

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE AND INQUIRY INTO THE AUSTRALIAN MEAT INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE STRUCTURE AND QUOTA ALLOCATION SECOND REPORT

Recommendation 1: The Committee recommends that the Minister initiate discussions with the signatories to the MOU concerning reformed advisory arrangements. The Committee recommends that following these negotiations the Minister engage in detailed and open consultations with all sections of the Australian Meat Industry on options for a reformed or alternative industry advisory structure.

Recommendation 2: The Committee recommends that any new advisory body established for the Australian Meat Industry be empowered to initiate advice to the Minister. Notwithstanding this, individual industry participants, whether represented on the advisory board or not, must retain the right to make representations to the Minister on any matter of concern.

Recommendation 3: The Committee recommends that any organisations appointed by the Minister to the list of Prescribed Industry Bodies be eligible for appointment to the industry advisory body, and that the view of existing advisory body members should not necessarily determine the success of the appointment or membership of the advisory body.

Recommendation 4: The Committee recommends that the MLA Board Consult with its membership on democratic reform of the MLA's Articles of Association. In the absence of progress on this matter before the 2003 MLA Annual General Meeting, the Committee recommends that the Minister engage in detailed and open consultation with levy payers on reform options for a more democratic board selection process.

Recommendation 5: The Committee recommends that the Minister negotiate with the signatories to the MOU on alternative arrangements for the disbursement of earnings of the Red Meat Industry Reserve Fund.

Recommendation 6: The Committee recommends that the advisory body develop a detailed industry strategic plan, and that consideration be given to the use of competitive contracts to deliver elements of the strategic plan.

Recommendation 7: The Committee recommends that the Selection Committee for the contracts include an independent probity auditor and a representative of the AFFA.

Recommendation 8: The Committee recommends that the size and recipient of these contracts, and outcomes delivered, be placed on the advisory body's web site, and reported by the AFFA to the Minister.

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