

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS
AND TRANSPORT**

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

TERMS OF REFERENCE

On 19 September 2007, the Senate referred the following matter to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport for inquiry and report by 30 June 2008.

On 14 February 2008, the Committee resolved to recommend to the Senate that the Inquiry be re-adopted with terms of reference unchanged, with a reporting date of 4 September 2008.

- (i) the scientific evidence available on the likely future climate of Australia's key agricultural production zones, and its implications for current farm enterprises and possible future industries;
- (ii) the need for a national strategy to assist Australian agricultural industries to adapt to climate change; and
- (iii) the adequacy of existing drought assistance and exceptional circumstances programs to cope with long-term climatic changes