PREFACE

On 5 December 2000 the Senate referred to the Senate Economics References Committee the matter of the framework for the market supervision of Australia's stock exchanges for inquiry and report by 30 April 2001.

The inquiry was advertised in the national press and on the internet, and interested parties were invited to make submissions to the Committee.

The Senate extended the reporting date for this inquiry on several occasions, most recently setting the reporting date as the last day of the 39th Parliament - 11 February 2002.

The Committee received 12 submissions, as well as several supplementary submissions, particularly from the Australian Stock Exchange. These are listed at Appendix I.

The Committee held the following public hearings:

- 9 April 2001, Sydney;
- 3 May 2001, Canberra; and
- 31 January 2002, Sydney.

The Hansard transcripts are published on the Committee's webpage.

The Committee wishes to thank everyone who contributed to the inquiry by making submissions, providing other information or appearing before the Committee at public hearings.