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Media release

Clive Hamilton to leave Australia Institute

The Executive Director of the Australia Institute, Dr Clive Hamilton, has announced his intention to resign from his position. Dr Hamilton plans to devote himself to writing.

The Chair of the Institute's Board, Professor Tony McMichael, said today:

"Clive founded the Institute fourteen years ago and has built it into Australia's foremost progressive think tank. He has given outstanding leadership.

"Under Clive the Institute has taken a leading role in ensuring rigorous public debate on issues ranging from climate change to the adverse influence on children of easily available internet pornography. Indeed, he himself has been at the forefront of debate which has convinced previously entrenched climate sceptics at all levels of industry and government to face the reality of the threat.

"Clive has been fearless in his commitment to ensuring issues of public concern are aired and the facts debated for the public good. Moreover, his commitment to excellence has raised the level of debate on many of the vital issues confronting contemporary Australia.

"Dr Hamilton leaves the Institute having built a strong reputation for highly credible policy research and social analysis. It is also in a robust financial position.

"The Board pays tribute to him and accepts his resignation with great regret. We wish him well with his future work."

Clive Hamilton said:

"Although the Institute has been my life for fourteen years, it's time for renewal, both for the Institute and for me. It will be hard to leave but I am looking forward to having more time for writing, with one book approaching completion and another being planned."

Dr Hamilton will leave the position of Executive Director of the Institute on 29th February 2008. He will remain a member of the Institute's Board of Directors. The Institute will be advertising for a new Executive Director.