



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs

Annual Report

1 July 2001 — 30 June 2002

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Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2001 — 30 June 2002

Members of the Committee

Membership of the Committee as at 30 June 2002

Ms. M R Scrymgour, MLA (Chairperson)

Mr. M T Bonson, MLA

Mr J W Elferink MLA

Mr. L F Kiely, MLA

Mr T K Mills, MLA

Committee Staff:

Mr Rick Gray (Executive Officer)

Mrs Liz McFarlane (Administrative/Research Assistant)

Ms Kim Cowcher (Committee Support Assistant)

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CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT

In accordance with Standing Order 21B of the Legislative Assembly's Standing Orders, I have the pleasure of reporting to the Assembly the activities of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs for the financial year ended 30 June 2001.



On 20 August 1998, the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, by resolution established this Committee to inquire, report and make recommendations upon such constitutional and legal matters as may be referred to it by the Attorney-General; or by resolution of the Assembly.

Following the general election held in August 2001, the Legislative Assembly reconstituted the Standing Committee on 16 October 2001.

On 25 October 2001, the Legislative Assembly resolved to enhance the Standing Committee's role and function in providing additional Terms of Reference, which gave the Committee the power upon its own motion to address the three specific elements of that reference:

- A general reference power in respect of legal or constitutional issues, including law reform, parliamentary reform, administrative law, legislative review and inter-governmental relations.
- A general reference power on matters concerning the Northern Territory's ongoing constitutional development that may also be tied to a future grant of Statehood.
- Other specific inter-governmental relationships that the Attorney-General may wish the Committee to address or investigate.

The Committee at its meeting on 1 March 2002, approved a program of activity relating to the Committee's future programs and strategies 2002-04. On 22 May 2002 approved the following:

1. A Discussion and Information Paper Program in respect of the Committee's general reference power: *Other constitutional and legal matters and intergovernmental relationships* and the *Committee's Report into appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood*; and
2. An Inquiry on Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory.

In commencing the Discussion and Information Program the Committee has issued in June its first information paper, Information Paper No. 1: *Northern Territory Constitutional Development and Statehood: A Chronology of Events*.

In regard to the Indigenous Governance Inquiry the Committee is already committed to detailed work on this matter with its publication in June of its Discussion Paper No. 1 *Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: An Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory*.

The Committee in approving the establishment of this Inquiry, saw this Inquiry as complimentary to the Government's Indigenous Affairs policy and through its participation the Committee's recommendations to the Legislative Assembly, if implemented, would help in the ongoing relationships between the Indigenous people of the Territory, the wider Territory community and the Northern Territory Government.

Indigenous governance is an extremely complex and sensitive issue that needs careful research and management. Although the outcome of this Inquiry is not directly tied to Statehood, it is, however, an issue critical to the future success of Statehood.

In the latter half of the financial year the Committee approved its Business Plan and its primary program of activity for this session of Parliament, the content of these activities is detailed within this report.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to the members and staff of the Committee for their support during this year.

MARION SCRYMGOUR
Chairperson

1. INTRODUCTION

Establishment of Committee

On 20 August 1998, the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, by resolution established the Standing Committee of Legal and Constitutional Affairs to inquire, report and make recommendations upon such constitutional and legal matters as may be referred to it by the Attorney-General; or by resolution of the Assembly.

Following the general election held in August 2001, the Legislative Assembly reconstituted the Standing Committee on 16 October 2001.

Additional Terms of Reference

On 25 October 2001, the Legislative Assembly resolved to enhance the Standing Committee's role and function in providing the following additional Terms of Reference:

1. The Committee shall inquire, consider, make recommendations and report to the Assembly from time to time on:
 - (a) any matter concerned with legal or constitutional issues, including law reform, parliamentary reform, administrative law, legislative review and inter-governmental relations;
 - (b) the legal or constitutional relationship between the Northern Territory and the Commonwealth;
 - (c) any proposed changes to that legal or constitutional relationship, including the admission of the Northern Territory as a new state of the Commonwealth; or
 - (d) any proposed changes to the Commonwealth Constitution that may affect the Northern Territory and/or its residents;
2. With the approval of the Attorney-General, any other matter concerning the relationship between the Northern Territory and the Commonwealth and/or the states in the Australian federation;
3. Meet with any other state or Commonwealth parliamentary committees to inquire into matters of mutual concern;
4. The Committee shall report to the Assembly as soon as possible after 30 June each year on its activities during the preceding financial year.

Apart from the Committee's primary terms of reference to inquire into and report on such constitutional and legal matters that are referred to it by the Legislative Assembly or the Attorney General, the additional terms of reference provides the Committee the power upon its own motion to address the three specific elements of that reference:

- A general reference power in respect of legal or constitutional issues, including law reform, parliamentary reform, administrative law, legislative review and inter-governmental relations.
- A general reference power on matters concerning the Northern Territory's ongoing constitutional development that may also be tied to a future grant of Statehood.
- Other specific inter-governmental relationships that the Attorney-General may wish the Committee to address or investigate.

Membership of the Committee

From 1 July 2001 until the Legislative Assembly was prorogued on 1 August 2001, membership of the Committee was as follows:

Members

Mr S P Hatton, MLA (Chairman)

Mr J W Elferink, MLA

Mrs M A Hickey, MLA

Mr T K Mills, MLA

Alternate Members

Ms S J Carter, MLA

Mr S J Stirling, MLA

Dr P H Toyne, MLA

On 16 October 2001, the Legislative Assembly adopted the following motion in respect of the membership to this Committee:

...notwithstanding anything contained in standing orders, the following members be appointed to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee: Ms Scrymgour, Mr Kiely, Mr Bonson, two members to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, and one Independent member and that the committee shall elect a government member as chairman.

Committee Membership as at 30 June 2002 is as follows:



Ms M R Scrymgour, MLA (Chairperson)

Australian Labor Party

Member for Arafura

First elected: 18 August 2001

Parliamentary Position: Nil

LCA Committee Membership:

Appointed: 16 October 2001

Appointed Chairperson - 24 October 2001

Other Committees:

Standing: House, Subordinate Legislation and Publications

Sessional: Nil

Select: Substance Abuse

Chair: Substance Abuse



Mr M T Bonson, MLA

Australian Labor Party

Member for Millner

First elected: 18 August 2001

Parliamentary Position: Nil

LCA Committee Membership:

Appointed - 24 October 2001

Other Committees:

Standing: Standing Orders

Sessional: Nil

Select: Nil

Chair: Nil



Mr J W Elferink, MLA

Country Liberal Party
Member for Macdonnell
First Elected: 30 August 1997
Shadow Ministerial Portfolio: Aboriginal Affairs, Parks and Wildlife and Arts and Museums
Parliamentary Position: Deputy Chairman of Committees

LCA Committee Membership:
(20 August 1998 – 1 August 2001)
Reappointed: 18 October 2001

Other Committees:

Standing: Nil
Sessional: Nil
Select: Nil
Chair: Nil



Mr L F Kiely, MLA

Australian Labor Party
Member for Sanderson
First elected: 18 August 2001
Parliamentary Position: Deputy Chairman of Committees

LCA Committee Membership:
Appointed: 16 October 2001

Other Committees:

Standing: Public Accounts, Subordinate Legislation and Publications
Sessional: Nil
Select: Nil
Chair: Nil



Mr T K Mills, MLA

Country Liberal Party
Member for Blain
First Elected: 31 July 1999
Shadow Ministerial Portfolio: Education, Employment and Training, Sport and Recreation and Young Territorians
Parliamentary Position: Deputy Chairman of Committees

LCA Committee Membership:
(10 August 1999 – 1 August 2001)
Reappointed: 18 October 2001

Other Committees:

Standing: Nil
Sessional: Nil
Select: Nil
Chair: Nil

Functions of the Committee

The Committee derives its authority from the *Northern Territory (Self Government) Act 1978 (Cth)*, the *Legislative Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act* and the *Standing Orders* of the Legislative Assembly.

Under its terms of reference, the Committee has power to appoint sub-committees and to refer to any such sub-committee any matter that it is empowered to examine. Three members constitute a quorum of the Committee and three members constitute a quorum of a sub-committee.

The Committee or any sub-committee also has the power to:

- (a) send for persons, papers and records;
- (b) to adjourn from place to place;
- (c) to meet and transact business in public or private session;
- (d) to sit during any adjournment of the Assembly;
- (e) print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by it; and
- (f) unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, a daily *Hansard* shall be published of such proceedings of the Committee as they take place in public.

Sub-Committees

The Committee has the power establish sub-committees, to date none have been established.

Hearings and Meetings

Meetings of the Committee usually follow one of the following formats:

Public Hearings

Hearings are open to the public, including the media. The media may report any public session of the Committee, unless otherwise ordered by the Committee. Submissions to the Committee can be in written form or presented orally.

The Committee may also authorise the televising of the hearings under such rules as the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly may consider. Transcripts of the proceedings are produced by *Hansard*.

Deliberative Meetings

This format is used for private meetings of the Committee where "confidential" matters and the proceedings of the Committee may be discussed, together with general administrative business. Deliberative meetings are minuted but are not transcribed by *Hansard*.

Briefings

Briefings are generally not open to the public and are usually of a confidential nature and may go before, during or after a public hearing or are used in gathering general information by the Committee.

Taking of Evidence

Like all parliamentary committees, the Committee's effectiveness is largely reliant on the type and content of information developed, gathered or submitted during its deliberations.

The source and content of information, in the written and oral submissions received by the Committee, can be of a professional and specialist nature on specific subjects, or the promotion and presentation of particular attitudes and trends and ideas.

Reports, Information and Discussion Papers

The Committee, to date, has prepared the following reports and publications:

- Report: *Report into appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood*, (April 1999);
- Information Paper No. 1: *Northern Territory Constitutional Development and Statehood: A Chronology of Events* (June 2002);
- Discussion Paper No. 1 *Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: An Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory* (June 2002).

2. COMMITTEE PROGRAM

General Overview

The Committee at its meeting on 28 November 2001, taking into account the additional terms of reference adopted by the Legislative Assembly on 25 October 2001 approved the development of a program of activity and future strategies. The Committee further resolved that the recommendations from the Committee's *Report into appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood*, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly in April 1999, be used as a focal point in developing its future strategies and programs, in particular:

- the development and promotion of constitutional and Statehood issues that relate to an eventual grant of Statehood for the Northern Territory;
- an approved methodology in achieving the Committee's future program;
- the funding arrangements in order to achieve the Committee's program for 2002-03 and beyond; and
- to identify and elaborate on issues relating to a future program of committee activity not associated with Northern Territory Statehood or constitutional development matters.

The Committee at its meeting on 1 March 2002, approved a program of activity relating to the Committee's future programs and strategies 2002-04 (see below). An extract of the Committee's resolution is shown in Appendix 3.

On 22 May 2002 the Committee approved its Business Plan which, identified a detailed program of activity, including a methodology to achieve that program and a notional budget for 2002-03. Full detail on these issues is set out below in the Business Plan under *KEY BUSINESS OUTPUT 3: Conduct of Inquiries/Programs*.

Approved Program of Activities: 2002-04

On 1 March 2002, the Committee approved the following Table listing a future Committee discussion and information paper program:

PRIORITY	Constitutional and legal Matters	Statehood and Constitutional Development	Other intergovernmental relationship	Timing
1	Preparation of future Discussion and Information Papers and the conduct of specific inquiries (Recommendation: 8)			Ongoing (including as and when required by Parliament or by the Attorney-General)
Committee's Report into appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood				
1		Continue to Oversight matters in respect of the constitutional process and contribute to that process where appropriate (Recommendation: 2).		Ongoing
2		Discussion Paper to explore the processes that would be envisaged in a Public Education Awareness Program(s) to inform Territorians about what Statehood means and about the process of constitutional development. (Recommendation: 4)		2001-02 2002-03
3		Discussion Paper to explore the development of Regional Framework Agreements between the Government and the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory (Recommendation: 5).		2002-03
4		Discussion Paper to explore the processes of Northern Territory constitutional development, including the holding of future conventions and referendums (Recommendations: 3 and 6)		2003-04
5		Discussion Paper on matters concerning the Issues, Conditions and Procedures Pertinent to the Entry of the Northern Territory into the Federation as a New State (Recommendation: 7).		2003-04

3. APPROVED COMMITTEE ACTIVITY FOR 2001-02

A. Discussion and Information Paper Program

(i) **Committee's general reference power: Other constitutional and legal matters and intergovernmental relationships**

The additional terms of reference provides a general reference power in respect of legal or constitutional issues, including law reform, parliamentary reform, administrative law, legislative review and inter-governmental relations.

In line with the Committee's approved general methodology in conducting its program of activities, the Committee is currently considering a number of matters.

(ii) **The Committee's Report into appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood**

The Committee's *Report into appropriate measures to facilitate statehood*, recommended, among other things, that there be a public education program to inform Territorians about what Statehood means and the process of constitutional development, and that they be presented in a dispassionate, balanced and informative manner.

In restarting the process of facilitating and assessing community consultation and involvement in a comprehensive community education program on Statehood, the Committee before embarking on that program, resolved to prepare various Discussion and Information Papers for publication.

Full Detail of the Committee's Discussion and Information Paper program is outlined within its Business plan KEY BUSINESS OUTPUT 3: Conduct of Inquiries/ Programs of this Report.

B. Inquiry on Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory

On 22 May 2002, the Committee, having regard to the resolution of the Legislative Assembly of 25 October 2001 in providing additional terms of reference, resolved among other things, to conduct an inquiry into matters relating to Indigenous governance in the Northern Territory, in particular, the examination of appropriate relationships that should exist between the Indigenous people/communities of the Northern Territory, the Northern Territory Government and the wider Territory community:

- (a) under the present constitutional/legislative arrangements applying in the Northern Territory; and
- (b) whether those arrangements might have influence upon a future grant of Statehood to the Northern Territory; including
- (c) the question whether the Northern Territory Government should enter into a Framework Agreement or Agreements with the representatives of those Indigenous people/communities.

In elaborating on Framework Agreements, the Committee took into account its 1999 *Report into Appropriate Means to Facilitate Statehood* which included a discussion of the interests of the Indigenous people of the Northern Territory as part of any grant of Statehood. The report also discussed the subject of a possible Framework Agreement for the Northern Territory, that is, an agreement between the Northern Territory Government, and the representatives of the Indigenous people of the Northern Territory, concerning a range of issues of vital interest to the two parties, and setting out a framework within which the relationship between the two could or should be developed in the future.

Although this Inquiry is not directly tied to Statehood, the Committee is aware that the outcome of this Inquiry is an issue critical to the future success of Statehood.

Detail of the Committee's Inquiry on Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs is outlined within its Business plan KEY BUSINESS OUTPUT 3: Conduct of Inquiries/ Programs of this Report.

By the end of the financial year the Committee had issued its second paper, Discussion Paper no.1 - *Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: An Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory*.

The Committee is to commence the Inquiry in 2002-03.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING

Staffing

The Committee Secretariat is staffed by

- 1 x Executive Officer (AO8) - fulltime
- 1 x Committee Support Assistant (AO1) - casual part-time on contract (shared resource with other committees)

Due to the reduced level of activity within the Committee over the past few years the Administrative/support position was replaced with a base grade AO1 position.

By way of background, the Committee had operated without an Administrative Assistant/Research Officer for the past three years. After the tabling of the Committee's *Report on appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood by 2001*, in April 1999, the full time Administrative/Research Assistant position was placed elsewhere within the Department, as the Committee no longer had a reference. During that period when Committee activity was at a reduced level the Committee's Executive Officer while maintaining a watching brief over the Committee provided administrative and procedural support to the Clerk and the Office of the Clerk. This support still continues. From 30 May 2001 to 9 December 2001, the Executive Officer acted on higher duties as Department's Director Corporate Support.

Since the Committee has been rejuvenated the present workload of the Executive Officer has been fulltime on Committee work. The Committee Support Officer (AO1) who is employed on a casual part-time contract basis assists not only this Committee but the other Committees as well. In maintaining costs at a reasonable and manageable level, limited office/administrative support to the Committee is provided by an Administrative/Research Assistant to one of the other Committees.

Personnel and Administrative Expenditure 2001-02

CATEGORY OF COST	Notional Budget Allocation	Expenditure	(November 2001 Mini Budget)	Balance
PERSONNEL COSTS				
Salaries (Note: 1)		50,445		
Payroll Tax		3,242		
Fringe Benefits Tax		0		
Superannuation		4,044		
Higher Duties		61		
Leave Loading		333		
NT Allowance		0		
Other Allowances		103		
Other Benefits		0		
Overtime		0		
Penalty Payments		0		
Perishable Freight Allow		0		
Recreation Leave Fares		0		
Salary Advances		-1,540		
Total Personnel Costs	<i>106,900</i>	56,687	72,200	15,513
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES				
Property Management		26		
Advertising		0		
Clothing		0		
Communications (Note: 2)		9,622		
Consultants Fees		3,923		
Consumables/Gen Exp		26		
Document Production		0		
Entertainment/Hospitality		627		
Freight		0		
Marketing & Promotions		0		
Membership & Subs		365		
Motor Vehicle Expenses		43		
Office Req's & Stationery		289		
Official Duty Fares		1,768		
Other Plant & Equipment		1,276		
Training & Study Exp		460		
Travelling Allowance		0		
IT Charges (Note: 2)		0		
IT Consultants (Note: 2)		0		
IT Hardware/Software (Note: 2)		0		
Total Operational Exp	<i>28,000</i>	18,424	11,800	-6,624
Grand Total	<i>134,900</i>	75,111	84,000	8,889

Note: 1 Salary costs for the Executive Officer represent the period from November 2001 to 30 June 2002. Whilst the Executive Officer was acting as Director Corporate Support the salary component for that period was provided by the Department.

Note: 2 In regard to other 'corporate costs' such as IT Charges and certain communications costs were borne by the Department (approx: \$27,000) and is not reflected in direct Committee operational expenditure.

4. BUSINESS PLAN

UNIT BUSINESS PLAN

Financial Year 2001 – 2002

Standing Committee on Legal and
Constitutional Affairs

(Committee Secretariat)

Budget Output Group:

Parliamentary Services

Output 1 — Assembly Services

PART 1 BUSINESS UNIT overview

Summary of Business Unit Functions

Provide policy and procedural advice, administrative, financial and resource management support to the Committee to ensure the achievement of its Terms of Reference in an efficient, effective and timely manner.

Business Unit Resource Allocation

Staffing:

- 1 x Executive Officer (AO8) - fulltime
- 1 x Committee Support Assistant (AO1) - casual part-time on contract

Budget	July	November	February	April
Personnel	106,900	72,200	72,200	72,200
Operational (NT Appropriation)	28,000	11,800	11,800	11,800
Operational (Other)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	134,900	84,000	84,000	84,000

PART 2 LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Key Objectives and Outcomes and Outputs

Key Objective (I): To provide parliamentary support to Members, Committees and other clients.

Outcome (1.3): Effective operation of the Committee to undertake inquiries report and make recommendations to the Parliament.

Key Business Outputs:

1. Procedural and Policy Advice (1.3.1);
2. Administrative, Financial and Resource Management (1.3.1);
3. Conduct of Inquiries (1.3.2)
4. Achievement of Terms of Reference (Reports, Discussion Information papers etc) (1.3.2); and
5. Promoting community awareness and involvement (1.3.3).

PART 3 KEY BUSINESS OUTPUTS

KEY BUSINESS OUTPUT 1: Procedural and Policy Advice	
Business Unit Outcome	The provision of accurate, high quality and timely advice to the Chairperson and Members of the Committee on procedural and administrative matters.
Unit Outputs	Performance Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide advice to Committee Chairperson and Members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance by the Chairperson and Members that advice is accurate, impartial, timely and based on all relevant procedural sources.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record decisions of the Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes accurately reflect intent of the Committee.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance procedural knowledge of Committee staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procedural seminars are conducted for committee staff.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that committee system is administered on a uniform basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Executive Officers/Secretaries meet regularly with Clerk and the Speaker as required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate policy and advice to Committee Executive Officers/Secretaries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular meetings between the Clerk and Executive Officers/Secretaries.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Administrative and Procedural documentation are kept up to date 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update on a regular basis all relevant documentation.

Public Hearings and Meetings

<i>Public Meetings and Hearings:</i>	Nil
<i>Deliberative Meetings:</i>	Five (5) held in Darwin.
<i>Briefings:</i>	Nil

Appendix: 4 summarises the Committee's Deliberative Meetings for this financial year.

Statements and Motions

- Committee reconstituted and members appointed to the Committee – moved by the leader of Government Business, Mr S Stirling, MLA – 16 October 2001.
- Variation to the terms of reference of all Assembly Standing Committees to empower a Committee or its sub-committee's to consider the minutes of proceedings, evidence taken and records of similar committees established in previous Assemblies - moved by the leader of Government Business, Mr S Stirling, MLA – 23 October 2001.
- Additional Terms of Reference to enhance the Committee's role and function – by leave, moved by the Attorney-General, Dr P Toyne, MLA – put and passed, 25 October 2001.

KEY BUSINESS OUTPUT 2: Administrative, Financial and Resource Management	
Business Unit Outcome	To ensure the efficient and provision, co-ordination and management of the resources provided to the Committee to undertake its inquiries.
Unit Outputs	Performance Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the Committee with appropriate core and research staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit competent, experienced and qualified staff.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the Committee with adequate facilities and resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the committee secretariat at a high standard together with relevant information management and technology systems.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Committee Business Plans and budget estimates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Plans and core and inquiry budgets are prepared and updated to enable the Committee to conduct required level of activities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor Committee expenditure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All committee expenditure within budget and in accordance with Northern Territory Government policy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Committee with administrative support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct regular reviews on administrative support requirements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage Committee files and documents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee files and documents are accurate, maintained on a regular basis on TRIM and are archived in accordance with requirements of the Parliament and the Northern Territory Government policy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiently process Committee accounts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounts recorded and processed in accordance with the requirements of the <i>Financial Management Act</i>, Treasurer's Directions and Departmental policy.

Administration/Staffing/Resource Management

The Committee Secretariat is staffed by

- 1 x Executive Officer (AO8) - fulltime
- 1 x Committee Support Assistant (AO1) - casual part-time on contract (shared resource with other committees)

Consultants

The Committee at its meeting on 28 November 2001 approve that expertise from officers and constitutional consultants through the Office Solicitor General and where appropriate the Department of Justice be sought as and when required to provide advice to the Committee on constitutional and legal matters; and endorse an indicative annual cost to engage a consultant at a fee up to \$10,000.

During the year the Committee utilised the services of the consultant who attended all of the Committee's five deliberative meetings (\$3,923).

Business Plans and Programs

- 28 November 2001: The Committee, taking into account the additional terms of reference, adopted by the Legislative Assembly on 25 October 2001 approved the development of a program of activity and future strategies. The Committee further resolved that the recommendations from the Committee's *Report into appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood*, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly in April 1999, be used as a focal point in developing its future strategies and programs.
- 1 March 2002: A Program of Activity relating to the Committee's future programs and strategies 2002-04 - adopted. For further detail see Appendix 3 Excerpt of Minutes –Resolution No. 5
- 22 May 2002: Committee's Business Plan which, identified a detailed program of activity, including a methodology to achieve that program and a notional budget for 2002-03 – adopted.

KEY BUSINESS OUTPUT 3: Conduct of Inquiries/Programs	
Business Unit Outcome	To provide the Committee with high quality research support for inquiries and programs including authoritative and well researched briefing papers.
Unit Outputs	Performance Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the Committee with research plans and activity programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance by Members that research plans and activity programs are timely, accurate and comprehensive.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the Committee with high quality briefing papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance by Members to documentation presented for consideration.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake research for committee inquiries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct research using primary and secondary sources relevant to the Committee's term of reference.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect and analyse evidence relevant to terms of reference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence, including submissions, analysed and summarised to Members' satisfaction.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage and manage consultants where they of assistance to an inquiry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultants' selection process is cost – effective and engagement approved by the Committee and is in accordance with Northern Territory Government procurement policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make travel arrangements for Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals for travel include detailed itinerary, list of proposed witnesses and full costing and are submitted are approved by the Committee before proposed visit(s).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct inquiries in accordance with terms of reference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All inquiries competed by due date and within budget.

Inquiries and Programs

On 22 May 2002 the Committee approved its Business Plan which, identified a detailed program of activity, including a methodology to achieve that program and a notional budget for 2002-03:

A. Approved methodology in the conduct of its programs and inquiries:

1. Identify issues (programs) to be addressed by the Committee.
2. Research and prepare background papers for consideration by the Committee.
3. Prepare program activity (including notional budget) for consideration by the Committee.
4. Prepare Discussion Papers on major issues agreed to by the Committee.
5. Advertise inquiry.
6. Call for written submissions.
7. Conduct in-camera and public hearings as required.
8. Release preliminary report or discussion paper for public comment.
9. Call for written submissions on preliminary report or discussion paper.
10. Conduct public hearings for comment on preliminary report or discussion paper.
11. Report preparation for Committee consideration.
12. Report adoption by Committee.

13. Print report.
14. Table report in the Legislative Assembly.
15. Distribute report.
16. Store/archive inquiry documentation; and

B. Notional budget for 2002/03:

Budget (Estimate)	\$
Personnel	\$178,990
Operational	\$163,290
Total	\$342,280

C. Discussion and Information Paper Program

(i) Committee's general reference power: Other constitutional and legal matters and intergovernmental relationships

The additional terms of reference provides a general reference power in respect of legal or constitutional issues, including law reform, parliamentary reform, administrative law, legislative review and inter-governmental relations.

In line with the Standing Committee's approved general methodology in conducting its program of activities, the Committee is currently considering a number of matters.

Taking into account the above, the following subject matters were approved for further consideration by the Committee. The following list has not been prioritised:

- **Constitutional recognition of the rule of law:**

Should the rule of law be recognised in a new Northern Territory Constitution?

- **International Convention and Treaties:**

In what form and manner should International Conventions and Treaties have effect in Northern Territory domestic law?

- **Freedom of Information:**

In what form and manner should the freedom of information apply in respect of the Northern Territory Government and its authorities?

- **Codes of Conduct and registers of pecuniary interests for elected and appointed public officials:**

In what form and manner should a code of conduct apply for elected and appointed Northern Territory officials?

- **The right to administrative decisions:**

In what form and manner should the right to administrative decisions be reflected? Should the right to administrative decisions be constitutionally entrenched?

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- **Regional representation in Parliament:**

Should there be some form of special regional representation in the new State Parliament of the Northern Territory?
 - **Structure of government (Westminster/Presidential):**

Should a new Northern Territory Constitution, based on the Westminster system of representative and responsible government, be continued, or whether modifications should be made to bring it closer to a Presidential system?
 - **Northern Territory voting system:**

In what form and manner should the Northern Territory voting system be reflected in a new Northern Territory Constitution: is the present voting system for the Parliament is adequate or whether a different voting system is desirable?
 - **Recognition of political parties:**

In what form and manner should recognise the role of political parties in the Northern Territory, if at all?
 - **Parliamentary Committee system:**

In what form and manner should a parliamentary committee system be reflected?
 - **Systems of accountability:**
 - (a) Are there adequate forms of accountability by the Northern Territory Government to the people of the Northern Territory?
 - (b) What are the merits and demerits of constitutionally entrenching the right to audit and review government expenditure?
 - **Rights of individuals weighted ahead of collective rights:**

Whether the new Northern Territory Constitution should not only refer to the rights of individuals in the Northern Territory, but also the collective rights of particular groups and organisations and the community as a whole.
 - **Intergenerational rights:**

Whether the new Northern Territory Constitution should deal with intergenerational rights as between successive Northern Territory Governments in any way, so as to encourage responsible government.
 - **Entrenchment of equality of concern and respect.**

Whether the new Northern Territory Constitution should entrench the equal rights of all people in the Northern Territory under the law, in such a way that encourages respect and concern for the rights of others.

(ii) **The Committee's Report into appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood**

The Committee's *Report into appropriate measures to facilitate statehood*, recommended, among other things, that there be a public education program to inform Territorians about what Statehood means and the process of constitutional development, and that they be presented in a dispassionate, balanced and informative manner.

In restarting the process of facilitating and assessing community consultation and involvement in a comprehensive community education program on Statehood, the Committee before embarking on that program, resolved to prepare various Discussion and Information Papers for publication.

A number of draft Information papers have been listed for Committee consideration. Subject areas include (the following is not an exhaustive list):

- A chronology of events since Self-Government (completed).
- New States and State Constitutions.
- What does Statehood mean?
- Financial implications of Statehood.
- Democratic Principles.
- Aboriginals and the Constitution.

D. Inquiry on Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory

On 22 May 2002, the Committee resolved among other things, to conduct an inquiry into matters relating to Indigenous governance in the Northern Territory, in particular, the examination of appropriate relationships that should exist between the Indigenous people/communities of the Northern Territory, the Northern Territory Government and the wider Territory community:

- (a) under the present constitutional/legislative arrangements applying in the Northern Territory; and
- (b) whether those arrangements might have influence upon a future grant of Statehood to the Northern Territory; including
- (c) the question whether the Northern Territory Government should enter into a Framework Agreement or Agreements with the representatives of those Indigenous people/communities.

The Committee begins its inquiry with these objectives in mind:

- to provide an opportunity for reflection and public discussion on the existing legislative, political, administrative, financial and judicial structures and arrangements within the Northern Territory, and on the other alternatives that are available, and to enable Indigenous communities and organisations and the wider community to express their views on these matters.
- to make recommendations that will assist the Northern Territory Government, Indigenous communities and organisations in negotiating and implementing new relationships, particularly with regard to processes for implementing appropriate frameworks of regional or local autonomy, financing and economic development and representative processes, within the overall constitutional position of the Northern Territory (including as a new State).

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- To identify those matters that impact on Indigenous communities and the community as a whole that should or could be included in any Framework Agreement or Agreements that encompass the new structures, arrangements and relationships (see list of possible matters below).
 - To identify the legal and constitutional constraints within which any such Framework Agreement or Agreements must operate, including those constraints arising from the Commonwealth Constitution and the Australian federal system.
 - to develop and make recommendations that will assist Indigenous communities and organisations in the Northern Territory to develop the capacity to manage appropriate and effective legislative, political, administrative, financial and judicial structures and arrangements within the overall framework of the Northern Territory.

It is planned to commence the Inquiry proper in 2002-03.

KEY BUSINESS OUTPUT 4: Achievement of Terms of Reference (Reports, Discussion Information papers etc)	
Business Unit Outcome	To enable the Committee to produce high quality reports and papers.
Unit Outputs	Performance Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the Committee with report outline and/or draft recommendations or draft policy options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report outline and possible findings and/or recommendations, which respond to all key aspects of the inquiry, are submitted to the Committee prior to drafting full report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare draft reports and discussion, information and briefing papers for consideration by the Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports and papers cover all key aspects of the respective program/inquiry are fully documented.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate consideration of draft reports by the Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The views of Committee Members taken into account when final drafts prepared and the report adopted in accordance with the requirements of the Standing and Sessional Orders.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange tabling of committee reports/papers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare reports and papers to a high standard of presentation and table in the Legislative Assembly in accordance with Standing and Sessional Orders.

Discussion and Information Paper Program

- The Committee issued its first Information Paper No. 1: *Northern Territory Constitutional Development and Statehood: A Chronology of Events* (24 June 2002).

Inquiry on Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory

- The Committee issued its Discussion Paper No.1: *Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: An Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory* (24 June 2002).

KEY BUSINESS OUTPUT 5: Promoting community awareness and involvement	
Business Unit Outcome	To improve public and community involvement in the role of the Committee in the parliamentary process and to encourage public input in the activities of the Committee.
Unit Outputs	Performance Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the business of the Committee within parliamentary environment including its Terms of Reference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop marketing strategies, undertake promotional activities and education programs, and conduct public awareness programs. Sponsor and participate in relevant conferences, seminars and meetings. Liase and collaborate with relevant Committees' of other Parliaments, academic institutions as well as government and Non – Government agencies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the public and the community of Committee activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committees use the Internet, media, newsletters to publicise inquiries and presentation of brochures and other public relations information mechanisms.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve standard of Committee public relations material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct regular survey of all public relations information pertaining to the Committee.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage public input in Committee process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertise terms of reference calling for submissions and dates of public hearings in the media and on the Internet.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make Committee reports and other documents available to the public. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute printed copies to interested parties as soon as possible and place reports on the Internet at earliest opportunity.

Promote the business of the Committee - Sponsor and participate in relevant conferences, seminars and meetings

On 1 March 2001, the Committee resolved to promote the issues associated with Northern Territory constitutional development and Statehood in supporting the organisation and the holding of Local Schools Constitutional Conventions in the Northern Territory so as to:

- (a) provide a forum for senior school students to explore constitutional issues that are important and relevant to them;
- (b) encourage senior schools students to be — and to remain — informed, interested and actively involved in the Australian system of government;
- (c) increase overall awareness of key constitutional issues and the developing debate throughout the wider community, via senior school students; and
- (d) ensure that Local Schools Constitutional Conventions become a permanent feature of school programmes.

The Committee further resolved to support the continuation of the Local School's Constitutional Convention program under the auspices of the Australasian Study of Parliament Group (ASPG) - NT Chapter; and subject to the Committee's normal annual

budget allocation, provide funds (in the order of \$12,000) to the ASPG - NT Chapter to organise and hold the annual Local Schools Constitutional Convention.

Informing the public and the community

The Committee has organised to place on its Internet homepage its latest publications at www.nt.gov.au/lant/parliament/committees/lca/lca.shtml:

- Information Paper No. 1: *Northern Territory Constitutional Development and Statehood: A Chronology of Events* (24 June 2002).
- Discussion Paper No.1: *Northern Territory Indigenous Affairs: An Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory* (24 June 2002).

APPENDICES



APPENDIX 1 - COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE



Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- (1) A committee to be known as the Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs shall be appointed at the commencement of each Assembly to inquire, report and make recommendations upon such constitutional and legal matters as may be referred to it by:
- (a) the Attorney-General; or
 - (b) resolution of the Assembly.
- (1A)¹ The committee shall inquire, consider, make recommendations and report to the Assembly from time to time on:
- (a) any matter concerned with legal or constitutional issues, including law reform, parliamentary reform, administrative law, legislative review and inter-governmental relations;
 - (b) the legal or constitutional relationship between the Northern Territory and the Commonwealth;
 - (c) any proposed changes to that legal or constitutional relationship, including the admission of the Northern Territory as a new state of the Commonwealth; or
 - (d) any proposed changes to the Commonwealth Constitution that may affect the Northern Territory and/or its residents;
- (1B) With the approval of the Attorney-General, any other matter concerning the relationship between the Northern Territory and the Commonwealth and/or the states in the Australian federation;
- (1C) Meet with any other state or Commonwealth parliamentary committees to inquire into matters of mutual concern;
- (1D) The Committee shall report to the Assembly as soon as possible after 30 June each year on its activities during the preceding financial year.
- (2)² That, notwithstanding anything contained in Standing Orders, the following members be appointed to the committee: Ms M R Scrymgour, Mr L F Kiely, Mr M Bonson, two members to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, and one independent member, and that the Committee shall elect a government member as Chairman.
- (3) In the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- (4) The committee have power to appoint subcommittees and to refer to any such subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.

¹ Clauses (1A) to (1D) inserted by motion moved by Attorney General Mr Toyne dated 25 October 2001, adopted 25 October 2001

² Clauses 2(A) and 2(B) repealed by motion moved by Mr Stirling dated 16 October 2001, adopted 16 October 2001.

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- (5) Three members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee and three members of a subcommittee constitute a quorum of the subcommittee.
 - (6) The committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, to meet and transact business in public or private session and to sit during any adjournment of the Assembly.
 - (7) The committee shall be empowered to print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by it and, unless otherwise ordered by the committee, a daily Hansard shall be published of such proceedings of the committee as take place in public.
 - (8) The committee have leave to report from time to time and any member of the committee has power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
 - (9) Unless otherwise ordered by the committee, all documents received by the committee during its inquiry shall remain in the custody of the Assembly provided that, on the application of a department or person, any document, if not likely to be further required, may, in the Speaker's discretion, be returned to the department or person from whom it was obtained.
 - (10) Members of the public and representatives of the news media may attend and report any public sessions of the committee, unless otherwise ordered by the committee.
 - (11) The committee may authorise the televising of public hearings of the committee under such rules as the Speaker considers appropriate.
 - (12) The committee shall be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and shall be empowered, with the approval of the Speaker, to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee
 - (13)³ The committee or a subcommittee be empowered to consider the minutes of proceedings, evidence taken and records of similar committees established in previous Assemblies.
 - (14) The foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

³ Clause 13 amended by motion moved by Mr Stirling dated 23 October 2001, adopted 23 October 2001



APPENDIX 2 - FORMER AND CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP



FORMER AND CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Member		Eighth Assembly
Ah Kit, J L	(Alternate Member)	14.10.98 – 24.11.98
Bailey, J D		14.10.98 – 18.06.99
Balch, S J	(Alternate Member)	16.02.99 – 09.05.00
Carter, S J	(Alternate Member)	9.05.00 – 01.08.01
Elferink, J W		20.08.98 – 01.08.01
Hatton, S P	(Chairman)	20.08.98 – 01.08.01
Hickey, M A		20.08.98 – 14.10.98
		10.08.99 – 01.08.01
Lugg, C D		20.08.98 – 10.08.99
McCarthy, T R	(Alternate Member)	14.10.98 – 16.02.99
Martin, C M		20.08.98 – 14.10.98
Mills, T K		10.08.99 – 01.08.01
Stirling, S J	(Alternate Member)	24.11.98 – 01.08.01
Toyne, P H	(Alternate Member)	14.10.98 – 01.08.01
Member		Ninth Assembly
Bonson, M T		16.10.01 – *
Elferink, J W		18.10.01 – *
Kiely, L F		16.10.01 – *
Mills, T K		18.10.01 – *
Scrymgour, M R	(Chairperson)	16.10.01 – *



APPENDIX 3 - EXCERPT OF MINUTES, MEETING NO. 3 – I MARCH 2002:
Resolution No. 5 (in part)



EXCERPT OF MINUTES

Meeting No. 3 – 1 March 2002

Resolution No. 5

REPORT ON FUTURE PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES (2002-04) INCLUDING NOTIONAL BUDGET

Resolution No: 5

The Committee **resolved** to:

1. adopt the *Report on Future Programs and Strategies 2002-04* prepared by the Executive Officer; and
2. approve the following recommendations within the *Report on Future Programs and Strategies 2002-04*:

Recommendation 1: Methodology to be adopted

It is recommended that the Committee adopt the following methodology to be applied in the conduct of its inquiries:

1. Identify issues (programs) to be addressed by the Committee.
2. Research and prepare background papers for consideration by the Committee.
3. Prepare program activity (including notional budget) for consideration by the Committee.
4. Prepare Discussion Papers on issues agreed to by the Committee.
5. Advertise inquiry.
6. Call for written submissions.
7. Conduct in-camera and public hearings.
8. Release preliminary report or discussion paper for public comment.
9. Call for written submissions on preliminary report or discussion paper.
10. Conduct public hearings for comment on preliminary report or discussion paper.
11. Report preparation for Committee consideration.
12. Report adoption by Committee.
13. Print report.
14. Table report in the Legislative Assembly.
15. Distribute report.
16. Store/archive inquiry documentation.

Recommendation 2: The re-commencement of the Statehood process with no fixed target date

It is recommended that the Committee, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, continue to oversight matters in respect of the constitutional process and contribute to that process where appropriate.

Recommendation 3: Commonwealth involvement to ascertain whether a further referendum would be required to recommence the process

It is recommended that the Committee approve the incorporation of this matter within the proposed Discussion or Information Paper considering the terms and conditions of a grant of Statehood and the process of developing a Northern Territory Constitution – See Recommendation 6.

Recommendation 4: Comprehensive public education program on Northern Territory Statehood constitutional development

It is recommended that the Committee approve the preparation of a Discussion Paper for publication and calling for public submissions on options and issues associated with a comprehensive community education program on the implications of Northern Territory Statehood and constitutional development generally.

Recommendation 5: Indigenous framework agreements and recognition and integration of Aboriginal customary law within the broader legal system

It is recommended that the Committee approve the preparation of a Discussion Paper to explore the development of regional framework agreements between the Government and the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory.

Recommendation 6: The holding of a future Northern Territory Constitutional Convention

It is recommended that the Committee approve preparation of a Discussion Paper for publication and calling for public submissions on matters concerning the holding of a future Territory Constitutional Convention, its composition, its role, its obligations and powers and matters of timing.

Recommendation 7: Terms and conditions of a grant of Statehood and the process of developing a Northern Territory Constitution

It is recommended that the Committee approve:

- A. the preparation of a Discussion Paper for publication and calling for public submissions on matters concerning the issues, conditions and procedures pertinent to the entry of the Northern Territory as a new State within the Australian federation;
- B. that the issues and matters contained in the *Statehood Working Group Final Report* be addressed and discussed within the new Discussion Paper including the following;
 - (1) the legal and constitutional implications;
 - (2) financial and economic implications;
 - (3) territorial implications;
 - (4) environmental implications;
 - (5) implications for the mining of uranium and the control of prescribed substances;
 - (6) industrial relations implications;
 - (7) implications for the indigenous residents of the Northern Territory;
 - (8) the level of support in the Northern Territory for the grant of Statehood; and
 - (9) any other matters or issues of relevance the Committee may wish to raise from time to time.

Recommendation 8: Other constitutional and legal matters

It is recommended that the Committee authorise the Executive Officer prepare a further briefing paper for consideration by the Committee, listing the likely subject areas for the preparation of future Discussion and Information Papers and inquiries.

Recommendation 9: Program implementation

It is recommended that the Committee approve the proposed program of future Committee activity as listed in the following Table.

PRIORITY	Constitutional and legal Matters	Statehood and Constitutional Development	Other intergovernmental relationship	Timing
1	Preparation of future Discussion and Information Papers and the conduct of specific inquiries (Recommendation: 8)			Ongoing (including as and when required by Parliament or by the Attorney-General)
Committee's Report into appropriate measures to facilitate Statehood				
1		Continue to Oversight matters in respect of the constitutional process and contribute to that process where appropriate (Recommendation: 2).		Ongoing
2		Discussion Paper to explore the processes that would be envisaged in a Public Education Awareness Program(s) to inform Territorians about what Statehood means and about the process of constitutional development. (Recommendation: 4)		2001-02 2002-03
3		Discussion Paper to explore the development of Regional Framework Agreements between the Government and the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory (Recommendation: 5).		2002-03
4		Discussion Paper to explore the processes of Northern Territory constitutional development, including the holding of future conventions and referendums (Recommendations: 3 and 6)		2003-04
5		Discussion Paper on matters concerning the Issues, Conditions and Procedures Pertinent to the Entry of the Northern Territory into the Federation as a New State (Recommendation: 7).		2003-04



APPENDIX 4 - SUMMARY OF DELIBERATIVE MEETINGS, 2001-02



SUMMARY OF DELIBERATIVE MEETINGS

Meeting No.	Date	Key Agenda Items
1	26 October 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of members to the Committee • Election of Chairperson • Previous reports of similar committees • Proposed New Reference
2	28 November 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receipt of Additional Terms of Reference • Appointment of constitutional consultants through the Office of the Solicitor – General • Notional Annual Program and Budget
3	1 March 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Discussion Paper: Statehood for the Northern Territory • National and Local Schools Constitutional Conventions • Report on East Timor constitutional processes • Report on Future Programs and strategies (2002 – 04)
4	22 May 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on East Timor constitutional processes • Discovering Democracy Workshop: 12 – 14 June 2002 • Committee Business Plan 2002 – 03 – Adoption of plan • Draft Discussion Paper No.1 – Northern Territory <i>Indigenous Affairs: An Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory</i> • Draft Information Paper no. 1 – Northern Territory <i>Constitutional Development and Statehood: A Chronology of Events</i>
5	19/24 June 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Business Plan 2002 – 03 • Adoption of Discussion Paper No.1 – Northern Territory <i>Indigenous Affairs: An Examination of Structural Relationships in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Governance within the Northern Territory</i> • Adoption of Draft Information Paper no. 1 – Northern Territory <i>Constitutional Development and Statehood: A Chronology of Events</i> • Territorians for Northern Territory Statehood Inc.