

JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT Review of Auditor-General's reports

JCPAA Review of the AGO's administration efficiency and effectiveness

Public Hearing, Monday 14th February,10:30am – 11:30am, Committee Room 1R4, Parliament House, Canberra

Committee chair, Mr Bob Baldwin, announced that the Joint Committee for Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) would hold a public hearing on Monday 14th February to review the following Auditor-General report:

• Audit Report No. 34, 2003–2004, The Administration of Major Programs (Australian Greenhouse Office)

The Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) review of The Administration of Major Programs for the Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO) concluded that the administration of greenhouse programs had been characterised by substantial administrative challenges.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Bob Baldwin, stressed the importance of government agencies providing optimal efficiency and effectiveness of services, particularly with spending packages valued at almost \$1 billion. Mr Baldwin commented "The Committee's main areas of concern from the ANAO findings were in relation to the timely achievement of project objectives and a lack of continuity in performance reporting."

"Improvements to performance reporting are necessary to enable Parliament to come to a more informed view on the progress and effectiveness of the AGO in implementing programs of national significance" Mr Baldwin said.

Some areas of interest the Committee may focus on at the public hearing are:

- Risk Assessment;
- Performance Management;
- Project Selection and Appraisal; and
- Funding Agreements.

Under the Public Accounts and Audit Committee Act 1951 (PAAC Act), it is the duty of the Committee to examine all reports of the Auditor-General that are tabled in each House of the Parliament.

For media comment: please contact Mr Bob Baldwin MP on telephone 0419 694 620.

All Auditor-General's reports can be found on the ANAO website at www.anao.gov.au

For **more information**, contact the inquiry secretary on telephone (02) 6277 4615 or visit the Committee's website at <u>www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa/index.htm</u>