

01 April 2011

### **Supplementary Note**

*In evidence that I presented to the Senate Inquiry into the science underpinning the inability to eradicate the Asian honeybee on 24 March 2011 I often referred to CCEAD. However, whenever I referred to CCEAD I was actually referring to the Consultative Committee on Asian honey bees (CCAHB).*

*When the Asian honeybee was initially detected at Cairns in May 2007 the national response to it was coordinated by the Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases (CCEAD), as the bee may have been carrying the Varroa mite, which was officially categorized as an emergency animal disease (EAD) and thus formed part of the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA). However, when it was determined (by CSIRO) that the Asian honeybee at Cairns was not carrying the Varroa mite, all further responses to it could not be coordinated by CCEAD, as Asian honeybees by themselves were not listed as an EAD under the EADRA. At that point a new committee (CCAHB) was formed to deal with technical aspects of the bee. I was a member of a Scientific Advisory Panel that provided technical advice to CCAHB. When the Asian honeybee became officially listed as an emerging plant pest (EPP) in April 2010 the national response to it was then coordinated by the Consultative Committee on Emerging Plant Pests (CCEPP). There were 2 meetings of the CCEPP Asian Honey Bee before the National Management Group (NMG) decision on 31 January 2011 that the Asian honeybee at Cairns was not eradicable. These were held on 29 October 2010 and the 25 January 2011.*

*CCAHB was an inter-Governmental Committee chaired by the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer and comprised representatives of State, Territory and Commonwealth Governments and industry representatives. CCAHB was formed as a committee that mirrored CCEAD. The CCAHB reported directly to the National Management Group (NMG) and had the power to co-op experts and Industry representatives to attend meetings.*

*Dr Denis Anderson*