: Secretary, Department of Defence

Educational and professional qualifications: Bachelor of Arts (Hons), University of Western Australia
 Master of Arts (Strategic and Defence Studies), Australian National University

Relevant language skills: N/A

Relevant experience:

- 2017 - Secretary, Department of Defence
- 2017: (April to September) Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister
- 2016-2017: International and National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister
- 2015-2016: Commonwealth Counterterrorism Coordinator, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- 2014-2015: Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- 2010-2014: Ambassador to Indonesia
- 2009-2010: First Assistant Secretary, Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division, DFAT
- 2008-2009: Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Media Branch, DFAT
- 2005-2008: Ambassador to Tehran
- 2002-2005: Assistant Secretary, Maritime Southeast Asia Branch, DFAT
- 1999-2002: Counsellor, Australian Embassy, Jakarta
- 1995-1999: Various diplomatic roles with responsibility for Papua New Guinea; Senior Negotiator of the Peace Monitoring Group on Bougainville (DFAT)

- 1991-1994: First Secretary (Defence), Australian High Commission, Port Moresby
- 1991: (January to March) Defence officer attached to US CENTCOM HQ (Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm)
- 1986-1991: Analyst, Defence Intelligence Organisation, Department of Defence
- 1983-1995: Australian Army Reserve officer



Ministerial Submission

**FOR: SENATOR WONG
(FOR ACTION)**

From: Claire Elias, Chief of Staff to the Secretary **Contact Officer:** Claire.elias@dfat.gov.au
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: HOM APPOINTMENT

Urgency: 28 January in order to meet ExCo timelines

Key Issues: We seek your agreement to propose to the Federal Executive Council, for approval by the Governor-General in Council, the appointment of **Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO** as Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America.

The minute paper to the Executive Council seeks authority for you to determine the terms and conditions of this appointment.

The signed documents will need to be returned to the Secretary's office by Wednesday 28 January, to be submitted into the 5 February Executive Council Meeting.

Recommendations:

That you:

- sign the attached **Minute Paper** for the Executive Council;
- sign the **Commission of Appointment**;
- initial the **Explanatory Memorandum**; and
- initial the **CV**.

Decision

Signed/Not Signed

Signed/Not Signed

Initialled/Not Initialled

Initialled/Not Initialled

Domestic/Media Considerations: No.

Action:

Penny Wong

/ /

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Claire Elias
Chief of Staff to the Secretary
23 January 2026



MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Departmental No. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Minute Paper for the Executive Council

Executive Council Meeting No. 3

Subject

The Constitution

Termination and Commission of Appointment of Ambassador of Australia

Recommended for the approval of Her Excellency the Governor-General in Council that she:

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i. Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America.
b) appoint by Commission in the attached form Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO to the aforementioned Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America on and from a date to be determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, being a date not earlier than the date on which the respective appointment of The Hon Kevin Michael Rudd AC shall terminate; and subject to agrément by the receiving State;
c) authorise that Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO be paid such salary and allowances as may be determined from time to time by the Minister for Foreign Affairs; and
d) authorise that the appointment of Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO be subject to such other terms and conditions as may be approved from time to time by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Approved in Council

[Signature of Sam Mostyn]

Sam Mostyn AC Governor-General

5 February 2026

Filed in the Records of the Council

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Secretary to the Executive Council

[Signature of Penny Wong] Penny Wong Minister for Foreign Affairs



COMMISSION OF APPOINTMENT OF
AMBASSADOR OF AUSTRALIA

I, the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council and in the exercise of all powers me thereunto enabling, appoint

MR GREGORY LAURENCE MORIARTY AO

to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Australia to the United States of America on and from such day as is determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Signed and Sealed with the
Great Seal of Australia on
15 February 2026

Sam Mostyn AC
Governor-General

By Her Excellency's Command

Penny Wong
Minister for Foreign Affairs

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

ENTERED ON RECORD by me, in Register of Patents

15 February 2026

s 22(1)(a)

Secretary to the Federal Executive Council
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUMMinute No. s 22(1)(a)(ii) Minister for Foreign AffairsSubject – *The Constitution*

Termination of Appointment and Commission of Appointment of Ambassador of Australia

The purpose of this instrument is to make a diplomatic appointment as Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America.

The power to appoint Australian diplomatic and consular representatives is exercisable by the Governor-General by virtue of Chapter II of the *Constitution* which provides, among other things, that the executive power of the Commonwealth is vested in the King and is exercisable by the Governor-General.

The Minute recommends the termination of the appointment of the Hon Kevin Michael Rudd AC as Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America from a date to be determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the appointment of Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO as Ambassador of Australia to the above-listed country. This appointment will be effective from a date to be determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and subject to *agrément* by this State. The granting of *agrément* by the receiving State for the person a sending State proposes to accredit as head of mission is a requirement of the *Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations*, to which Australia is a party. The Minute also seeks authority for the Minister for Foreign Affairs to determine the salary, allowances and other terms and conditions to apply to Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO's appointment.

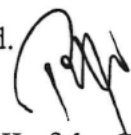
Mr Moriarty is expected to take up his position in April 2026, succeeding Dr Rudd who has been Ambassador since 2023. Dr Rudd will relocate at the end of March 2026 to assume his role as President of the Asia Society.

Mr Moriarty is currently Secretary of the Department of Defence, a position he has held since 2017. He previously served as Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister (2017); International and National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister (2016-2017); Commonwealth Counterterrorism Coordinator (2015-2016); Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) (2014-2015); Ambassador to Indonesia (2010-2014); First Assistant Secretary, Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division, DFAT (2009-2010); Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Media Branch, DFAT (2008-2009); Ambassador to Tehran (2005-2008); Assistant Secretary, Maritime Southeast Asia Branch, DFAT (2002-2005); Counsellor, Australian Embassy Jakarta (1999-2002), Senior Negotiator of the Peace Monitoring Group on Bougainville and other diplomatic and defence roles with responsibility for relations with Papua New Guinea (1991-1999), defence officer attached to US CENTCOM HQ (1991), and analyst with the Department of Defence. Mr Moriarty served with the Australian Army Reserve from 1983 to 1995.

Mr Moriarty holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) from the University of Western Australia, and a Master of Arts (Strategic and Defence Studies) from the Australian National University.

Mr Moriarty is suitable for appointment as Ambassador of Australia to the United States of America by virtue of his prior experience and relevant background. Mr Moriarty's curriculum vitae is attached.

The Minute recommends that the appointment be made in the form proposed.



Authority: Chapter II of the *Constitution*

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO

Address: c/- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

Date of birth: 4 April 1964

Present position: Secretary, Department of Defence

Educational and professional qualifications: Bachelor of Arts (Hons), University of Western Australia
Master of Arts (Strategic and Defence Studies), Australian National University

Relevant language skills: N/A

Relevant experience:

2017 -	Secretary, Department of Defence
2017:	(April to September) Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister
2016-2017:	International and National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister
2015-2016:	Commonwealth Counterterrorism Coordinator, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
2014-2015:	Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
2010-2014:	Ambassador to Indonesia
2009-2010:	First Assistant Secretary, Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division, DFAT
2008-2009	Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Media Branch, DFAT
2005-2008:	Ambassador to Tehran
2002-2005:	Assistant Secretary, Maritime Southeast Asia Branch, DFAT
1999-2002:	Counsellor, Australian Embassy, Jakarta



- 1995-1999: Various diplomatic roles with responsibility for Papua New Guinea; Senior Negotiator of the Peace Monitoring Group on Bougainville (DFAT)
- 1991-1994: First Secretary (Defence), Australian High Commission, Port Moresby
- 1991: (January to March) Defence officer attached to US CENTCOM HQ (Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm)
- 1986-1991: Analyst, Defence Intelligence Organisation, Department of Defence
- 1983-1995: Australian Army Reserve officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'P' followed by a series of loops and a long vertical stroke extending downwards.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Title: Agrément - New Ambassador to the United States of America
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii) 05/02/2026 s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Washington
From: Canberra
Sent by: (CHCH/DFAT/EXD/PRBB/DCA) s 22(1)(a)(ii)
From File: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Response: Priority, Requires Action

For Ambassador

The appointment of Mr Greg Moriarty as the next HOM Washington was approved by the Governor-General in Council on 5 February 2026. Subject to the grant of agrément by the Government of the United States of America, Mr Moriarty will assume the role in May 2026.

2. Please seek agrément from the Government of the United States of America, drawing on the CV which will be sent by separate email.

3. For the letters of credence and recall that we will prepare in due course, grateful confirmation that the Head of State should be referred to as follows:

The Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States of America and that he should be addressed as "Dear Mr President"

4. If any of the details above are not current, please advise us as soon as possible and ensure the Head of Government/Head of State list is updated.

Sent By: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Prepared By:

Special distribution: Sensitive Information/Australian HOM HOP Agreement

Canberra distribution

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 5 February 2026 2:17 PM
To: Kevin Rudd
Cc: Jason Robertson; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: CV - next HOM Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: CV - United States Moriarty.DOCX

OFFICIAL

Dear Dr Rudd,

ExCo approved the nomination of the new HOM Washington on 5 February 2026. A cable has been sent to you (HOM only) on low, requesting post seek agrément from the United States government—cable reference s 22(1)(a)(ii)

To assist in preparing the third person note, please see CV attached for the new HOM.

I would be very grateful if you would let me know you have received the cable and this email.

If the State Department request passport details or further personal information for new HOM, post should contact the HOM SES unit directly s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au).

Kind regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Protocol Officer | Diplomatic and Consular Accreditation Section
 Protocol Branch | Executive Division
 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

dfat.gov.au | [X](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)



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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Mr Gregory Laurence Moriarty AO

Address: c/- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

Date of birth: 4 April 1964

Present position: Secretary, Department of Defence, 2017 – present

Educational qualifications: Bachelor of Arts (Hons), University of Western Australia
Master of Arts (Strategic and Defence Studies), Australian National University

Relevant experience:

- 4-9/2017: Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister
- 2016-2017: International and National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister
- 2015-2016: Commonwealth Counterterrorism Coordinator, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- 2014-2015: Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- 2010-2014: Ambassador to Indonesia
- 2009-2010: First Assistant Secretary, Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division, DFAT
- 2008-2009: Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Media Branch, DFAT
- 2005-2008: Ambassador to Tehran
- 2002-2005: Assistant Secretary, Maritime Southeast Asia Branch, DFAT
- 1999-2002: Counsellor, Australian Embassy, Jakarta
- 1995-1999: Various diplomatic roles with responsibility for Papua New Guinea; Senior Negotiator of the Peace Monitoring Group on Bougainville (DFAT)
- 1991-1994: First Secretary (Defence), Australian High Commission, Port Moresby
- 1-3/1991: Defence officer attached to US CENTCOM HQ (Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm)
- 1986-1991: Analyst, Defence Intelligence Organisation, Department of Defence
- 1983-1995: Australian Army Reserve officer

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS



Mr Moriarty is currently Secretary of the Department of Defence, a position he has held since 2017. He has previously served overseas as Ambassador to Indonesia (2010-2014); Ambassador to Tehran (2005-2008) and Counsellor, Australian Embassy Jakarta (1999-2002). He also served in the Headquarters of the United States Central Command in the Persian Gulf during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

In Canberra he has served as Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister (2017); International and National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister (2016-2017); Commonwealth Counterterrorism Coordinator (2015-2016); Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) (2014-2015); First Assistant Secretary, Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division, DFAT (2009-2010); Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Media Branch, DFAT (2008-2009); Assistant Secretary, Maritime Southeast Asia Branch, DFAT (2002-2005); Senior Negotiator of the Peace Monitoring Group on Bougainville and other diplomatic and defence roles with responsibility for relations with Papua New Guinea (1991-1999); and analyst with the Department of Defence. Mr Moriarty served with the Australian Army Reserve from 1983 to 1995.

Mr Moriarty holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) from the University of Western Australia, and a Master of Arts (Strategic and Defence Studies) from the Australian National University.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 6 February 2026 10:00 AM
To: Jason Robertson
Cc: Damien Dunn
Subject: RE: CV - next HOM Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Wonderful thanks Jason!

Kind regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 6 February 2026 9:45 AM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Cc: Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; Kevin Rudd <kevin.rudd@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: CV - next HOM Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Happy to report this has been done and that the State Dept/Protocol has confirmed receipt and advised that it is now working on the request.

I will send the cable tomorrow, once we've triple checked the forms of address from the last set of letters of credence and recall.

Cheers

Jason

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 4 February 2026 10:17 PM
To: Kevin Rudd <kevin.rudd@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: CV - next HOM Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear Dr Rudd,

ExCo approved the nomination of the new HOM Washington on 5 February 2026. A cable has been sent to you (HOM only) on low, requesting post seek agrément from the United States government— cable reference s 22(1)(a)(ii)

To assist in preparing the third person note, please see CV attached for the new HOM.

I would be very grateful if you would let me know you have received the cable and this email.

If the State Department request passport details or further personal information for new HOM, post should contact the HOM SES unit directly s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au.

Kind regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Title: Agrément - New Ambassador to the United States of America
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii) 09/02/2026 s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Canberra
Cc: Washington
From: Washington
 Sent by: Jason Robertson
From File: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
References:
Response: Priority, Requires Action

Further to emails (Robertson s 22(1)(a)(ii)), the request for agrément was submitted to the US Department of State on 5 February 2026. State has acknowledged receipt of the request (also on 5 February) and is taking forward.

2. The forms of address listed in reftel are correct. Please note, however, that in past letters of credence and recall, we have traditionally used the Australian spelling of Honourable for US presidents.

Sent By: Jason Robertson
Prepared By: Robertson
Special distribution: Sensitive Information/Australian HOM HOP Agreement

Canberra distribution

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

