Alternative Accountability Mechanisms

Mechanism	Description	Strengths	Limitations
Corporate Law	AWB is accountable to shareholders via governance rules. Fiduciary duties, shareholder oversight, or director obligations.	Aligns with AWB's corporate and legal structure.	Self-regulation: Protects shareholder profits, not broader public interest. Directors are incentivised to ignore public harm if it benefits their bottom line.
Statutory Reform	Parliament can amend laws to impose clearer duties.	Democratic and flexible.	Requires political will and legislative action. Sidesteps the very reason separation of powers safeguards were mandated in the first place. Could be demanded by the court, but for 'Legalism'.
Ministerial Oversight	Government ministers can supervise or direct entities acting under statute.	Ensures public interest is considered.	Ministers are rarely held accountable for their own actions, and oversight often amounts to rubber-stamping or backroom deals. It's oversight in name only. No separation of powers.
Market Forces	Competition and reputation discipline behaviour.	Encourages efficiency and responsiveness.	Useless in monopolies: AWB had a statutory monopoly—there was no market. Reputation is a weak deterrent when profits are guaranteed.
Public Scrutiny	Media and civil society pressure entities.	Enhances transparency.	Toothless and easily manipulated: Public outrage doesn't compel compliance. Media narratives can be controlled, and civil society lacks any enforcement power.