

First Name: Stephen

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Stakeholder Category: Government

Comments: Review of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity Discussion Paper.

ACT Government Submission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the IGAB Review Discussion Paper.

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS:

Question 1. The ACT believes the IGAB is a suitable mechanism to underpin Australia's national biosecurity system. The priority areas are still appropriate however we believe more emphasis should be put into assisting smaller jurisdictions in addressing gaps in emergency response arrangements.

Question 2. No comment.

Question 3. No comment

Question 4. We believe the IGABS goal and objectives are still relevant and appropriate.

Question 5. The ACT considers Foot and Mouth Disease and Xylella as the most significant future agricultural biosecurity risks and climate change and its impact on the spread of invasive species as the most significant environmental and amenity risk.

Question 6. I don't believe so. More could be done to market the value of Australia's biosecurity system to all stakeholders, emphasising the concept of 'shared responsibility' and the value of the industries it protects.

Question 7. Slow progress in implementing IGAB Schedule 3 - National Biosecurity Information Framework.

Question 8. It would be timely to develop a national biosecurity strategy now that the Commonwealth Biosecurity Act has been enacted.

Question 9. I believe the concept of shared responsibility is still not well understood or accepted by all stakeholders particularly in the area of environmental and amenity biosecurity

Question 10. Full participation of PHC and AHC as member of NBC should be considered. Current arrangements suggests a divide between government and industry.

Question 11. Yes. Development of more practical tools for prioritising investment would be welcome.

Question 12. Generally governments and industry are investing appropriately in the right areas though more investment could be targeted at containment of invasive species.

Question 13. Further development of the national investment portfolio work being undertaken by Dr Hugh Millar will assist in this area.

Question 14. Current biosecurity funding arrangements are still appropriate though the relative ability of smaller jurisdictions to fund all their 'normal commitments' needs to be recognised and the risks assessed.

Question 15. No comment.

Question 16. No comment.

Question 17. No comment.

Question 18. Encouraging industry and community involvement in surveillance with the use of clever technology such as apps and social media.

Question 19. Further research on biological control of invasive species should be a priority.

Question 20. No comment.

Question 21. Effective national data sharing.

Question 22. The value of Australia's agricultural exports continue to grow. The number of incursions avoided. The number of incursion eradicated.

Question 23. No comment.

Question 24. Mining of big data. Engaging the community in collecting data through social media and apps.

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Is this submission confidential? No

Do you agree to be contacted about your submission: Yes