



Investment & Financial Services Association Ltd

ACN 080 744 163

29 February 2000

Professor Richard Snape
Presiding Commissioner
Broadcasting Inquiry
Productivity Commission
Locked Bag 2
Collins Street East PO
Melbourne VIC 8003

Dear Professor Snape

RE: BROADCASTING INQUIRY

The Investment & Financial Services Association represents Australia's leading investment managers and life insurance companies. Our 70 members hold more than \$480 billion in assets under management on behalf of nine million Australians who have superannuation and managed funds.

We write in support of submissions to your inquiry, such as that from Macquarie Bank, proposing legislative amendment to exempt foreign managed investment funds from foreign investment limits and tracing provisions where the investment fund manages a majority of Australian sourced funds.

Such provisions have previously been enacted with regard to the public investment in Qantas and Telstra.

A similar amendment to the Broadcasting Services Act would bring several benefits to Australian financial markets including:

- ensuring consistency across industries in relation to foreign investment;
- increase liquidity and diversity of ownership of media companies; and

- increase investment opportunities for the savings of Australians which are in funds managed by foreigners.

We are pleased to endorse your draft recommendation (8.2) that addresses this issue.

Yours faithfully

Richard Gilbert
Deputy Chief Executive Officer