

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

**Question No:** 58  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)  
**Topic:** National Biosecurity Committee  
**Hansard Page:** 6  
**Question Date:** 23 February 2015  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Singh asked:**

Senator SINGH: How often does that committee meet?

Mr Thompson: I would have to take that on notice. I do know that it does a lot of its work out of session as well. There is a constant flow of work through that committee.

Senator SINGH: With the states and territories?

Mr Thompson: With all members of the committee, yes.

Senator SINGH: You said the states and territories are on that committee.

Mr Thompson: Yes. I will confirm that but that is my understanding.

**Answer:**

The National Biosecurity Committee meets “face to face” twice annually. Teleconferences of the Committee are scheduled on an as-needs basis. In addition, considerable work is undertaken by the Committee between meetings, with an average of 20 papers per year considered out of session.

All Australian states and territories are members of the National Biosecurity Committee. State/territory may have up to two representatives each on the Committee.