



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Scope

The financial statements and directors' responsibility

The financial statements comprise:

- Statement by Directors;
- Income Statement, Balance Sheet and Statement of Cash Flows;
- Statement of Changes in Equity; and
- Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

of the Central Land Council (the Council) as a Native Title Representative Body for the year ended 30 June 2006.

The members of the Council are responsible for preparing the financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Corporation, and that comply with the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, accounting standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia. The members of the Council are also responsible for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial statements.

Audit approach

I have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to you. My audit has been conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive, rather than conclusive, evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

While the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting was considered when determining the nature and extent of audit procedures, the audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

I have performed procedures to assess whether, in all material respects, the financial statements present fairly, in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Commonwealth*

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