

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The conclusions and recommendations of the Committee and the paragraphs in the report to which they refer are set out below.

1. In future inquiries the Committee must be provided, as a matter of course, with more detailed cost breakdowns of proposed expenditure. (paragraph 5)
2. There is a demonstrated need for the Australian chancery in Bonn to relocate to Berlin, in line with the relocation of the German seat of government, due to take effect in mid to late 1999. (paragraph 14)
3. Whilst recognising that the location of the new chancery is suitable, the Committee notes the age and condition of the existing buildings and, as a result, the restrictions it places on the design and the refurbishment. (paragraph 45)
4. The Committee recommends that, in circumstances where departments are paying rent to the Department of Finance and Administration for accommodation, actual comparisons between the rent charged by the Department of Finance and Administration and the rent charged for similar buildings on the private rental market should be made available. (paragraph 84)
5. The Committee recommends that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade develop a set of guidelines on the standard of overseas accommodation. (paragraph 98)
6. These guidelines should include consideration of the appropriateness of collocation of departmental officers with their workplace, taking into account staff attitudes on this matter. (paragraph 99)
7. The guidelines should be developed in consultation with all relevant parties. (paragraph 100)
8. The Committee approves the renovation and refurbishment of the Wallstrasse 76-79 and Märkisches Ufer 8 buildings to provide a new Australian chancery in Berlin at an estimated turnout cost of \$A37.277 million at May 1999 prices. (paragraph 109)

Hon Judi Moylan MP  
Chair

24 June 1999