

The Senate

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Rural and Regional Affairs and  
Transport Legislation Committee

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Management of the quarantine risks associated  
with the possible return to Australia of sheep  
aboard the MV *Cormo Express*

October 2003

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# Membership of the Committee

## *Members*

Senator Bill Heffernan	LP, New South Wales	Chairman
Senator Geoffrey Buckland	ALP, South Australia	Deputy Chairman
Senator John Cherry	AD, Queensland	
Senator Richard Colbeck	LP, Tasmania	
Senator Jeannie Ferris	LP, South Australia	
Senator Kerry O'Brien	ALP, Tasmania	

## *Participating Members*

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Senator Abetz	Senator Ferguson	Senator McGauran
Senator Boswell	Senator Harradine	Senator McLucas
Senator Brown	Senator Harris	Senator Murphy
Senator Carr	Senator Hutchins	Senator Payne
Senator Chapman	Senator Knowles	Senator Ray
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Senator Faulkner	Senator Mackay	Senator Tierney
		Senator Watson

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Transport portfolio

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Fisheries portfolio

Senator Lees for matters relating to air safety

## *Committee Secretariat*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE .....	iii
REPORT TO THE SENATE.....	1



## **REPORT TO THE SENATE**

1. On 16 October 2003, the Senate referred the following matter to the Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day of the Senate for November 2003.

The management of the quarantine risks associated with the return of the sheep stranded aboard the MV *Cormo Express* and related matters.

2. In response to the terms of reference, the Committee planned a public hearing with officers of the Department of Agricultural, Fisheries and Forestry, AQIS, and Biosecurity Australia for Monday, 27 October 2003.

3. On Friday, 24 October 2003 the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Warren Truss MP announced with His Excellency, Arefaine Berhe, Eritrean Minister for Agriculture, that Eritrea had agreed to accept the 52,000 sheep on board the MV *Cormo Express*.

4. The Committee has now resolved in light of the announcement by the Minister, that it report to the Senate there are now no immediate relevant matters for it to inquire into.

5. The Committee reports its conclusion to the Senate accordingly.

**Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan**  
**Chair**

**29 October 2003**

