

## **Inquiry into the Nation-Building Funds Bill 2008, and a related bill, and the COAG Reform Fund Bill 2008**

On 23 October 2008, the Senate referred the COAG Reform Fund Bill 2008 to the Standing Committee on Economics for inquiry and report by 10 November 2008. The reporting date was subsequently extended to 1 December 2008 to allow for concurrent reporting with the Nation-Building Funds Bill 2008 and the Nation-Building Funds (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008, which were introduced in the House of Representatives on 13 November 2008.

The Nation-Building Funds Bill 2008 will establish the Building Australia Fund, the Education Investment Fund, and the Health and Hospital Fund to provide a source of funding for infrastructure projects.

The Nation-Building Funds (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 deals with consequential matters relating to the establishment of these funds, including amendments to and the repeal of various Commonwealth Acts.

The COAG Reform Fund Bill 2008 will establish the COAG Reform Fund to channel National Partnership payments from the Commonwealth to the states.

The Committee invites written submissions which should be sent to:

Committee Secretary

Senate Economics Committee

Department of the Senate

PO Box 6100

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

The closing date for submissions is **Thursday, 20 November 2008**. If you need an extension of time to make a submission, please contact the committee secretariat.

The Committee requests that where possible, submissions should also be provided by email to [economics.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:economics.sen@aph.gov.au) preferably as MS Word or RTF format documents. Notes to assist in preparing submissions are available from the website [http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit\\_sub/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit_sub/index.htm) or telephone the Secretariat on 02 6277 3540, fax: 02 6277 5719, or e-mail at the above address.

Once the Committee accepts your submission, it becomes a confidential committee document and is protected by Parliamentary Privilege. You must not release your submission without the Committee's permission. If you do, it is not protected by Parliamentary Privilege. At some stage during the inquiry, the Committee normally makes submissions public. Please indicate if you want your submission to be kept confidential.

Inquiries from hearing and speech impaired people should be directed to the Parliament House TTY number (02 6277 7799). Adobe also provides tools for the blind and visually impaired to access PDF documents. These tools are available at: <http://access.adobe.com/>. If you require any special arrangements in order to enable you to participate in a committee inquiry, please contact the Committee Secretary.

If you need any further information, consult the Committee's website at [http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/economics\\_ctte/inquiries.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/economics_ctte/inquiries.htm) or contact the Committee Secretary on (02) 6277 3540 (phone); (02) 6277 5719 (fax); or by email to [economics.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:economics.sen@aph.gov.au); or by writing to the above address.