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## Economic Reform Talks Begin with Treasurer's Agenda

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The Treasurer has formally launched the agenda for Australia's Economic Reform Roundtable, setting the stage for what could become a defining moment in the nation's policy direction. Designed to address structural challenges and stagnating productivity, the Roundtable will convene economists, business leaders, and key stakeholders for a detailed review

of long-term strategies to strengthen economic resilience and future-proof public finances.

The event will focus on reforms aimed at addressing critical issues including labour market rigidity, taxation inefficiencies, and declining workforce participation. While the current government has often leaned on short-term fiscal stimulus, this agenda signals a shift towards structural reform, a long-overdue move according to many in the business community. Leading economists have long argued that productivity growth has been hindered by red tape, unpredictable energy policy, and poor incentives for innovation. The Treasurer's outline indicates a focus on streamlining regulation, increasing workforce flexibility, and improving business investment frameworks.



Critically, the Roundtable will also examine the sustainability of government spending, particularly as debt levels climb. Fiscal experts have warned that Australia's current spending trajectory is incompatible with long-term economic stability, especially without serious tax reform. Several business figures, including Business Council of Australia representatives, have pushed for reductions in company tax rates and better alignment of federal and state economic policies. The Treasurer noted that consensus must be built across sectors to drive reforms that go beyond partisan politics and focus on national interest.

This Roundtable represents a timely opportunity to reverse years of economic complacency. With global competition intensifying and productivity metrics declining, the need for genuine reform is urgent. While the current administration has yet to prove its capacity to implement sweeping change, the participation of respected experts and industry leaders gives the event credibility. For Australia to remain

globally competitive and fiscally sound, action must follow talk. The coming weeks will reveal whether this Roundtable is a genuine turning point or simply another political gesture. The stakes could not be higher.

