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## First message

INNOVATION, Industry, Science and Research Minister Senator Kim Carr entered the first message at the launch of National Science Week at Questacon in Canberra, which read:

“Hello from Australia on the planet we call Earth. These messages express our people’s dreams for the future. We want to share those dreams with you.”

“What better way to discover the limitless possibilities of science than to give Australians the opportunity to try to seek contact with other intelligent

life forms,” Sen Carr said.

HelloFromEarth.net spokesman and Australian science magazine COSMOS editor Wilson da Silva said the project had excited global interest.

“We’ve secured incredible support from around the globe, including NASA – people are really excited about this,” Mr da Silva said. “It’s like a message in a bottle cast out into the stars. What’s interesting is not just whether there’s anyone listening, but what the public will say to intelligent life on another planet, given the opportunity.”