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Appendix A Conduct of the Committee's review

Selection of audit reports

The Auditor-General presented eleven audit reports in the first quarter of 1999–2000. These were:

- Audit Report No. 1, 1999–2000, Implementing Purchaser/Provider Arrangements between the Department of Health and Aged Care and Centrelink;
- Audit Report No. 2, 1999–2000, Use of Financial Information in Management Reports;
- Audit Report No. 3, 1999–2000, Electronic Travel Authority;
- Audit Report No. 4, 1999–2000, Fraud Control Arrangements in Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs;
- Audit Report No. 5, 1999–2000, IP Australia—Productivity and Client Service;
- Audit Report No. 6, 1999–2000, Audit Activity Report(January to June 1999)—Summary of Outcomes;
- Audit Report No. 7, 1999–2000, Operation of the Classification System for Protecting Sensitive Information;
- Audit Report No. 8, 1999–2000, Managing Data Privacy in Centrelink;

- Audit Report No. 9, 1999–2000, Managing Pest and Disease Emergencies;
- Audit Report No. 10, 1999–2000, Control Structures as Part of the Audits of Financial Statements of Major Commonwealth Agencies for the Period Ended 30 June 1999—Summary of Results;
- Audit Report No. 11, 1999–2000, Financial Aspects of the Conversion to Digital Broadcasting.

The Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit examined all of these audit reports and considered whether the issues and findings in the reports warranted further examination at a public hearing. In making this assessment the Committee considered, in relation to each audit report:

- the significance of the program or issues canvassed in the audit report;
- the significance of the audit findings;
- the response of the audited agencies, as detailed in each audit report; and
- the extent of any public interest in the audit report.

The result of this consideration was that the Committee decided to take evidence at public hearings on the following audit reports:

- Audit Report No. 2, 1999–2000, Use of Financial Information in Management Reports;
- Audit Report No. 10, 1999–2000, Control Structures as Part of the Audits of Financial Statements of Major Commonwealth Agencies for the Period Ended 30 June 1999—Summary of Results.

The evidence

The Committee held a public hearing in Canberra on 3 December 1999. The transcript of evidence taken at the hearing is reproduced at Appendix B.