1. The *Biodiscovery Act 2004* (Qld) (the Act) commenced by proclamation on 12 November 2004. The legislation provides for streamlined and sustainable access to the State’s native biological resources for the purposes of biodiscovery whilst returning a fair and equitable benefit to the State, for the benefit of all Queenslanders.
2. An independent review of the Act was conducted in 2009, with the report of the independent reviewer tabled out of session in the Queensland Parliament on 1 December 2009.
3. The main findings of the review are:

* the purpose of the Act is being achieved and the regulatory framework of the Act is appropriate;
  + the policy objectives and scope of the Act remain valid;
  + the scope of the Act should not be extended to private land or land over which a native title determination of exclusive possession has been made;
  + the Act should not be amended to afford legislative protection of traditional indigenous knowledge; and
  + implementation of an international regime on access and benefit sharing arrangements should be closely monitored.

1. On balance the review found that the legislation had worked well in the five years following introduction, however it suggested a number of minor changes aimed at improving the operation of the legislation whilst ensuring that it continues to achieve its purpose. In addition, the review recommended increasing public awareness and engagement to improve the operation of the Act.
2. The Queensland Government response to the *Review of the Biodiscovery Act 2004 (Qld)* is largely supportive of the review’s main findings and the recommendations made by the independent reviewer. The proposed response supports in full 13 of the report’s recommendations and, either partially or in-principle, supports another 19 recommendations. On balance, implementation of the recommendations would not change the underlying policy intent or overall legislative framework of the regulatory scheme.
3. Cabinet approved the Queensland Government response to the *Review of the Biodiscovery Act 2004 (Qld)*.
4. *Attachments*

* [Queensland Government response to the *Review of the Biodiscovery Act 2004 (Qld)*,July 2010](Attachments/Qld_Gov_Response_2009_Biodiscovery_Review.pdf)