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## INTRODUCTION

1.1 One of the statutory duties of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) is to examine all reports presented by the Auditor-General and to report the results of the Committee's findings to the Parliament. This report contains advice to the Parliament of the review by the JCPAA of the audit reports presented by the Auditor-General during the third quarter of 1997-98.

1.2 After considering the audit reports tabled in the third quarter, the JCPAA selected three reports for further examination at a public hearing which took place in Canberra on 16 June 1998. The selected audit reports comprised:

- *Audit Report No. 35, DEETYA International Services, Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs;*
- *Audit Report No. 38, Sale of Brisbane, Melbourne and Perth Airports;*
- *Audit Report No. 39, Selected Functions of the Child Support Agency.*

1.3 The process which led to the selection of these three reports is described at Appendix I.

### Structure of the report

1.4 This report discusses key evidence taken at the public hearing in relation to the selected audit reports. Where appropriate, the report provides comment on any unresolved or contentious issues. The report is structured as follows:

Chapter 2 relates to *Audit Report No. 35* on DEETYA International Services;

Chapter 3 discusses the evidence taken in relation to *Audit Report No. 38* on the Sale of Brisbane, Melbourne and Perth Airports; and

Chapter 4 deals with the evidence taken with respect to *Audit Report No. 39*, relating to the Management of Selected Functions of the Child Support Agency.

1.5 The report refers to, and should be read in conjunction with, the transcript of evidence taken at the public hearing on 16 June 1998. The transcript is reproduced at Appendix IV.