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APPENDIX I - CONDUCT OF THE JCPAA'S REVIEW

Selecting audit reports for review

The Auditor-General presented 20 audit reports in the second quarter of 1997-98. These were:

- *Audit Report No. 11, 1997-98, AUSTUDY; Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs;*
- *Audit Report No. 12, 1997-98, Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; Department of Health and Family Services;*
- *Audit Report No. 13, 1997-98, Third Tranche Sale of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia;*
- *Audit Report No. 14, 1997-98, Official Travel by Public Sector Employees;*
- *Audit Report No. 15, 1997-98, Internet Security Management;*
- *Audit Report No. 16, 1997-98, Equity in Employment in the Australian Public Service; PSMPC and other agencies;*
- *Audit Report No. 17, 1997-98, Sydney Airport Noise Amelioration Program; Department of Transport and Regional Development;*
- *Audit Report No. 18, 1997-98, Management of the Implementation of the Commonwealth Services Delivery Arrangements;*
- *Audit Report No. 19, 1997-98, Risk Management in ATO; Small Business Income; Australian Taxation Office;*

- *Audit Report No. 20, 1997-9, Sales Tax; Australian Taxation Office;*
- *Audit Report No. 21, 1997-98, Protective Security;*
- *Audit Report No. 22, 1997-98, Audits of the Financial Statements of Commonwealth Entities for 1996-97; Summary of Results and Outcomes;*
- *Audit Report No. 23, 1997-98, Ministerial Travel Claims;*
- *Audit Report No. 24, 1997-98, Matters Relevant to a Contract with South Pacific Cruise Lines Ltd; Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs;*
- *Audit Report No. 25, 1997-98, The Gun Buy-Back Scheme; Attorney-General's Department;*
- *Audit Report No. 26, 1997-98, Strategic and Operational Management; National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals;*
- *Audit Report No. 27, 1997-98, Managing the Year 2000 Problem; Risk Assessment and Management in Commonwealth Agencies;*
- *Audit Report No. 28, 1997-98, Contracting Arrangements for Agencies' Air Travel;*
- *Audit Report No. 29, 1997-98, Management of Accounts Receivable; and*
- *Audit Report No. 30, 1997-98, Evaluation Processes for the Selection of - Records Management Systems - Internet Access Services for the Commonwealth; Office of Government Information Technology.*

The Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) examined these audit reports and considered whether the issues and findings in the reports warranted further examination at a public hearing. In making this assessment the JCPAA considered, in relation to each audit report:

- the significance of the program or issues canvassed in the audit report;
- the significance of the audit findings;

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- the response of the audited agencies, as detailed in each audit report; and
 - the extent of any public interest in the audit report.

The result of this consideration was that the JCPAA decided to take evidence at public hearings on the following audit reports:

- *Audit Report No. 16, 1997-98, Equity in Employment in the Australian Public Service; PSMPC and other agencies; and*
- *Audit Report No. 24, 1997-98, Matters Relevant to a Contract with South Pacific Cruise Lines Ltd; Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs.*

The evidence

The JCPAA's public hearings were held in Canberra on 29 April 1998. The transcript of evidence taken at the hearings is reproduced at Appendix VI.

In addition to taking oral evidence at the hearings, the Committee received some documentary evidence. A list of the written submissions accepted as evidence is at Appendix IV and a list of exhibits is at Appendix V.