

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY APPEALS TRIBUNAL

The corporate governance arrangements of the SSAT were assessed by the Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS) in March 2005, as part of the implementation process for the *Review of the Corporate Governance of Statutory Authorities and Office Holders* (the Uhrig Report).

The assessment found that the majority of the current governance arrangements in place within the SSAT were consistent with the recommendations contained in the Uhrig Report.

The key recommendation arising from the assessment was that the flow of information between my department and the SSAT be improved. Therefore, to ensure best-practice governance arrangements are in place, communication protocols will be established between my office, the SSAT and FaCS to facilitate clear communication and provide clarity of roles and responsibilities.

The communication protocols and this Statement will be reviewed annually to ensure they remain relevant and support the important work of the SSAT.

Senator the Hon Kay Patterson
Minister for Family and Community Services
July 2005