



Committee Secretary  
Joint Committee of Public  
Accounts and Audit  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA 2600  
(by email to [jcpa@aph.gov.au](mailto:jcpa@aph.gov.au))

### **Review of the Draft Financial Framework Amendment Bill**

At the Committee hearing on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2003, I took on notice a question from the Committee Chairperson, and provide the following in response.

*Question: What is your view about relying on a delegate in the Department of Finance and Administration or in the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs for placing financial limits on ATSIC providing guarantees to third parties under section 15 of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989? (Ref: Proof Committee Hansard PA40).*

*Response: The transfer of approval power from the Treasurer to the Minister of Finance and Administration, and the subsequent sub delegation to an official, in relation to the setting of a monetary limit on the Commission's power to give guarantees as outlined in Section 15 (2) of the ATSIC Act, should not adversely impact on the Commission's operations, assuming the delegate is agreeable to maintaining at least the current limit of \$5 million set by the Treasurer.*

In addition, I confirm on behalf of Mr Stacey and myself that we are satisfied that the proof version of the Hansard for the proceedings on 7 March is an accurate record in relation to the specific items applicable to ourselves.

Yours Sincerely

Paul Barrett  
Chief Finance Officer  
10 April 2003