

WESTPAC BANKING CORP
Form 6-K
October 30, 2003

[QuickLinks](#) -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

Form 6K

Report of Foreign Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

October 30, 2003

WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

60 MARTIN PLACE, SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES 2000, AUSTRALIA

(Address of principal executive offices)

[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports
under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.]

Form 20-F Form 40-F

[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this form is also thereby furnishing the information to
the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Act of 1934.]

Yes No

[If "Yes" is marked, indicate the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):82-]

Index to Exhibits

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 1 | Profit Announcement for the Year Ending September 30, 2003. |
| 2 | 2003 Final Dividend Payment Date and Record Date |

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by
the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION
(Registrant)

Date: October 30, 2003

By: /s/ MANUELA ADL

Manuela Adl
SVP & Chief Operating Officer

Media release

30 October 2003

Westpac Banking Corporation announced on 30 October 2003, a net profit attributable to equity holders ('net profit') of \$2,183 million for the year ended 30 September 2003. Cash earnings(1) attributable to ordinary shareholders was \$2,271 million up 1% on 2002.

Earnings per share(2) were 115.6 cents, down 2% on 2002, and the return on equity(3) was 18.0%.

Directors have determined to pay a final dividend of 40 cents per share, taking the total dividend for the year to 78 cents, an increase of 11% on the prior year.

Earnings have been maintained at the same time as Westpac has invested for the future and without the benefit of AGC earnings that were included in the 2002 results.

Growth in Westpac's lending portfolio has been achieved without compromising asset quality. Stressed loans have declined by a further 9 basis points to 1% of total commitments. The charge for bad and doubtful debts increased by \$24 million or 5% on 2002 as a result of higher dynamic provisioning due to increased organic loan growth.

Westpac's CEO Dr Morgan said: "Today's result shows that Westpac is successfully implementing a range of strategic initiatives, particularly in customer service, that is improving long term earnings sustainability.

"We have the right balance between growth and return, having again delivered consistent earnings growth despite the earnings dilution arising from the sale of AGC in 2002 and the acquisition of Rothschild Australia Asset Management and BT Funds Management."

Westpac's leadership in governance and corporate responsibility was again widely recognised with Westpac rated the global sustainability leader in the banking sector by the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for the second year running and was the only company to receive a AAA rating in the Reputex Social Responsibility Ratings.

Further information: David Lording
Head of Media Relations
61 2 9226 3510

- (1) *Net profit attributable to equity holders is calculated in accordance with Australian GAAP. 'Cash earnings' adds back to net profit the amortisation of goodwill and subtracts distributions paid on hybrid equity instruments. We disclose this measure to investors to promote understanding of our past and future performance indicators. This measure should not be construed as superior to GAAP measures. We reconcile our cash earnings to net profit attributable to equity holders on the next page.*
- (2) *Net profit attributable to equity holders less distributions on other equity instruments divided by the daily weighted average number of ordinary shares.*
- (3) *Calculated by dividing net profit by average total equity.*
-

Edgar Filing: WESTPAC BANKING CORP - Form 6-K

The selected financial data set out below (other than certain percentages and average amounts quoted) have been derived from the consolidated financial statements for Westpac Banking Corporation and its controlled entities ("Westpac") for the years ended 30 September 2001 to 2003, which have been prepared in accordance with Australian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The US GAAP information has also been derived from the consolidated financial statements for Westpac, after having made adjustments for US GAAP requirements.

Translation of our 2003 figures to US currency has been made solely for the convenience of the reader at the rate of AUD1.00 = USD0.6797, the noon buying rate for cable transfers on 30 September 2003, published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. These translations should not be construed as representations that the Australian dollar amounts actually represent such US dollar amounts or have been or could be converted into US dollars at the rate indicated.

When necessary, comparative figures for 2002 and 2001 have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation and classification in 2003.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT DATA

| | Year ended | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | 30 Sept 2003 USD | 30 Sept 2003 AUD | 30 Sept 2002 AUD | 30 Sept 2001 AUD |
| | (in millions) | | | |
| Amounts in accordance with Australian GAAP | | | | |
| Interest income | 6,813 | 10,024 | 9,220 | 10,258 |
| Interest expense | (3,861) | (5,680) | (5,074) | (6,207) |
| | 2,952 | 4,344 | 4,146 | 4,051 |
| Net interest income | | | | |
| Total non-interest income | 2,030 | 2,986 | 2,978 | 2,537 |
| | 4,982 | 7,330 | 7,124 | 6,588 |
| Net operating income | | | | |
| Total operating expenses excluding bad and doubtful debts | (2,669) | (3,926) | (3,995) | (3,570) |
| Operating profit before bad and doubtful debts and income tax expense | 2,313 | 3,404 | 3,129 | 3,018 |
| Bad and doubtful debts | (330) | (485) | (461) | (433) |
| | 1,983 | 2,919 | 2,668 | 2,585 |
| Profit from ordinary activities before income tax expense | | | | |
| Income tax expense | (494) | (728) | (471) | (677) |
| Net profit attributable to outside equity interests | (5) | (8) | (5) | (5) |
| | 1,484 | 2,183 | 2,192 | 1,903 |
| Net profit attributable to equity holders | | | | |
| Amounts in accordance with US GAAP | | | | |
| Net income | 1,349 | 1,984 | 2,579 | 1,769 |

2

Reconciliation of cash earnings

| | Year ended | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2003 | 30-Sep 2002 | 30 Sept 2001 |

Edgar Filing: WESTPAC BANKING CORP - Form 6-K

| | Year ended | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | USD | AUD | AUD | AUD |
| | (in millions unless otherwise stated) | | | |
| Net profit attributable to equity holders | 1,484 | 2,183 | 2,192 | 1,903 |
| Goodwill amortisation | 111 | 163 | 100 | 98 |
| Distributions on other equity instruments | (51) | (75) | (48) | (51) |
| Cash earnings | 1,544 | 2,271 | 2,244 | 1,950 |

3

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

| | As at | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | 30 Sept 2003 USD | 30 Sept 2003 AUD | 30 Sept 2002 AUD | 30 Sept 2001 AUD |
| | (in millions) | | | |
| Amounts in accordance with Australian GAAP | | | | |
| Assets | | | | |
| Cash and balances with central banks | 1,214 | 1,786 | 1,669 | 1,079 |
| Due from other financial institutions | 4,102 | 6,035 | 5,242 | 5,094 |
| Trading securities | 5,977 | 8,793 | 10,643 | 10,629 |
| Investment securities (market value \$3,745m, 2002 \$3,216m, 2001 \$2,814m) | 2,485 | 3,656 | 3,313 | 2,960 |
| Loans | 109,072 | 160,473 | 135,870 | 122,250 |
| Acceptances of customers | 2,575 | 3,788 | 4,788 | 15,700 |
| Life insurance assets | 7,152 | 10,522 | 7,566 | 7,352 |
| Regulatory deposits with central banks overseas | 289 | 425 | 455 | 482 |
| Goodwill | 1,739 | 2,558 | 1,754 | 1,501 |
| Fixed assets | 572 | 842 | 815 | 1,034 |
| Deferred tax assets | 693 | 1,019 | 587 | 441 |
| Other assets | 14,574 | 21,442 | 18,335 | 21,323 |
| Total assets | 150,444 | 221,339 | 191,037 | 189,845 |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Due to other financial institutions | 2,604 | 3,831 | 4,731 | 5,954 |
| Deposits and public borrowings | 87,729 | 129,071 | 110,763 | 96,157 |
| Debt issues | 20,371 | 29,970 | 27,575 | 27,989 |
| Acceptances | 2,575 | 3,788 | 4,788 | 15,700 |
| Current tax liabilities | 211 | 310 | 537 | 303 |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 167 | 246 | 80 | 403 |
| Life insurance policy liabilities | 6,726 | 9,896 | 7,163 | 7,123 |
| Provisions | 314 | 462 | 1,093 | 1,038 |
| Other liabilities | 17,145 | 25,225 | 19,327 | 20,635 |
| Total liabilities excluding loan capital | 137,842 | 202,799 | 176,057 | 175,302 |
| Loan capital | | | | |
| Subordinated bonds, notes and debentures | 2,700 | 3,971 | 3,795 | 4,045 |

Edgar Filing: WESTPAC BANKING CORP - Form 6-K

| | As at | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Subordinated perpetual notes | 389 | 573 | 717 | 793 |
| Total loan capital | 3,089 | 4,544 | 4,512 | 4,838 |
| Total liabilities | 140,931 | 207,343 | 180,569 | 180,140 |
| Net assets | 9,513 | 13,996 | 10,468 | 9,705 |
| Equity | | | | |
| Parent entity interest: | | | | |
| Ordinary shares | 2,700 | 3,972 | 3,503 | 1,751 |
| Reserves | (50) | (73) | 82 | 2,819 |
| Retained profits | 4,991 | 7,343 | 5,930 | 4,174 |
| Total parent entity interest | 7,641 | 11,242 | 9,515 | 8,744 |
| Other equity interests: | | | | |
| New Zealand Class shares | 321 | 471 | 471 | 482 |
| Trust Originated Preferred Securities (TOPrS SM) | 316 | 465 | 465 | 465 |
| Fixed Interest Resettable Trust Securities (FIRsTS) | 445 | 655 | | |
| Trust Preferred Securities (TPS) | 769 | 1,132 | | |
| Total other equity interests | 1,851 | 2,723 | 936 | 947 |
| Total equity attributable to equity holders of Westpac Banking Corporation | 9,492 | 13,965 | 10,451 | 9,691 |
| Outside equity interests in controlled entities (OEI) | 21 | 31 | 17 | 14 |
| Total equity | 9,513 | 13,996 | 10,468 | 9,705 |

4

| | As at | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | 30 Sept 2003 USD | 30 Sept 2003 AUD | 30 Sept 2002 AUD | 30 Sept 2001 AUD |
| | (in millions) | | | |
| Average Balances | | | | |
| Total assets | 142,993 | 210,377 | 186,827 | 178,196 |
| Loans | 103,179 | 151,801 | 134,102 | 118,260 |
| Allowances for loan losses | (1,041) | (1,531) | (1,603) | (1,537) |
| Acceptances | 2,992 | 4,402 | 7,707 | 16,680 |
| Ordinary equity (excluding OEI) | 7,459 | 10,972 | 9,890 | 8,795 |
| TOPrS | 316 | 465 | 465 | 465 |
| FIRsTS | 347 | 511 | | |
| TPS | 101 | 149 | | |
| OEI | 14 | 21 | 16 | 10 |
| Total equity | 8,237 | 12,118 | 10,371 | 9,270 |

As at

Amounts in accordance with US GAAP

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Average total assets | 143,285 | 210,806 | 187,128 | 178,198 |
| Average total equity | 7,600 | 11,182 | 9,999 | 9,071 |
| Average minority interest | 432 | 635 | 481 | 475 |

ASSET QUALITY DATA

Year ended

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 30 Sept 2003 USD | 30 Sept 2003 AUD | 30 Sept 2002 AUD | 30 Sept 2001 AUD |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|

(in millions, except for percentages)

Impaired assets

Non-accrual assets

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Gross | 406 | 597 | 648 | 866 |
| Specific provisions | (108) | (159) | (266) | (299) |
| Net | 298 | 438 | 382 | 567 |

Restructured loans

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Gross | 10 | 15 | 31 | 36 |
| Specific provisions | (1) | (2) | (6) | (8) |
| Net | 9 | 13 | 25 | 28 |

Net impaired assets

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | 307 | 451 | 407 | 595 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|

Provisions for bad and doubtful debts

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| Specific provisions | 109 | 161 | 272 | 307 |
| General provision | 947 | 1,393 | 1,162 | 1,294 |

Total provisions for bad and doubtful debts

| | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1,056 | 1,554 | 1,434 | 1,601 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|

Asset quality

| | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Specific provisions to total impaired assets | 26.3% | 26.3% | 40.1% | 34.0% |
| Total impaired assets to total loans and acceptances(1) | 0.37% | 0.37% | 0.48% | 0.65% |
| Total provisions to total loans and acceptances(1) | 0.94% | 0.94% | 1.01% | 1.15% |
| Total provisions to total impaired assets | 253.9% | 253.9% | 211.2% | 177.5% |
| General provision to non-housing performing loans | 1.7% | 1.7% | 1.7% | 1.8% |

(1)

Loans are stated before related provisions for bad and doubtful debts.

SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED RATIOS

| | Year ended | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | 30 Sept 2003 USD | 30 Sept 2003 AUD | 31 Sept 2002 AUD | 30 Sept 2001 AUD |
| (in millions unless otherwise stated) | | | | |
| Average number of ordinary shares outstanding | 1,824 | 1,824 | 1,812 | 1,801 |
| Distributions on other equity instruments | 51 | 75 | 48 | 51 |
| Ordinary dividends provided for or paid | 914 | 1,345 | 1,266 | 1,106 |
| Ratios in accordance with Australian GAAP | | | | |
| Profitability ratios (%) | | | | |
| Net interest margin(1) | 2.65 | 2.65 | 2.80 | 3.11 |
| Return on average assets(2) | 1.04 | 1.04 | 1.17 | 1.07 |
| Return on average ordinary equity(3) | 19.2 | 19.2 | 21.7 | 21.1 |
| Return on average total equity(4) | 18.0 | 18.0 | 21.2 | 20.6 |
| Capital Ratio (%) | | | | |
| Average total equity to average total assets | 5.8 | 5.8 | 5.6 | 5.2 |
| Total capital ratio (net) | 10.5 | 10.5 | 9.6 | 9.9 |
| Earnings Ratios | | | | |
| Basic earnings per ordinary share (cents)(5) | 78.6 | 115.6 | 118.3 | 102.8 |
| Fully diluted earnings per ordinary share (cents)(6) | 78.4 | 115.3 | 117.9 | 102.4 |
| Dividends per ordinary share (cents) | 53 | 78 | 70 | 62 |
| Dividend payout ratio %(7) | 67.5 | 67.5 | 59.2 | 60.3 |
| Ratios in accordance with US GAAP | | | | |
| Profitability ratios (%) | | | | |
| Net interest margin | 2.65 | 2.65 | 2.80 | 3.11 |
| Net profit attributable to equity holders to average total assets | 0.94 | 0.94 | 1.38 | 0.99 |
| Net profit attributable to equity holders to average total equity | 17.7 | 17.7 | 25.8 | 19.5 |
| Capital Ratio (%) | | | | |
| Average total equity to average total assets | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.1 |
| Leverage ratio %(8) | 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| Earnings Ratios | | | | |
| Basic earnings per ordinary share (cents)(5) | 73.9 | 108.8 | 142.3 | 98.2 |
| Fully diluted earnings per ordinary share (cents) | 73.7 | 108.4 | 141.5 | 97.6 |
| Dividend payout ratio %(7) | 71.7 | 71.7 | 49.2 | 63.1 |

(1) Calculated by dividing net interest income (including gross up) by average interest bearing assets.

(2) Calculated by dividing net profit attributable to our equity holders by average total assets.

(3) Calculated by dividing net profit attributable to our equity holders less distributions on other equity instruments by average ordinary equity.

(4) Calculated by dividing net profit attributable to our equity holders by average total equity.

Edgar Filing: WESTPAC BANKING CORP - Form 6-K

- (5) Based on average number of ordinary shares outstanding including 54 million New Zealand class shares and distributions on other equity instruments of A\$75m (2002 A\$48m, 2001 A\$51m).
- (6) Based on average number of shares and share equivalents and after deducting non-converting preference dividends and distributions on other equity instruments from net profit after tax
- (7) Calculated by dividing dividends per ordinary share by basic earnings per share.
- (8) Leverage ratios have been calculated in accordance with guidelines promulgated by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. The ratio is calculated by dividing Tier 1 capital in accordance with US GAAP by total average assets for leverage capital purposes in accordance with US GAAP.

6

GROUP FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR US INVESTORS

Our operating profit and shareholders' equity adjusted to comply with United States generally accepted accounting principles (US GAAP) are:

| Twelve months to \$m | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2002 | 30 Sept 2001 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | US\$(1) | A\$ | A\$ | A\$ |
| Net profit as reported under Australian GAAP | 1,484 | 2,183 | 2,192 | 1,903 |
| Items having an effect of increasing (decreasing) reported income (related tax impact of item shown separately) | | | | |
| Premises and sites | (72) | (106) | 15 | 54 |
| Amortisation of goodwill | 111 | 163 | 1 | (17) |
| Superannuation (pension) expense | 44 | 64 | 274 | 42 |
| Related income tax expense | (13) | (19) | (83) | (12) |
| Wealth management | (12) | (17) | 124 | (93) |
| Related income tax credit/(expense) | 3 | 5 | (24) | 21 |
| Write-down of available-for-sale securities | (25) | (37) | 149 | (149) |
| Employee share option compensation (under APB 25) | (10) | (15) | (8) | (7) |
| Employee share option compensation (under SFAS 123) | (18) | (27) | (9) | |
| Distributions on other equity instruments | (28) | (41) | (48) | (51) |
| Distributions on other debt instruments | (23) | (34) | | |
| Amortisation of issue costs on other debt instruments | (1) | (2) | | |
| Start-up cost adjustment | | | 24 | 6 |
| Related income tax expense | | | (7) | (2) |
| Other non-financial assets | 5 | 7 | (39) | |
| Related income tax credit/(expense) | 2 | 3 | (19) | |
| Software capitalisation | (3) | (4) | (11) | (4) |
| Related income tax credit | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Effect of initial application of SFAS 133 | | | | (86) |
| Related income tax credit | | | | 29 |
| Derivative instruments (under SFAS 133) | (76) | (111) | (13) | 196 |
| Related income tax credit/(expense) | 18 | 26 | 4 | (62) |
| Difference in carrying value of controlled entity sold | | | 7 | |
| Restructuring costs | (54) | (79) | 67 | |
| Related income tax credit/(expense) | 16 | 23 | (20) | |
| Net income according to US GAAP | 1,349 | 1,984 | 2,579 | 1,769 |
| Adjustments to determine other comprehensive income under US GAAP | | | | |
| Foreign currency translation | (106) | (156) | (76) | 74 |
| Unrealised net gain/(loss) on available-for-sale securities | 106 | 156 | (104) | (1) |
| Reclassification adjustment for (gains)/losses now included in net income | 23 | 34 | | 63 |

Edgar Filing: WESTPAC BANKING CORP - Form 6-K

| Twelve months to \$m | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2002 | 30 Sept 2001 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Total comprehensive income according to US GAAP | 1,372 | 2,018 | 2,399 | 1,905 |

(1)

Australian dollar amounts have been translated into United States dollars solely for the convenience of the reader at the rate of A\$1.00 = US\$0.6797, the noon buying rate for cable transfers on 30 September 2003, published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

7

| Twelve months to: \$m | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2002 | 30 Sept 2001 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | US\$(1) | A\$ | A\$ | A\$ |
| Equity attributable to equity holders of Westpac Banking Corporation as reported under Australian GAAP | 9,492 | 13,965 | 10,451 | 9,691 |
| Adjustments: | | | | |
| Premises and sites | (121) | (178) | (72) | (87) |
| Goodwill | 103 | 151 | (12) | (13) |
| Superannuation (pension) asset | 126 | 186 | 141 | (57) |
| Wealth management assets (net of tax) | (35) | (52) | (40) | (140) |
| Available-for-sale securities | 33 | 48 | (105) | (150) |
| Final dividend provided | | | 651 | 577 |
| Other equity instruments | (1,085) | (1,597) | (465) | (465) |
| Other debt instruments | (447) | (657) | | |
| Start-up costs | | | | (17) |
| Other non-financial assets | (33) | (48) | (58) | |
| Capitalised software | (12) | (18) | (16) | (8) |
| Derivative instruments (under SFAS 133) | (12) | (17) | 68 | 77 |
| Restructuring provisions | (6) | (9) | 47 | |
| Equity attributable to equity holders according to US GAAP | 8,003 | 11,774 | 10,590 | 9,408 |
| Total assets as reported under Australian GAAP | 150,444 | 221,339 | 191,037 | 189,845 |
| Adjustments: | | | | |
| Premises and sites | (121) | (178) | (72) | (87) |
| Goodwill | 103 | 151 | (12) | (13) |
| Superannuation (pension) asset | 181 | 266 | 202 | (81) |
| Wealth management assets | (50) | (74) | (57) | (200) |
| Available-for-sale securities | 31 | 46 | (108) | (150) |
| Start-up costs | | | | (24) |
| Other non-financial assets | (47) | (69) | (39) | |
| Capitalised software | (18) | (26) | (23) | (11) |
| Derivative instruments (under SFAS 133) | (10) | (14) | 97 | 110 |
| Provision for bad and doubtful debts | 149 | 219 | 207 | 161 |
| Deferred tax assets | 73 | 108 | 106 | 219 |
| Total assets according to US GAAP | 150,736 | 221,768 | 191,338 | 189,769 |
| Total liabilities as reported under Australian GAAP | 140,931 | 207,343 | 180,569 | 180,140 |

Edgar Filing: WESTPAC BANKING CORP - Form 6-K

| Twelve months to: \$m | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2003 | 30 Sept 2002 | 30 Sept 2001 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Adjustments: | | | | |
| Final dividend provided | | | (651) | (577) |
| Other debt instruments | 447 | 657 | | |
| Restructuring provisions | 9 | 13 | (67) | |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 91 | 134 | 208 | 158 |
| Other liabilities | 149 | 219 | 207 | 161 |
| Other equity instruments | 1,085 | 1,597 | 465 | 465 |
| Outside equity interest as reported under Australian GAAP | 21 | 31 | 17 | 14 |
| Total liabilities according to US GAAP | 142,733 | 209,994 | 180,748 | 180,361 |
| Net assets according to US GAAP | 8,003 | 11,774 | 10,590 | 9,408 |

- (1) Australian dollar amounts have been translated into United States dollars solely for the convenience of the reader at the rate of A\$1.00 = US\$0.6797, the noon buying rate for cable transfers on 30 September 2003, published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

QuickLinks

SIGNATURES