

## Media Release

12 November 2010

### IPAA Calls for Five Public Service Values to be Recognised

National President, Percy Allan AM, today said that IPAA welcomed the Australian Public Service Commission's initiative in proposing a new set of Values for Commonwealth public servants. Existing public service values are based on the 1999 Public Service Act.

Professor Allan said "IPAA believes the Australian Public Service Commission should recommend five key values for all public servants. They would require public servants and their agencies being:

1. Committed to Service;
2. Highly Ethical;
3. Accountable;
4. Apolitical; and
5. Merit-based employment.

"A Values Statement based on these traits could build on the 1999 Public Service Act and subsequent work on promoting and embedding APS behavioural traits, while also resonating with public service traditions and being relevant to contemporary challenges.

"In addition IPAA proposes that in order for a Values Statement to be readily recognised, remembered and personally accepted by public servants as a professional imperative it should be prefaced by a short pledge:

*Public servants must prize integrity in the way they do things and accountability for the results they achieve.*

"IPAA strongly supports the adoption of a new Values Statement that can act as both a guide to public service behaviour and a benchmark by which citizens at large can judge their interactions with the Australian Public Service.", Professor Allan concluded.

IPAA's Response to the Australian Public Services Commission's draft Values Statement is appended to this media release. It was prepared by IPAA's National Policy Submissions Committee comprising Andrew Podger AO, Lynne Tacy, Martin Stewart-Weeks, Mark MacDonald and Percy Allan AM (Chair).

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