

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 34  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)  
**Topic:** Biological Diversity Advisory Committee  
**Hansard Page:** Hansard  
**Question Date:** 23 February 2015  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

1. In MYEFO, pages 160 and 161, it was announced that the Biological Diversity Advisory Committee would be abolished. Just to confirm - other committees, for example the Product Stewardship Advisory Group, were to be abolished as part of the most recent Omnibus Repeal Day Bill. Similar legislative change would be required to abolish the BDAC, is this correct?
2. What plans are there for a Bill to abolish the BDAC?
3. I note that there is no link to the BDAC on the Department website - has this been removed in advance of its abolition, or has there not been one in the past?

**Answer:**

Yes. The Biological Diversity Advisory Committee (BDAC) is created under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Amendments to that Act would need to be made in order to abolish the BDAC. Timing of such processes is at the Government's discretion.

Membership of the BDAC lapsed in 2007 and a website presence has not been maintained for the BDAC since that time.