

The Charter of the ABC, as laid down in the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act of 1983 cannot be implemented by a broadcaster, whose programme planning is dictated by ratings driven advertising revenue .

The national broadcaster's objectives, as documented in the Charter, are:

- . to contribute to the national identity
- . to inform and entertain
- . to reflect cultural diversity
- . to educate
- . to encourage and promote the musical, dramatic and other performing arts in Australia.

These objectives, although basic to any cultural pretensions of the nation, find only selective support in a society, where, due to prevailing and persuasive influences, instant satisfaction, mental torpidity, tolerance of violence and vulgarity are widely accepted.

As the Committee is not reviewing the Charter of the ABC, it is bound to conduct this inquiry with full consideration and acceptance of the objectives of the Charter.

This leads to a logical resolution of the matter of the ABC's governance.

- The board of the ABC should consist of people selected for their proven commitment to work within, and not against the Charter of the ABC, and who are qualified to pursue policies of cultural, rather than commercial values. While the board sets policies, managerial and accounting executives are well qualified to maintain efficient operations within allocated budgets.
- There are many outstanding Australians who command public respect for having rendered service to the community, or distinguished themselves in science, education, arts, music and literature.
- Appointments to the board should therefore be free of political or personal patronage.

While the government should nominate members of the board, the nominations should be scrutinized by a senate joint committee in the spirit of the ABC's charter, and appointments approved by a two-third majority.

The chairman of the board should be selected yearly by the members of the board.