

Comment from Milton Cockburn:

I am very happy with the McMillan/Carroll recommendations and the Board's acceptance. They went further than I had proposed which was a minimalist approach with ACA remaining but reporting to the Board. I think appeal mechanisms operating outside the ABC will not work (and didn't work) but they have to be taken out of the hands of management. I also think the addition of the Ombudsman (dealing with editorial complaints) is a good idea.

I read Jonathan Holmes' criticism about sidelining the MD. He seems to ignore that fact (or suggests it should be ignored) that the Board is already responsible, under section 8 of the ABC Act for ensuring that news and current affairs is "accurate and impartial". Also the MD is a member of the Board.

Section 8(1)(c) requires the Board to "ensure that the gathering and presentation by the Corporation of news and information is accurate and impartial according to recognised standards of objective journalism".