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THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF TAXATION AGAIN CRITICISES THE AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE

Keo Chui welcomes the recent Inspector-General's *Report into the Length of Time to Complete Tax Office Activities*.

Mr Chui, speaking after the release of the Inspector-General's report, on 28th September 2005, said "it's about time someone was able to bring the ATO to task over extended delays in the way the ATO does its job, when it comes to tax audits".

Mr Chui's comments were echoed by fellow partner, Ms Katherine Chow, who said "the Inspector-General provides a worthwhile public service and the ATO has promptly and properly responded to the critique exposed by the Inspector-General".

Both Mr Chui and Ms Chow expressed the view that too often "lip service" is given to independent reports which are critical of ATO performance. It is now time they said for taxpayers and their advisors to bring the Commissioner to task, where mere "lip service" is given to ATO failings which usually impose a heavy cost on business through management downtime and the incurrence of professional costs.

It should be noted the Commissioner of Taxation has agreed with all of the recommendations made by the Inspector-General.

A copy of the Inspector-General's Report can be found at www.igt.gov.au/content/reports.asp