Dear Minister

In accordance with Section 70 of the Public Service Act 1999, I present the Annual Report of the Australian Bureau of Meteorology for 2007-08.

Also, in accordance with the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines, I certify that the Bureau has prepared a fraud risk assessment and fraud control plan, and has in place, to meet its need, appropriate fraud prevention, detection and investigation procedures.

This report represents the activities, achievements and performance of the Bureau for the 2007-08 financial year. During the year a major reorganisation began that has so far included key changes to the Bureau’s top management structure and business processes. Work is continuing on the implementation of a sustainable model for operations which will allow continued improvement of services to the community into the future.

A significant highlight was the Bureau’s Centenary on 1 January and the celebration of 100 years of science and service with staff, volunteers and the community. To mark the Centenary various activities and events were conducted to recognise the achievements and contributions of all those associated with the Bureau, and others were planned for later in 2008.

As well as maintaining around-the-clock weather forecast and warning services, other notable achievements include:

- good progress with arrangements relating to the Bureau’s new Water Information function;
- the formal establishment, jointly with CSIRO, of the Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research;
- advances with the Australian Community Climate and Earth System Simulator;
- further upgrades and replacements of major observations infrastructure;
- substantial progress on tsunami warning and sea level monitoring systems;
- the ongoing introduction of new and upgraded services; and
- development of a partnership strategy for the provision of a sustainable supercomputing capacity.
I would like to thank all those Bureau of Meteorology staff whose dedicated efforts throughout 2007-08 have ensured the continued provision of a broad range of world class, public good, meteorological and related services.

Yours Sincerely

(Neville Smith)
Acting Director of Meteorology
26 September 2008