

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11
31 May 2010

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: Key priorities

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Eggleston

QUESTION No.: BI-61

What are the CSIRO's key priorities for the next five years?

ANSWER

CSIRO is in the process of developing its Strategic Plan for 2011-2015. This plan will build on the successful creation of ten National Research Flagships as a platform for addressing major national challenges and opportunities, and on the significant achievements of the Flagships so far.

The Flagships will continue to focus on delivering solutions and impact that benefit Australia and which are increasingly globally relevant. During the next five years CSIRO will increase its investment in Flagships and focus them even more on major national and global issues.

CSIRO maintains its strong underpinning research position and is in the top 1 per cent of the world's research institutions in 14 of the 22 research fields used by the Institute for Scientific Information to classify research publications. CSIRO will continue to strengthen this core science capability and apply it through Flagships, while maintaining the ability to respond to short term national needs as demonstrated by CSIRO's recent work on H1N1 and Hendra viruses.