



## Commissioner of Taxation to appear before Public Accounts and Audit Committee

The Commissioner of Taxation, Michael D'Ascenzo, will appear before federal parliament's Public Accounts and Audit Committee in Sydney on Wednesday 30 April to explain how the Australia's tax system is being administered.

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, 30 April 2008, 11 am – 1 pm

**Witnesses:** Australian Taxation Office

**Where:** Conference Room, Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices  
Level 8, 70 Phillip Street, Sydney

The Committee holds public hearings with the Commissioner twice a year to discuss developments in tax administration. The Committee held two hearings with the Commissioner last year in April and September.

Some of the recent issues involving the ATO that may be investigated further include:

- the sale of Liechtenstein bank records by an ex-contractor to overseas governments (the ATO has declared Liechtenstein a tax haven);
- Price Waterhouse Coopers conducting a review of the security of taxpayer information;
- the Inspector-General of Taxation's reports on possible bias in complex private rulings and implementation of the Inspector-General's recommendations; and
- the Auditor-General's reports on high risk income tax refunds and self-managed super funds' compliance with the law.

The Committee Chair, Sharon Grierson MP, said, "The Committee is pleased to continue these public hearings following their successful introduction in the last Parliament. The community is entitled to expect that a well resourced and powerful agency such as the ATO is regularly held to account."

"Through these meetings, the Committee can ensure that the ATO is treating honest taxpayers fairly and subjecting tax evaders to the full force of the law."

***This hearing will be webcast live (audio) on:***

<http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

**For more information:** please contact the Committee chair, Sharon Grierson MP, on telephone 0412 291 654 or the inquiry secretary on telephone (02) 6277 4574 or visit the Committee's website at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa).