

The Senate

Legal and Constitutional
Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004)

March 2004

Commonwealth of Australia 2004

ISBN 0 642 71361 8

This document was printed by the Senate Printing Unit, Department of the Senate,
Parliament House, Canberra.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE	i
ABBREVIATIONS	v
PREFACE.....	vii
Terms of reference	vii
Role of annual reports	viii
Timing of presentation of reports on annual reports.....	viii
“Apparently satisfactory”	viii
Timeliness	ix
Conclusion	ix
CHAPTER 1	1
ANNUAL REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.....	1
Attorney-General’s Department.....	1
Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA).....	2
CHAPTER 2	5
ANNUAL REPORTS OF STATUTORY AUTHORITIES.....	5
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC)	6
Australian Customs Service (ACS)	7
Australian Federal Police (AFP)	9
Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC)	10
Migration Review Tribunal (MRT)	11
Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT).....	12
CHAPTER 3	11
ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE OPERATION OF ACTS AND PROGRAMS	
.....	11
APPENDIX 1	15
List of Annual Reports Referred	15

ABBREVIATIONS

ACS	Australian Customs Service
AFP	Australian Federal Police
ANAO	Australian National Audit Office
ATSIC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission
CIP	Critical Infrastructure Protection
DIMIA	Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
EMA	Emergency Management Australia
HREOC	Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission
JCTT	Joint Counter-Terrorism Teams
MRT	Migration Review Tribunal
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PSCC	Protective Security Coordination Centre
RRT	Refugee Review Tribunal
TISN	Trusted Information Sharing Network
UK	United Kingdom

PREFACE

Terms of reference

On 1 May 1996 a resolution of the Senate allocated the following portfolios to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee:

- Attorney-General's portfolio; and
- Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs portfolio.

This report was prepared pursuant to Standing Order 25(21) relating to the consideration of annual reports by legislation committees. The Standing Order states:

Annual reports of departments and agencies shall stand referred to the legislation committees in accordance with an allocation of departments and agencies in a resolution of the Senate. Each committee shall:

- (a) Examine each annual report referred to it and report to the Senate whether the report is apparently satisfactory;
- (b) Consider in more detail, and report to the Senate on, each annual report which is not apparently satisfactory, and on the other annual reports which it selects for more detailed consideration;
- (c) Investigate and report to the Senate on any lateness in the presentation of annual reports;
- (d) In considering an annual report, take into account any relevant remarks about the report made in debate in the Senate;
- (e) If the Committee so determines, consider annual reports of departments and budget-related agencies in conjunction with examination of estimates;
- (f) Report on annual reports tabled by 31 October each year by the tenth sitting day of the following year, and on annual reports tabled by 30 April each year by the tenth sitting day after 30 June of that year;
- (g) Draw to the attention of the Senate any significant matters relating to the operations and performance of the bodies furnishing the annual reports; and
- (h) Report to the Senate each year whether there are any bodies which do not present annual reports to the Senate and which should present such reports.

Role of annual reports

Annual reports place a great deal of information about government departments and agencies on the public record. Accordingly, the tabling of annual reports is an important element of accountability to Parliament, as the information provided in annual reports assists in the effective examination of the performance of departments and agencies and the administration of government programs.

Timing of presentation of reports on annual reports

Standing order 25(21)(f) requires that legislation committees report on annual reports tabled by 31 October each year by the tenth sitting day of the following year, and on annual reports tabled by 30 April each year by the tenth sitting day after 30 June of that year.

Under the guidelines, issued by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the annual reports of departments and executive and prescribed agencies must be tabled by 31 October. If a department is unable to meet this deadline, the secretary is to advise the responsible minister of the reasons for the delay, the expected tabling date and what action is proposed so that the deadline will be met for the following year's annual report. The responsible minister is to table this explanation in the Parliament on the next available sitting day.¹ It is government policy that all annual reports should be tabled by 31 October².

Guidelines for the annual reports of statutory bodies are set out in the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Orders 1998* (tabled 10 November 1998).

Guidelines for the annual reports of non-statutory bodies are set out in the Government Response to recommendations of the then Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Government Operations in its report entitled, *Reporting Requirements for the Annual Reports of Non-Statutory Bodies*. The response was incorporated into the Senate Hansard of 8 December 1987.³

“Apparently satisfactory”

Under the terms of standing order 25(21)(a), the Committee is required to report to the Senate whether reports are apparently satisfactory. In making this assessment, the Committee considers such aspects as compliance with relevant reporting guidelines.

1 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, *Requirements for Departmental Annual Reports*, Canberra, June 2003.

2 *ibid*, p.2

3 *Official Senate Hansard*, 8 December 1987, pp 2643-45.

Timeliness

Under standing order 25(21)(c) the Committee must also report to the Senate on any lateness in the presentation of annual reports. A table listing the Annual Reports referred to the Committee and their tabling dates can be found at Appendix I.

In examining the details on which reports were submitted, the Committee became aware of a number of mistakes in the letters of transmittal in terms of references to incorrect or obsolete legislative provisions. The Committee drew these to the attention of the relevant agencies and corrections were subsequently advised.

Conclusion

The Committee examined all of the annual reports submitted by 31 October 2003 and found them to be of a satisfactory standard, adequately describing the functions and activities and financial positions of the various departments and agencies. The Committee therefore finds all those submitted in time to be “apparently satisfactory.”

CHAPTER 1

ANNUAL REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

1.1 The following annual reports of government departments for the financial year 2002-2003 were referred to the Committee for examination and report:

- the Attorney-General's Department; and
- the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

Attorney-General's Department

1.2 The Secretary's Review in the Department's annual report advises that the Department made major contributions over the reporting period to the government's three broad strategic directions, these being nominated as national security, economic strength and social stability.

1.3 The report advises that the Australian Protective Service and CrimTrac separated from the Department. As a result, the Department's financial statements for 2002-2003 do not include these agencies.

1.4 The Committee notes the Department commenced a review of its corporate performance management framework. The Committee looks forward to the results of that review.

1.5 The Committee notes that Outcome 2 of the Department, (coordinated federal criminal justice, security and emergency management activity, for a safer Australia), received a significant increase in funding with total administered expenses rising from \$11,994,000 in 2002-2003 to \$82,014,000 in 2003-2004.

1.6 The Committee notes that Emergency Management Australia (EMA) played an important role in immediately responding to the terrorist bombings in Bali on 12 October 2002. The Department's Protective Security Coordination Centre (PSCC) was responsible for setting up the National Security Hotline with assistance from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C), Telstra, Centrelink and the Information and Knowledge Group (from within the Attorney-General's Department).

1.7 The Criminal Justice Division of the Attorney-General's Department was instrumental in the provision of advice to government on the issues of criminal justice in relation to the war in Iraq and in drafting the Solomon Islands enabling law for Australian action in that country.

1.8 The Department also developed the Age Discrimination Bill which was introduced into the Parliament in June 2003. The Bill is designed to prohibit age discrimination and encourage older citizens to participate in the workforce. The Department followed an extensive public consultation process during the development of the Bill, involving over 90 peak bodies and various community organisations.

1.9 The Committee notes that the Attorney-General's Department is the lead government agency for the protection of Australia's critical infrastructure. During the reporting period the Trusted Information Sharing Network (TISN) and the Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Branch were created within the Department. The role of the CIP Branch is to provide a single point for coordinating national strategic policy for the protection of critical infrastructure. TISN is tasked with providing the framework for the implementation of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for the Security of Information Systems and Networks of August 2002.

1.10 The Committee finds the annual report of the Attorney-General's Department to be "apparently satisfactory".

Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA)

1.11 The Committee notes some changes in work flows during the reporting period. The Department's annual report advises that the total number of humanitarian visas granted during 2002-2003 was 12,525, including 11,656 offshore which is a 38% increase in the number of offshore visas issued over the previous year. This is described as 'reflecting increased availability of places as a result of reduced unauthorised arrivals and consequently lower demand for onshore refugee places.'¹ The report also indicates that processing times for refugees resettled under the Department's Humanitarian Programme were considerably reduced.

1.12 The Committee notes a significant increase in the number of persons assisted by DIMIA's International Events Coordinator Network. During the reporting period, the Network assisted over 94,000 individuals attending more than 200 separate events and/or conferences in Australia. This represents a considerable increase over the 25,000 delegates assisted over the preceding year.

1.13 DIMIA reports that in the area of Border Security and Compliance the numbers of persons in Offshore Processing Centres over the 12 month reporting period have reduced from 1,424 to 437, while the Manus processing centre 'no longer has any Australian caseload, but is being held in operational readiness.'²

1.14 DIMIA conducted a *Review of Settlement Services for Migrants and Humanitarian Entrants* which focussed on the specialist settlement services provided

¹ DIMIA *Annual Report 2002 - 2003*, p. 2.

² *ibid*, p. 3.

by DIMIA and made 61 recommendations for the improvement of settlement services. DIMIA has stated that it will give priority to making improvements in a number of areas over the coming year, including:

- developing new needs based planning arrangements, supported by better data and increased community consultation, as a basis for advertising for grant applications to meet identified needs,
- developing arrangements to encourage humanitarian entrants to settle in parts of regional Australia which offer employment opportunities,
- further developing TIS telephone services, including the Doctor's Priority Line, and provide additional support to assist bilingual people in small and emerging communities obtain accreditation for interpreting and translating work, and
- developing a more robust, integrated and efficient accountability and reporting framework, incorporating service standards, a risk management strategy and periodic client satisfaction evaluations.³

1.15 The Committee considers the annual Report of DIMIA to be "apparently satisfactory".

³ DIMIA, *Annual Report 2002 – 2003*, pp. 83-84.

CHAPTER 2

ANNUAL REPORTS OF STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

2.1 The following annual reports of statutory authorities were referred to the Committee:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission

Aboriginal Hostels Limited

Aboriginal Land Commissioner

Aboriginals Benefit Account

Administrative Appeals Tribunal

Anindilyakwa Land Council

Australian Customs Service

Australian Federal Police

Australian Government Solicitor

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Australian Institute of Criminology and Criminology Research Council

Australian Law Reform Commission

Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre

Commonwealth Ombudsman

CrimTrac Agency

Family Court of Australia

Family Law Council

Federal Court of Australia

Federal Police Disciplinary Tribunal

Federal Magistrates Court

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

Indigenous Business Australia
Indigenous Land Corporation
Industrial Relations Court of Australia
Insolvency and Trustee Services Australia
Migration Review Tribunal
National Native Title Tribunal
Northern Land Council
Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner
Office of Film and Literature Classification
Office of Parliamentary Counsel
Office of the Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations
Refugee Review Tribunal
Tiwi Land Council
Torres Strait Regional Authority

2.2 The Committee provides comments on the following agencies, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, the Australian Customs Service, the Australian Federal Police, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, the Migration Review Tribunal and the Refugee Review Tribunal.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC)

2.3 The Committee notes a number of key events occurring over the 2002-2003 reporting period. As a result of elections being held, two ATSIC boards were constituted during 2002-2003. ATSIC's fifth round of Regional Council elections were held on 19 October and 12 November 2002 during which a record number of 53,326 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people voted. Of the 388 Regional Councilors elected, 120 (30.9%) were women.

2.4 On 13 August 2003, ATSIC Chair Mr Geoff Clark was suspended by the Minister under section 40 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989*.

2.5 On 17 April 2003, the Government announced a change in administrative arrangements concerning ATSIC and created the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Service (ATSIS). ATSIS is a separate Executive Agency and will administer what had been ATSIC's appropriations. The relationship between ATSIC and ATSIS was described in the following terms:

ATSIC and ATSIIS work together, sharing offices and operating essentially as one agency. ATSIIS will take all decisions relating to the administration of programs formerly the responsibility of ATSIC. ATSIC's Board and Regional Councils continue to set policies and priorities for these programs, determining in broad terms how and where the approximately \$967.41m for administered expenses appropriated to ATSIC for 2003-04 will be spent. The elected arm will review the impact of our program administration through reporting and evaluation mechanisms. Our national programs, where the elected arm's role has generally been limited, will be drawn more fully into the scope of Regional Council priority-setting and review.¹

2.6 A review of the role and directions of ATSIC by a three member panel comprising the Hon John Hannaford, Ms Jackie Huggins AM and the Hon Bob Collins was announced by the Government on 12 November 2002. The Committee notes that the completed review was submitted to the Minister in November 2003.

2.7 The annual report advised that ATSIC's most significant area of program expenditure was its Community Development Employment Projects scheme (CDEP). The scheme, which provides employment and training opportunities for Indigenous Australians, managed grants totalling \$484m, approximately \$365m of which was offset against welfare entitlements.

2.8 The Committee notes that the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) commented, in an audit carried out during 2001-2002, that aspects of ATSIC's grant management processes needed to be improved, and advised that documentation should be clearer. The Committee is pleased to note that ATSIC has responded to the ANAO's recommendations and that 'ANAO Audit Report No 2, tabled in July 2002, found that ATSIC had made valuable improvements to grant administration...'²

2.9 The Committee considers the ATSIC annual report for 2003-2003 to be a comprehensive and informative guide to the activities and outputs of the Commission. The Committee finds the report to be "apparently satisfactory".

Australian Customs Service (ACS)

2.10 The Committee notes that a number of major initiatives were undertaken by the ACS over the reporting period.

2.11 On 26 November 2002, an initial trial of the SmartGate facial recognition system at Sydney International Airport was introduced. The report advises that SmartGate was introduced in partnership with the DIMIA, Passports Australia and with the cooperation of Qantas Airways. Qantas has in excess of 3900 aircrew enrolled and using the photo-matching technology. The report considered that SmartGate:

¹ ATSIC *Annual Report 2002-2003*, p. 19.

² *ibid*, p. 15.

...provides faster, more secure processing which allows Customs to concentrate on high-risk travellers. By using SmartGate, Customs is able to redeploy staff previously used to process between 750 to 1000 Qantas aircrew per week.³

2.12 Over the reporting period, new Customs sea cargo Container Examination Facilities were opened in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane with another due to be opened in Fremantle in late 2003. The ACS expects these new facilities, when fully operational, will have the capacity to increase inspection rates of sea cargo containers by approximately 20 times and ACS plans to inspect 80,000 containers per annum.

2.13 The report advises of the creation of a Counter-Terrorism Section to better coordinate the agency's counter-terrorism planning and inter-agency liaison. Customs also developed a counter-terrorism plan and associated training was undertaken in a number of regions and attended by representatives from a range of Commonwealth, state and territory agencies.

2.14 The ACS was once again involved in a number of record-breaking drug seizures over the reporting period.

2.15 The Committee notes the finding of the Auditor-General in the Audit Opinion of the Customs annual report, that the Agency had contravened section 48 of the *Financial Accountability Act 1997*. As explained in the 'Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements' section of the report, the Auditor-General found;

...that the ACS Air Express Courier Deposits Reserve account was not established under s 20 of the *Financial Management Accountability Act 1997*. As the account did not have appropriate legal status, there was no appropriation for the refund of overpaid screening charges of \$241,524 to air couriers who are parties to arrangements made under s 64ABD of the *Customs Act 1901*. Accordingly the refunds contravene the provisions in s 48 of the *Financial Management Accountability Act 1997*.⁴

The ACS noted:

This situation has been rectified with effect from 1 July 2003. All refunds are now covered under s 28 of the *Financial Management Accountability Act 1997*.⁵

2.16 The Committee also notes the desire of the ACS to progress implementation of the recommendations made by the ANAO in Audit Report No. 11 of 2003-04.⁶ The ACS was one of five agencies whose Annual Performance Reporting requirements were subject to a review by the ANAO.

³ ACS *Annual Report 2002-2003*, p. 18.

⁴ *ibid*, p. 155.

⁵ *ibid*, p. 155.

⁶ ANAO *Audit Report No.11 2003-2004*, p. 14.

2.17 The Committee considers the Australian Customs Service Annual Report to be an informative and well presented document and finds it to be "apparently satisfactory."

Australian Federal Police (AFP)

2.18 The report advises that the response to the Bali bombings of 12 October 2002 was 'one of the most significant operations ever undertaken by Australian law enforcement agencies.'⁷ Commonwealth, state and territory law enforcement agencies all played a role in Australia's response to the bombings. The AFP played a major role in the whole-of-government response which was headed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Agencies from the UK, Germany, France, New Zealand and the USA were involved in a multi-national response to the bombing.

2.19 The AFP has since been assisting with the preparation of evidence to be presented at trials which commenced in Denpasar on 12 May 2003.

2.20 Commissioner Keelty in the Executive Review advises of significant additional funding to be provided to the AFP (\$398 million over four years) as being a reflection of the government's 'high performance expectations of the AFP' over the coming years.⁸

2.21 The Committee notes that \$47 million in extra funding has been provided over four years to double the AFP's mobile strike team capacity. In 2002-2003, \$5 million has been directed towards the establishment of Joint Counter-Terrorism Teams (JCTT) with the police services of the states and territories.

2.22 Throughout the reporting period the AFP continued to support international peacekeeping operations in Timor Leste. During 2002-2003, a total of 103 AFP members served as part of the Australian civilian police commitment to East Timor.

2.23 The annual report acknowledges with regard to the AFP Legal area that:

Demand for assistance from Legal continued to grow. 2002-03 year saw a 15 per cent increase in matters referred to Legal compared with 2001-02 and an increase of 50 per cent since 1999. Referrals remain high across all areas of activity.⁹

2.24 The Committee notes that the report gives no indication of likely causes for this significant, and apparently continuing, increase in referrals to the group.

2.25 The Committee finds the 2002-2003 Annual Report of the Australian Federal Police to be "apparently satisfactory."

⁷ AFP *Annual Report 2002-2003*, p. 30.

⁸ *ibid*, p. 16.

⁹ *ibid*, p. 135.

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC)

2.26 The Hon John von Doussa QC, in his first statement as President of HREOC raises concerns about the impact of the proposed Australian Human Rights Commission Bill 2003, particularly in relation to HREOC's ability to intervene in court cases.

2.27 The report indicates that the Commission has included some major additions and improvements to its website (www.humanrights.gov.au) over the past year.

2.28 The Commission's statistics show that over the year usage of the site has almost quadrupled.¹⁰

2.29 The report advises that the Commission's complaint handling section received 1,236 complaints in 2002–2003 and finalised 1,308 complaints in the same period. Key performance indicators show that over the reporting period, 84% of matters were finalised within 12 months. The stated performance measure is for 80% (as opposed to 75% for 2001-2002) of complaints to be finalised within 12 months. Improvements were also realised in the percentage of complaints finalised via conciliation. At 32% this was an increase of two percentage points above the stated performance measure of 30% which remained unchanged from the previous year.

2.30 The Commission indicated in last year's annual report that a draft report on the Inquiry into Children in Immigration Detention (the Inquiry) would be completed by the end of 2002. That report is now not expected to be ready until 2004. The annual report cites two main reasons for the slippage;

...firstly, the inquiry has assembled a substantial body of evidence and its proper consideration necessitates a careful and time-consuming analysis. This has been the case for both the Inquiry itself and the respondent bodies, the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) and Australian Correctional Management (ACM). Secondly, under the provisions of the *Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Act 1986* (HREOCA) empowering this enquiry, maintenance of the appropriate balance between the Inquiry's capacity to inform itself in any way it sees fit and the requirement to afford DIMIA/ACM with the appropriate standard of common law procedural fairness, requires the Inquiry to proceed with a high degree of diligence.¹¹

2.31 The Inquiry has, since its inception in November 2001, received 341 submissions in a variety of forms, 70 of which have been recorded as confidential.

2.32 Since the events of 11 September 2001 the Commission has noted an escalation of 'Islamophobia and anti-Arab prejudice.'¹² The Commission has liaised

¹⁰ Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission *Annual Report 2002 – 2003*, p. 35.

¹¹ *ibid* p. 139.

¹² *ibid*, p. 156.

with representatives of the Muslim and Arab communities in a number of metropolitan and rural areas in an effort to provide these communities with support and assistance. The Commission has also mapped strategies and programs implemented federally, and in all states and territories....with the objectives of making cross-jurisdiction comparisons and identifying gaps and shortfalls¹³ in relation to religious discrimination, vilification, abuse and or violence.

2.33 The Committee finds the 2002 – 2003 annual report of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission to be apparently satisfactory.

Migration Review Tribunal (MRT)

2.34 Mr Steve Karas in the Principal Member's overview notes that the 12 months to 30 June 2003 was the first year since the MRT's establishment in 1999 in which there was a substantial reduction in the number of cases on hand with the MRT.

2.35 The report indicates that although there was a 4% increase in the number of cases lodged in the year as compared to the previous year, (8,856 and 8,531 respectively) there was a 13% increase in the number of cases finalised by the MRT. During the reporting period 9,714 cases were finalised compared to 8,583 for the previous 12 months. The Committee notes that this exceeds the target of 9,500 cases set out in the MRT's purchasing agreement with the Department of Finance and Administration. The report advises that this was achieved through a significant improvement in productivity and via an increase in the MRT's membership from October 2001.

2.36 The report advises that the Governor-General appointed 18 new members to the MRT. The terms of appointment for these members are from 14 July 2003 to 30 June 2006.

2.37 The end result of this work was that there were 7,274 cases on hand at the end of the year, 858 cases or 10% lower than the 8,132 on hand at the end of the previous year.¹⁴

2.38 December 2002 saw the establishment of a Joint Management Board for the MRT and Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT). The Board comprises the Principal Member of the MRT/RRT, the Joint Registrar, a senior member of the MRT and the Deputy Principal Member of the RRT. The role of the Board is to more effectively manage the MRT/RRT, determine key management and operational issues relevant to both Tribunals and provide advice to the Principal Member.

2.39 The Committee notes that the Board has already moved to establish a Budget Review Committee, a Budget Group Business Manager, a Budget Working Group and

¹³ Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission *Annual Report 2002 – 2003*, p. 156.

¹⁴ MRT *Annual Report 2002 – 2003*, p. 2.

has approved and implemented an internal budget control framework, all with the aim of ensuring the continued effective management of the MRT/RRT's finances.

2.40 The MRT and the RRT continue to find administrative efficiencies through their closer operation. Following consultations with members and staff, 'the Tribunals have introduced a joint legal services section, a joint country research section, joint libraries and are developing combined client services arrangements in co-located premises.'¹⁵

2.41 The Committee finds the annual report of the MRT to be "apparently satisfactory."

Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT)

2.42 Mr Steve Karas in the Principal Member's overview advises that the RRT, like its sister organisation the MRT, was also able to achieve a substantial reduction in the number of cases. The RRT's statistics reveal that 3,703 cases remained with it at the end of the year. This was '... a reduction of 1,374 cases from the 5,077 cases on hand at the end of the previous year.'¹⁶ The Principal Member's overview also states that '... there were only 38 detention cases on hand at the end of the year (that is, only 38 of the 3,703 cases on hand involved a person being held in immigration detention).'¹⁷

2.43 The Committee notes that the RRT celebrated its 10th anniversary during the reporting period and that over those 10 years, it has dealt with nearly 55,000 cases.

2.44 The RRT had six new members appointed in July 2002 and a further 18 new members appointed in July 2003.

2.45 The Committee notes the shared administrative arrangements as outlined above for the MRT.

2.46 The Committee finds the annual report of the RRT to be "apparently satisfactory."

¹⁵ Migration Review Tribunal *Annual Report 2002 – 2003*, p. 3.

¹⁶ Refugee Review Tribunal *Annual Report 2002 – 2003*, p. 2.

¹⁷ *Ibid*, p. 2.

CHAPTER 3

ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE OPERATION OF ACTS AND PROGRAMS

3.1 Standing Order 25(21) does not provide for consideration of annual reports on the implementation or operation of Acts or programs. The Committee is not therefore required to include them in its report on the examination of annual reports. The Committee has chosen, at this stage, only to list them.

Australian Citizenship Act 1948

Bankruptcy Act 1966

Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act 1981

Crimes Act 1914

Immigration (Education) Act 1971

War Crimes Act 1945

Witness Protection Act 1994

Senator Marise Payne

Chair

APPENDIX 1

List of Annual Reports Referred

List of annual reports referred by the Senate to the Committee during the period 1 May 2003 to 31 October 2003.

Department/Authority	Submitted to Minister	Received by Minister	Tabled
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission	—	—	31/10/03 #
Aboriginal Hostels Limited	16/09/03	16/09/03	14/10/03
Aboriginal Land Commissioner	18/08/03	18/08/03	14/10/03
Aboriginals Benefit Account	30/09/03	30/09/03	08/10/03
Administrative Appeals Tribunal	—	—	31/10/03 #
Anindilyakwa Land Council	15/10/03	15/10/03	29/10/03
Attorney-General's Department	24/10/03	24/10/03	28/10/03
Australian Crime Commission/National Crime Authority: Crimes Act 1914 – Authorisation for Assumed Identities	25/09/03	25/09/03	08/10/03
Australian Customs Service	26/09/03	26/09/03	28/10/03
Australian Customs Service: Crimes Act 1914 – Authorisation for Assumed Identities	25/09/03	26/09/03	14/10/03
Australian Federal Police	26/09/03	2/10/03	30/10/03
Australian Federal Police: Crimes Act 1914 – Authorisation for Assumed Identities	01/10/03	01/10/03	14/10/03
Australian Government Solicitor	—	—	31/10/03 #
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies	15/09/03	15/09/03	14/10/03
Australian Institute of Criminology and the Criminology Research Council	30/09/03	27/10/03	29/10/03
Australian Law Reform Commission	—	—	31/10/03 #
Australian Transaction Reports Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC)	17/10/03	27/10/03	29/10/03
Commonwealth Ombudsman	—	—	31/10/03 #
CrimTrac Agency	—	—	31/10/03 #
Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs	19/09/03	19/09/03	28/10/03
Family Court of Australia	—	—	31/10/03 #
Family Law Council	10/09/03	10/09/03	28/10/03
Federal Court of Australia	—	—	31/10/03 #
Federal Magistrates Court	—	—	31/10/03 #

Department/Authority	Submitted to Minister	Received by Minister	Tabled
Federal Police Disciplinary Tribunal	—	—	31/10/03 #
Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission	20/10/03	20/10/03	28/10/03
Indigenous Business Australia	20/10/03	20/10/03	30/10/03
Indigenous Land Corporation	11/09/03	11/09/03	14/10/03
Industrial Relations Court of Australia	30/09/03	24/10/03	30/10/03
Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia	10/10/03	10/10/03	28/10/03
Migration Review Tribunal	—	—	31/10/03 #
National Native Title Tribunal	18/09/03	28/10/03	30/10/03
Northern Land Council	15/10/03	15/10/03	29/10/03
Office of Film and Literature Classification	10/10/03	10/10/03	30/10/03
Office of Parliamentary Council	—	—	31/10/03 #
Office of the Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations	31/03/03	31/03/03	13/08/03
Operation of the Federal Privacy Act – Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner	—	—	31/10/03 #
Refugee Review Tribunal	—	—	31/10/03 #
Tiwi Land Council	15/10/03	15/10/03	29/10/03
Torres Strait Regional Authority	16/09/03	16/09/03	14/10/03
United Nations – Convention on the Rights of the Child	30/07/03	30/07/03	08/10/03
Reports on Legislation	Submitted to Minister	Received by Minister	Tabled
Bankruptcy Act	10/10/03	10/10/03	28/10/03
Crimes Act 1914 - Controlled Operations	27/08/03	29/08/03	07/10/03
War Crimes Act	18/08/03	18/08/03	16/09/03
Witness Protection Act 1994 - National Witness Protection Program	23/09/03	23/09/03	15/10/03

- Report presented to the President or the Deputy President on 31/10/03