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14 September 2007

David Sullivan
The Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

By e-mail: corporations.joint@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Sullivan

Re: Inquiry into shareholder engagement and participation

Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd (ANZ) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the engagement and participation of shareholders in the corporate governance of the companies in which they are part-owners.

While ANZ does not believe there are substantial barriers to the effective engagement of shareholders in the governance of the Company, we would like to take the opportunity of this inquiry to outline what ANZ is doing practically to further encourage shareholder engagement and participation in the Company.

ANZ is acutely aware of the impact of quality disclosure on the trust and confidence of the shareholder, the wider market and the community towards the Company. To make informed decisions about the Company, and to communicate views to the Company's management, shareholders (as owners of the Company) need an understanding of ANZ's business operations and performance. To this end, ANZ is strongly supportive of shareholder involvement in annual shareholder meetings and encourages shareholders to take an active interest in the Company.

ANZ's Shareholder Charter underpins the approach of the Company and the Board to serving the interests of shareholders. The Shareholder Charter's principles can be broadly set out under the following categories: creating value for our shareholders; delivering good corporate governance; maintaining clear and open communication with shareholders and ensuring continuous disclosure to the market; making constructive use of shareholder meetings; and delivering ethical and responsible decision-making. (A copy of ANZ's Shareholder Charter is attached for the Committee's information.)

ANZ seeks to provide shareholders with quality information in a timely manner to assist their participation in the Company. In general, this takes place through ANZ's reporting of results in its Results Announcements, Annual Report, regular briefings, half yearly newsletters and via its dedicated shareholder site on *anz.com* which provides shareholders with a range of relevant information, including on the Company's extensive corporate responsibility agenda.

In addition to these avenues for reporting, ANZ introduced a short-form non-statutory report in 2005 (a copy of the 2006 *Shareholder Review* is attached for the Committee's information) which contains a succinct snapshot of the Company's performance, messages from the Chairman and the CEO and other key information relating to the Company and its Board, including the Company's markets, strategy, and executive and director remuneration. Since its launch in 2005, the Review has been well received by shareholders, with 70,000 requesting the report in 2006 (rather than either the annual report or concise report) which was up from 40,000 in 2005. Given the popularity to date among shareholders of the *Shareholder Review*, ANZ believes that the number of such reports issued annually will continue to grow, and that it will be a practice that will become more common place.

ANZ welcomes the recent amendments to the Corporations Act to allow companies to make annual reports available on the internet, with hardcopies provided on request, subject to certain administrative requirements. Since the implementation of the amendments, approximately 6,000 ANZ shareholders out of more than 300,000 have requested a full annual report in hard copy, reinforcing that the Annual Report is not the most effective means of communicating with the majority of retail shareholders.

ANZ's mechanisms for communicating and receiving feedback from shareholders are both efficient and effective. ANZ shareholders are actively encouraged to participate at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and are given the opportunity to submit any questions they have for the Chairman or Chief Executive Officer, prior to the AGM, so that common themes can be considered at each AGM. Furthermore, to ensure maximum opportunity for shareholders to attend a shareholder meeting, ANZ rotates its AGM around capital cities and makes them available to be viewed online using Webcast technology. Additional details on meetings and presentations held throughout the financial year are also made available on ANZ's website, under a link to shareholder information.

On matters pertaining to voting, ANZ shareholders have the right to vote on various resolutions related to Company matters. Shareholders who are unable to attend a meeting are encouraged to submit their proxies by post, fax or electronically through anz.com. Shareholders are advised of the AGM through a Notice of Meeting which outlines voting entitlements as well as detailed guidance on proxy appointments. The Notice also advises shareholders as to how they can submit their proxy instructions electronically with ANZ's Share Registrar through the Company's

website. At ANZ's 2006 AGM, a total of 18,768 shareholders voted by proxy, while 272 shareholders (including corporate representatives and proxies) voted at the meeting itself.

ANZ continues to look proactively for ways to employ technology to more effectively engage and communicate with shareholders, including through enhancing shareholder participation in AGMs and other shareholder-related activities. For example, electronic voting arrangements were introduced at ANZ's AGM in December 2006. Shareholders in attendance were able to participate in AGM resolutions by casting their vote electronically, and results were delivered in real time. Shareholder feedback to date on the voting mechanism has been universally positive.

ANZ does not believe that there are substantial barriers to the effective engagement of shareholders in the governance of the Company. In conducting the inquiry into shareholder engagement and participation, ANZ suggests the Parliamentary Joint Committee takes into consideration the self-regulatory measures that companies already have in place.

ANZ would be pleased to provide any further information about this submission, and I can be contacted as follows:

Mr John Priestley

ANZ Company Secretary

Level 6, 100 Queen Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

(03) 9273 6674

john.priestley@anz.com

Yours sincerely,

John Priestley

ANZ Company Secretary

different.



our results 2006 INVESTOR SNAPSHOT

Customers

- Awarded the Best Call Centre in Australia for the third year in a row
- Number 1 lead bank for Institutional clients in Australia and New Zealand

Staff

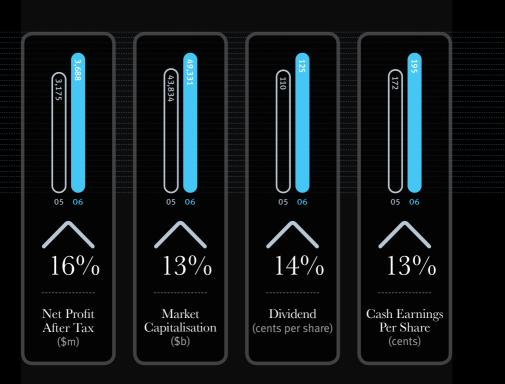
- Most engaged staff amongst major
 Australian companies 60%
- Named the Leading Organisation for the Advancement of Women in Australia among organisations with more than 500 employees

Community

- Received the Prime Minister's
 Award for Excellence in Community
 Business Partnership for Impact on a Community
- We offer staff members eight hours of volunteer leave each year.

Shareholders

- Our net profit attributable to shareholders of the company was \$3,688m, and our Cash Earnings Per Share was up 13.2%
- The total dividend for 2006 was 125 cents, up 13.6%



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- Chief Executive Officer's Report
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chairman's report a message from charles goode

Our performance

Our profit after tax for the year ended 30 September 2006 was \$3,688 million, up by 16%; our cash profit (adjusted for AIFRS 2005 adjustments and non-core items) was \$3,587 million, up 14%; and our profit before provisions was up 10%.

The dividend for the year is 125 cents per share fully franked.

Revenue growth of 8% was the highest for many years. While costs increased by 6% our cost to income ratio fell by 1.0% to 45.6%. The overall credit environment was very favourable with provisions for credit impairment at cyclical lows.

Expansion and Growth

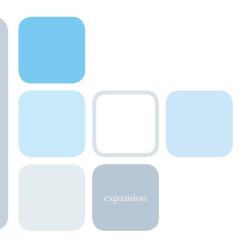
The Personal division achieved exceptional results, with revenue growth of 13% and earnings up 22%. Personal is reaping the benefits of a clear customer proposition – simpler and more convenient banking – along with an expanded branch network, more ATMs and longer opening hours.

In Institutional, good revenue growth of 8% and low credit losses led to growth in earnings of 11%.

In New Zealand, our integration program was successfully completed. The customer base has been maintained and is now growing. We have strong businesses with options for growth.

These results are the work of an outstanding group of people: our staff. On behalf of my fellow directors and all shareholders,I thank them for their effort and contribution.

Charles Goode - Chairman



Turning to East Asia we celebrated 20 years in China and expanded our presence with a 20% investment in Tianjin City Commercial Bank. In Vietnam, ANZ and Sacombank committed to a joint venture, and we launched banking services in Cambodia through ANZ Royal Bank, a joint venture with Royal Group.

The Board

During the year, Dr Roderick Deane retired as an ANZ director, and as Chairman and Director of ANZ National Bank Limited. Dr Deane joined the ANZ Board in 1994 and made a very substantial contribution to our board. We thank Dr Deane and wish him well in retirement.

Outlook

We are optimistic about economic conditions in Australia and New Zealand. While growth in the Australian economy is unlikely to exceed current levels, conditions should still be conducive to reasonable earnings growth. New Zealand's economy may well be softer over the next two years, but nevertheless we remain confident of the long term future for our New Zealand business. Our position in Asia will continue to grow in importance.

Charles Took

Charles Goode - Chairman



chief executive officer's report a message from John McFarlane

ANZ has once again performed well in 2006 for shareholders and we have invested and strengthened our foundation for sustainable growth in future years.

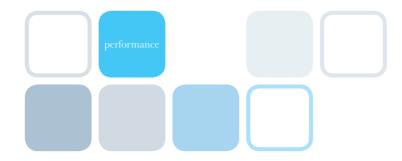
This performance is simply a milestone on a longer journey from the major banks being perceived as the same, to making ANZ "a very different bank".

It concerns me that many believe all banks are the same. It would not be so prevalent a view if it was not true. Changing this required us to create tangible reasons:

- Why a customer should deal with us?
- Why the community should place its trust in us?
- Why people should invest their working lives in us?
- Why shareholders should invest in us?

So against the trend of cost-cutting, we decided to invest to make "a very different bank" a reality. This required a major change in emphasis where:

- People, customers and the community would become the main focus rather than costs and short-term return.
- We would build a culture and talent base that could not easily be replicated.
- We could all sleep at night with the level of risk.



In particular we recognised that the bank that comes up with ways to serve our customers better would win over the long run. Our progress demonstrates our commitment to simpler and more convenient banking:

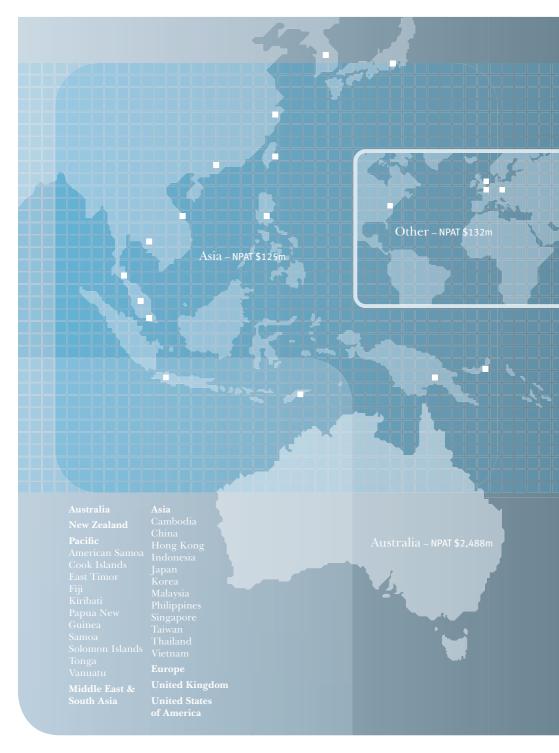
- In 2006 in Australia, we opened a new branch every fortnight and in 2007 we will open a new branch almost every week.
- In the last four years we added 10.000 new people, including the acquisition of The National Bank of New Zealand.
- We had a very different acquisition in New Zealand, maintaining separate husinesses and brands
- With the sizeable opportunity presented by Asia's economic growth and the interdependence between Australia, New Zealand, and Asia, we have begun a major push into the region, including expanding our business in Tianjin and Shanghai in China.

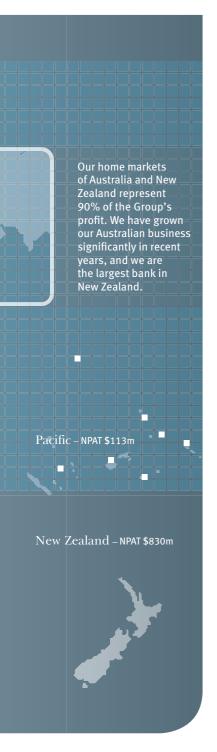
- We leveraged the technology and operational capability in Bangalore built over 17 years while maintaining a policy of having customer contact at home in Australia and New Zealand.
- We received special recognition through the Prime Minister's Award for Impact on a Community.

I am genuinely pleased with our progress, but realise it is only the beginning. Therefore we are raising the bar on revenue growth and accelerating our efforts to become "a very different bank". Our achievements in 2006 demonstrate we are well positioned to do so.

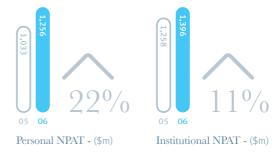
All in all it has been a good year for shareholders and I want to thank you all for your continued confidence in us.

John McFarlane - Chief Executive Officer











We are the only Australian bank with a significant presence in Asia, and our representation is amongst the largest in the region. We have a number of retail partnerships in the region, and during the year we entered into a new partnership with Tianjin City Commercial Bank in China. We continue to be in discussions with Shanghai Rural Commercial Bank, and hope to conclude these discussions soon.

We remain the number one bank in the Pacific, holding either number one or two position in each market in which operate. We also have a substantial presence in the key financial centres of London and New York.

	Al	FRS	Previous AGAAP			
five year summary			<u> </u>			
are year sammery	2006 \$m	2005 \$m	2004 \$m	2003 \$m	2002 \$m	
Financial Performance						
Net interest income	6,943	6,371	5,252	4,311	4,018	
Other operating income	3,146	2,935	3,267	2,808	2,796	
Operating expenses	(4,605)	(4,340)	(4,005)	(3,228)	(3,153)	
Profit before provisions and income tax	5,484	4,966	4,514	3,891	3,661	
Provision for credit impairment	(407)	(565)	(632)	(614)	(610)	
Income tax expense	(1,486)	(1,247)	(1,147)	(926)	(880)	
Minority interest	(4)	(3)	(4)	(3)	(3)	
Cash profit ¹	3,587	3,151	2,731	2,348	2,168	
Non-core items ¹	101	24	84	_	154	
Net profit after tax	3,688	3,175	2,815	2,348	2,322	
Financial Position						
Assets ²	335,771	300,885	259,345	195,591	183,105	
Net Assets	19,906	19,538	17,925	13,787	11,465	
Tier 1 capital ratio ³	6.8%	6.9%	6.9%	7.7%	7.9%	
Return on average ordinary equity ^{4,5}	20.1%	19.0%	17.8%	20.6%	21.6%	
Cash earnings per share ^{1,}	194.5	171.8	161.1	146.3	134.0	
Cost to income ratio ⁶	45.6%	46.6%	45.3%	45.1%	46.0%	
Shareholder value – ordinary shares						
Total return to shareholders						
(share price movement plus dividends)	17.1%	32.6%	17.0%	6.7%	15.3%	
Market capitalisation	49,331	43,834	34,586	27,314	26,544	
Dividend	125c	110c	101c	95c	85c	
Share price ⁷ –30 Sep	\$26.86	\$24.00	\$19.02	\$17.17	\$16.88	
Other information						
Points of representation ⁸	1,265	1,223	1,190	1,019	1,018	
No. of employees (full time equivalents)	32,256	30,976	28,755	23,137	22,482	
No. of shareholders ⁹	291,262	263,467	252,072	223,545	198,716	

- 1 ANZ excludes from cash profit significant items, abnormals, ANZ National Bank integration costs and volatility associated with fair value movements relating to economic hedges. ANZ excludes these items to provide a better indication of the core business performance. In addition, the 2005 cash profit result has been calculated on an AIFRS basis that is comparable with 2006, allowing readers to see the impact on 2005 results of accounting standards that have only been applied from 1 October 2005. The adjustment to restate 2005 to statutory basis is included in non-core items.
- 2 From 1998 to 2001, consolidated assets include the statutory funds of ANZ Life as required by an accounting standard. For the year 2004, consolidated assets include the statutory funds of NBNZ Life Insurance Limited.

- ANZ Life was sold in May 2002 and NBNZ Life Insurance Limited was sold on 30 September 2005
- 3 Calculated in accordance with Australian Prudential Regulation Authority requirements effective at the relevant date
- 4 Excludes non-core items and minority interest. The 2005 ratio has been calculated on an AIFRS basis that is comparable with that of 2006
- 5 For the periods 1997 to 2002 the return on average ordinary equity calculation accrues the dividend over the year. From 2003, dividends may no longer be accrued and are not included in the calculation of return on average ordinary equity
- 6 Excludes non-core items. Periods prior to 2005 also exclude goodwill amortisation. The 2005 ratio has been calculated on an AIFRS basis that is comparable with that of 2006
- 7 Periods prior to 2004 adjusted for the bonus elements of the November 2003 Rights Issue
- 8 Includes branches, offices, representative offices and agencies
- 9 From 2000 onwards the number of shareholders does not include the number of employees whose only shares are held by ANZEST Pty Ltd as the trustee for shares issued under the terms of any ANZ employee incentive plan

Strong lending growth partly offset by lower interest margins.

We continue to have world class efficiency which has permitted us to invest in more people.



Net Loans and Advances including Acceptances - (\$b)

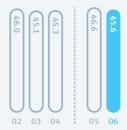
Strong lending growth in Mortgages in Australia and New Zealand and in Corporate and Business Banking saw Net Loans and Advances up 9% in 2006.



Net Interest Margin - (%)

----- Series break due to AIFRS

Increased competition largely in Australian Mortgages, the Institutional Division and New Zealand Deposits were the key drivers of the 9 basis point contraction in Net Interest Margin in 2006.



Cost Income Ratio - (%)

Strong income growth enabled continued investment in the business and a reduction of the Cost to Income Ratio to 45.6% in 2006.



Staff Numbers - (FTE)

An increase in FTEs of 1,280 in 2006 brought the number of new staff employed in the business in the last 4 years to over 10,000.











Mr C B Goode, AC

Mr J McFarlane, OBE

Dr G J Clark

Mr J K Ellis

B COM (Hons), MBA, HON LLD (MELB), HON LLD (MONASH)

Chairman

Independent Non-Executive Director Non-executive director

Non-executive director since July 1991. Mr Goode was appointed Chairman in August 1995 and is an ex officio member of all Board Committees.

Experience and expertise

Mr Goode has a background in the finance industry and has been a professional non-executive director since 1989. Mr Goode brings a wide range of skills and significant experience of the finance industry to his role as Chairman of the Board.

Age 68
Residence Melbourne.

MA, MBA, SFFIN, FSI, FHKIB, FRSA

Chief Executive Officer
Chief Executive Officer
since October 1997.
Mr McFarlane is also a
Director of ANZ's largest
subsidiary, ANZ National
Bank Limited in New
Zealand.

Experience and expertise

Mr McFarlane brings broad leadership, management and banking skills following a 31-year career in banking. Mr McFarlane is a former Group Executive Director, Standard Chartered Plc, Head of Citibank in the United Kingdom and Managing Director of Citicorp Investment Bank Ltd.

Age 59
Residence Melbourne.

PHD, BSC (Hons), FAP, FTSE

Independent
Non-Executive Director
Chairman of the
Technology Committee
Non-executive director
since February 2004. Dr
Clark is a member of the
Governance Committee.

Experience and expertise

Dr Clark is Principal of Clark Capital Partners. a US based firm that advises internationally on technology and the technology market place. Previously he held senior executive positions in IBM, News Corporation and Loral Space and Communications. He brings to the Board international business experience and a distinguished career in micro-electronics, computing and communications.

Age 63, Residence Based in New York, United States of America but also resides in Sydney.

MA, FAICD, HON FIE AUST, FAUS IMM, FTSE, HON DR ENG (CQU)

Independent
Non-Executive Director
Non-executive director
since October 1995. Mr
Ellis is a member of the
the Audit Committee. Mr
Ellis' term as Chairman of
the Risk Committee ended
on 30 September 2006 at
which time he assumed the
role of a Risk Committee
member.

Experience and expertise

A trained engineer, Mr Ellis brings to the Board his analytical skills together with his practical understanding of operational issues, investments and acquisitions across a range of sectors including natural resources, manufacturing, biotechnology and education.

Age 69
Residence Melbourne.

The Board is responsible to shareholders for the governance of ANZ, and oversees its operations and financial performance. It sets the strategic direction and financial objectives, determines the appropriate risk appetite for the organisation, and monitors operational performance. It also monitors compliance in terms of ethical standards and regulatory requirements. The Board appoints the Chief Executive Officer and regularly reviews his performance.



Mr D M Gonski, AO

B COM, LLB, S.I.A. (AFF), FAICD, FCPA

Independent Non-Executive Director Chairman of the Governance Committee Non-executive director

since February 2002. Mr Gonski is a member of the Risk Committee.

Experience and expertise

A lawyer, Mr Gonski has a broad experience across business, the law and investment banking. He also brings to his role on the Board an appreciation for the community through his work in the arts and the not-for-profit sector.

Age 53 Residence Sydney.

Ms M A Jackson, AC B Ec, MBA, HON LLD (Monash),

Independent Non-Executive Director Chairman of the People Committee

FAICD, FCA

Non-executive director since March 1994. Ms Jackson is a member of the Audit Committee.

Experience and expertise

A Chartered Accountant, with significant financial expertise. Ms lackson has broad commercial and industrial experience including her involvement in transportation, mining, the media, manufacturing and insurance. This expertise coupled with her work in health and education contribute to her role on the Board.

Age 53 Residence Melbourne.

Mr D E Meiklejohn

B COM, DIP. ED, FCPA, FAICD, FAIM

Independent Non-Executive Director Chairman of the Audit Committee

Non-executive director since October 2004. Mr Meiklejohn is a member of the Governance Committee and Risk Committee.

Experience and expertise

Mr Meiklejohn has a strong background in finance and accounting. He also brings to the Board his experience across a number of directorships of major Australian companies spanning a range of industries.

Age 64 Residence Melbourne.

Mr J P Morschel

DIPS. FAIM

Independent Non-Executive Director Chairman of the Risk Committee

Non-executive director since October 2004, Mr Morschel is a member of the Risk Committee and, on 1 October 2006, became its Chairman. He is also a member of the People Committee.

Experience and expertise Mr Morschel has a strong background in banking and financial services. and brings the experience of being a director of major Australian and international companies.

Age 63 Residence Sydney.

For listings of current directorships visit our website www.anz.com>about anz>corporate governance

director and executive remuneration 2006 Director Remuneration	Short Term Employee Benefits \$	Post- Employment \$	Long Term Employee Benefits \$	Share Based Payments \$	Total \$
C Goode Independent Non Executive Director, Chairman	699,842	12,276	_	-	712,118
G Clark Independent Non Executive Director	217,796	12,276	-	-	230,072
R Deane (retired 30 June 2006) Independent Non Executive Director	282,016	9,104	-	-	291,120
J Ellis Independent Non Executive Director	248,477	12,276	_	_	260,753
D Gonski Independent Non Executive Director	229,742	12,276	_	_	242,018
M Jackson Independent Non Executive Director	248,500	12,276	_	_	260,776
D Meiklejohn Independent Non Executive Director	249,866	12,276	_	_	262,142
J Morschel Independent Non Executive Director	235,264	-	_	_	235,264
Total Non Executive Directors	2,411,503	82,760	_	_	2,494,263
J McFarlane Chief Executive Officer – Executive Director	4,710,617	428,700	59,376	2,066,960	7,265,653
Total of all Directors	7,122,120	511,460	59,376	2,066,960	9,759,916
Disclosed Executives ¹					
R Edgar ² Senior Managing Director	1,651,856	49,725	37,607	996,030	2,735,218
E Funke Kupper (resigned effective 1 Feb 2006) Group Managing Director, Asia Pacific	236,593	14,663	_	551,566	802,822
B Hartzer Group Managing Director, Personal	2,243,266	58,500	40,575	661,114	3,003,455
G Hodges ³ Chief Executive, ANZ National Bank Ltd (NZ)	1,808,786	7,459	48,447	584,187	2,448,879
P Marriott Chief Financial Officer	1,928,931	52,650	34,830	750,228	2,766,639
S Targett Group Managing Director, Institutional	1,942,913	58,500	20,020	1,471,726	3,493,159
P Hodgson Chief Risk Officer	1,532,706	43,875	11,716	447,593	2,035,890
Total Disclosed Executives	11,345,051	285,372	193,195	5,462,444	17,286,062

¹ For the year ended 30 September 2006, remuneration details of the Key Mangement Personnel (KMP) identified as executives of the Group (as required under AASB 124) and the five most highly remunerated executives in the Company and the Group (as required under the Corporations Act 2001), other than the Chief Executive Officer.

² R Edgar was the Chief Operating Officer prior to October 2005.

³ Prior to November 2005, G Hodges was the Group Managing Director Corporate. Between 1 November 2005 and 31 December 2005, he was the Chief Executive Designate (New Zealand), with his position changing to Chief Executive, ANZ National Bank Limited, New Zealand effective 1 January 2006.

our people

ANZ has long taken a very different approach to people. The people who work for us invest a large part of their lives in ANZ. In return, we aim to provide a workplace where values are real and respected, and where staff engagement is at a world-class level. Our goal is a vibrant, energetic and high performing culture - and we're well on the way to achieving it.

2007 Goals

- Launch a new learning facility for ANZ employees.
- Improve our performance on the ANZ Engagement and Culture Survey.

our community

Our community investment strategy focuses on addressing the major social issues that affect the financial services industry, in particular financial literacy and inclusion. We also provide opportunities for our people to support causes that matter to them.

2007 Goals

- Enable 1,500 people to participate in Saver Plus and reach 20,000 people through MoneyMinded.
- Achieve 60,000 hours of staff volunteering and 15% participation in workplace giving.

our environment

We have an obligation to operate in a way that seeks to minimise the social and environmental impacts associated with our business, while at the same time enabling opportunities for positive social and economic development.

- Achieve our target to reduce our environmental footprint by a minimum of 5% by 2007.
- Continue to improve supply chain reporting and expand the reach of our Sustainable Procurement Policy.

important dates for shareholders*

Event
Annual General Meeting-Sydney
Final Dividend Payment Date
Interim Results Announcement
Interim Dividend Ex-Date
Interim Dividend Record Date
Interim Dividend Payment Date
Annual Results Announcement
Final Dividend Ex-Date
Final Dividend Record Date
Final Dividend Payment Date
Annual General Meeting-Perth

^{*}If there are any changes to these dates, the Australian Stock Exchange will be notified accordingly.

handy contacts

ANZ
Registered Office
Level 6
100 Queen Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Australia
Telephone +613 9273 6141
Facsimile +613 9273 6142
Company Secretary: Tim L'Estrange

Investor Relations Level 22 100 Queen Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia Telephone +613 9273 6466 Facsimile +613 9273 4899 investor.relations@anz.com

share registery

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anzshareregistry@computershare.com.au
New Zealand
Private Bag 92119
Auskland 1020

Auckland 1020 New Zealand Telephone 0800 174 007 Facsimile +649 488 8787

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PO Box 82
The Pavilions
Bridgwater Road
Bristol BS99 7NH
Telephone +44 870 702 0000
Facsimile +44 870 703 6101



ANZ Shareholder Charter

Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited's (ANZ) shareholders depend on the ANZ Board for strategic guidance and oversight of the Company. The Board recognises its responsibility to act honestly, fairly and diligently, in accordance with the law, in serving the interests of ANZ's shareholders.

Principles

The following principles underpin the approach of ANZ and the Board in serving the interests of shareholders:

1. Create value for our shareholders:

- 1.1 ANZ aims to deliver superior long-term total shareholder return
- 1.2 ANZ seeks to balance short and long-term objectives, and is focused on responding to the social and environmental issues inherent in our business decisions and operations to provide sustainable returns.

2. Deliver good corporate governance:

- 2.1 Corporate governance is an important focus for the Board. Good corporate governance meets ethical and stewardship responsibilities, and ANZ also believes it provides a strong commercial advantage.
- 2.2 ANZ seeks to be a leading organisation in the field of corporate governance by:
 - (a) taking an active and lead role in the corporate governance arena;
 - (b) embracing governance principles it considers to be best practice; and
 - (c) where possible, adopting governance initiatives early, by complying before a published law or other requirement takes effect.
- 2.2 In reviewing and implementing the governance structure within ANZ, the Board's approach is to adopt systems and procedures that make sense from a practical perspective and add value the focus is on substance rather than a "tick the box" approach.
- 2.3 ANZ shares and related securities are listed on the Australian (ASX), the New Zealand (NZX). ANZ takes into account a range of international corporate governance requirements and recommendations.

3. Maintain clear and open communication with shareholders and ensure continuous disclosure to the market:

- 3.1 In order to make informed decisions about ANZ, and to communicate their views to the Company, shareholders need an understanding of the Company's business operations and performance.
- 3.2 ANZ encourages shareholders to take an active interest in the Company. We seek to provide shareholders with quality information in a timely fashion through ANZ's reporting of results, the Company's Annual Report, announcements and briefings to the market, half yearly newsletters and on our dedicated shareholder site on anz.com.
- 3.3 ANZ promotes electronic communications with its shareholders as we believe that communicating electronically provides a more timely, efficient, cost effective and environmentally conscious method for shareholders to access information.

- 3.4 ANZ strives for transparency in all its business practices. We recognise the impact of quality disclosure on the trust and confidence of the shareholder, the wider investor market and the community.
- 3.5 It is ANZ's practice to release all price-sensitive information to the ASX as required under the ASX listing rules and to all other relevant securities exchanges where ANZ's securities are listed.
- 3.6 ANZ has in place a Continuous Disclosure Policy which reflects relevant obligations under applicable stock exchange listing rules and legislation.
- 3.7 ANZ's Continuous Disclosure Committee, which is comprised of ANZ's designated Disclosure Officers, has the responsibility for reviewing proposed disclosures and making decisions about information disclosures to the market.
- 3.8 All ANZ staff are required to inform a disclosure officer regarding any potentially price-sensitive information concerning ANZ as soon as they become aware of it.

4. Make constructive use of shareholder meetings/presentations

- 4.1 ANZ facilitates shareholder involvement in general meetings of the Company.
- 4.2 To allow as many shareholders as possible to have an opportunity to attend a meeting, ANZ rotates shareholder meetings between capital cities.
- 4.3 ANZ, where practicable, uses webcast technology to make it possible for shareholders to view meetings and presentations over the internet.
- 4.4 Prior to the Annual General Meeting, ANZ encourages shareholders to submit any questions they may have for the Chairman or Chief Executive Officer to enable key issues to be addressed.
- 4.5 The external auditor is present at Annual General Meetings and available to answer shareholder questions. The auditor can respond on any business item that concerns them in their capacity as auditor.
- 4.6 If shareholders are unable to attend a meeting they can and are encouraged to submit their proxies via post or electronically through anz.com.
- 4.7 ANZ's usual practice is to conduct a poll on each resolution at general meetings to enable shareholders attending the meeting in person or by proxy to vote the number of shares held by them. ANZ appoints an independent party to act as scrutineer in relation to the poll procedure and the results of any poll are reported to the ASX and then posted on anz.com.

5. Ethical And Responsible Decision-Making

- 5.1 'Tone at the top' at ANZ emanates from the Board which is committed to ensuring an ethical culture one of integrity and honesty.
- 5.2 The Board encourages management to promote and maintain a culture within ANZ which draws upon a set of unifying values to guide the actions and decisions of the Board and all employees.
- 5.3 ANZ has three main codes of conduct which also guide everyday business practice and decision-making throughout the Group:
 - (a) ANZ Directors' Code of Conduct sets standards for the directors who are expected to pursue the highest standards of ethical conduct.
 - (b) ANZ (Employee) Code of Conduct sets standards for ANZ staff to embrace and advocate. It seeks to establish an environment in which ANZ staff can excel, regardless of race, religion, age, ability or gender.
 - (c) ANZ Code of Conduct for Financial Officers (adopted from G100 Code of Conduct for Chief Financial Officers) provides a practical guide for the CFO and financial staff in their everyday dealings as to the standards of behaviour expected in the performance of their duties in addition to the ANZ Employee Code of Conduct.
- 5.4 We believe that building the right culture is an integral part of high performing organisations' business success. We view our culture as one of our major competitive advantages underpinning our business performance. Our values play an integral role in this process, providing a shared set of goals and a single reference point for all ANZ employees to work towards.
- 5.5 Our ANZ values are based on employee input and take account of our four key stakeholders our customers, community, shareholders and our people. Our ANZ values are:
 - Put our customers first.
 - Perform and grow to create value for our shareholders.
 - Lead and inspire each other.
 - Earn the trust of the community.
 - Breakout, be bold and have the courage to be different.

Governance and Accountabilities

The Governance Committee of the Board will review this Charter on an annual basis and revise it as and when believed appropriate. Where the Committee forms the view, as part of this review, that there are material concerns about ANZ's performance against the principles espoused in this Charter, the Committee will report these matters to the Board for consideration.