

SUMMARY

The Committee's inquiry, over the period June to November 1995, as outlined in the Second Report:

- dealt with progress in implementing the recommendations of the First Report; made findings arising from the inquiry since the First Report; and carried out the required parliamentary procedures in relation to adverse comment on persons contained in evidence taken during the inquiry;
- reaffirmed the findings and recommendations of the First Report;
- reiterated the need to abolish the domestic transfer fee;
- recognised a potential conflict of interest between the public positions held by the *Head Coach (Soccer)* at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and by the Australian Women's Soccer Association (AWSA) National Coach and their private business interests;
- **recommended** that the Australian Institute of Sport insert a conflict of interest clause in all contracts for soccer coaches preventing them acting for or on behalf of or assisting players' managers or agents in overseas transfers of AIS players or former players;
- **recommended** that the Australian Soccer Federation urgently discuss with FIFA the need for genuine and effective co-operation from overseas clubs in dealing with allegations of improprieties relating to transfers of Australian players overseas;
- **recommended** that discussions should continue between women's soccer representatives and the Australian Soccer Federation (ASF) to ensure that women's soccer interests are adequately represented at national level and are effectively incorporated within the new administrative arrangements.
- concluded that the Committee's inquiry has served the best interests of soccer football: firstly, by providing an opportunity to clear the air of the allegations, rumours and speculation affecting the sport over a considerable period; and secondly, by allowing those alleged to have been guilty of misbehaviour the opportunity to respond to the allegations; and
- has already led to significant improvements in the administration of soccer football in Australia, although the ASF's recent decision to implement several significant recommendations of the Committee's First Report should not be seen as the end of the process, and the process of reform must continue.