



Commonwealth Auditor-General to attend hearing into *Auditor-General Act 1997*

The Commonwealth Auditor-General and Australasian Council of Auditors-General will attend a public hearing on Monday 22 June by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit for its inquiry into the *Auditor-General Act 1997*.

Chair of the Committee Sharon Grierson said "The role of the Auditor-General is fundamental to the maintenance of transparency and accountability across government agencies".

"It has been eight years since the Act underpinning the Auditor-General's role has been reviewed and since that time the Auditor-General has been assigned a number of additional responsibilities such as reviewing compliance of government advertising with the relevant guidelines, and the annual Major Projects Report on Defence acquisitions," Ms Grierson said.

"It is time to review the adequacy of the Act's provisions particularly in light of these new responsibilities. It is critical that the Auditor-General and his officers have sufficient powers to scrutinise the administration of Government agencies."

The Commonwealth Auditor-General, Ian McPhee PSM, Glenn Poole, Auditor-General of Queensland representing the Australasian Council of Auditors-General and Andrew Podger, national president of the Institute of Public Administration Australia will appear at the hearing on Monday 22 June in **Committee Room 1R5**, Parliament House at **9:30am** to **11:30am**.

This hearing will be webcast (audio only): <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

For more information: please contact the Committee chair, Sharon Grierson MP, on 0412 291 654 or the inquiry secretary on (02) 6277 2336 or visit the website at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa/agact/index.htm>