

STATEMENT BY THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY

Commencement of Inquiry into DSD

The Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security will commence an inquiry into allegations that an individual or individuals employed by the Defence Signals Directorate (DSD) may have improperly accessed information technology equipment used by the Minister for Defence, the Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon MP, and related matters.

An inquiry of this kind is provided for under section 8(2) of the *Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security Act 1986* (the IGIS Act). These provisions of the IGIS Act enable the IGIS to inquire into matters relating to the legality and propriety of the activities of DSD.

Section 17(1) of the IGIS Act requires that inquiries be conducted in private. As a consequence of this statutory requirement, the Inspector-General will not be making any comment while the inquiry is in train.

The Inspector-General is committed to conducting this inquiry in as thorough and timely manner as possible.

27 March 2009