

PART II

MINISTERIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY ETHICS

Part II of the report deals with two bills that intend to put in place measures that would assist members of parliament and ministers observe appropriate standards of behaviour in their official capacities. It examines the following bills:

- Part 3 of the Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2002]. This Bill proposes to establish a parliamentary joint committee to develop a code of conduct for members of parliament and for ministers. It also proposes to establish a Commissioner for Ministerial and Parliamentary Ethics who would implement an education program on the codes, review the codes and offer advice on them as well as investigate complaints of breaches of the codes.
- The Auditor of Parliamentary Entitlements and Allowances Bill 2000 [No. 2]. This Bill proposes to establish an Auditor of Parliamentary Entitlements and Allowances whose functions would be to receive, investigate and report on complaints about the possible misuse of parliamentary entitlements and allowances. The Auditor would also undertake sample audits on the use of such benefits and provide advice to individual members of parliament or to persons employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* on ethical issues connected with the use of that person's parliamentary entitlements.

