

Biota Holdings Limited

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Update in respect of CEO for Biota Pharmaceuticals

Biota Holdings Limited (BTA:ASX) today announced that it has entered into advanced discussions with Russell H. Plumb, the former President and Chief Executive Officer of Inhibitex Inc., with a view to agreeing on the terms and conditions for the appointment of Mr Plumb as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Biota Pharmaceuticals Inc., the company to be created upon the successful completion of the proposed business combination transaction between Biota and Nabi Biopharmaceuticals Inc. (Nabi). It is also expected that Mr Plumb will be appointed as a director of Biota Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Mr Plumb served as President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Inhibitex Inc., a US publicly-traded, clinical-stage drug development company, from December 2006 through February 2012, when it was acquired by Bristol-Myers Squibb for approximately \$2.5 billion. Prior to its acquisition, Inhibitex focused its resources in recent years on developing antiviral, small molecules, including compounds to treat hepatitis C virus (HCV). From 2000 to December 2006, Mr Plumb was the Chief Financial Officer of Inhibitex, during which time he oversaw numerous financing transactions, including the company's initial public offering in 2004.

The terms, conditions and timing of Mr Plumb's potential employment with Biota Pharmaceuticals Inc. are under discussion and have not been finalised, as the proposed business combination transaction between Biota and Nabi is subject to certain conditions, including, among other things, the approval by the shareholders of both Biota and Nabi at their respective shareholder meetings. The shareholder meetings of both Biota and Nabi to consider the business combination transaction are scheduled to be held later in September.

About Biota

Biota is a leading anti-infective drug development company based in Melbourne Australia, with key expertise in respiratory diseases, particularly influenza. Biota developed the first-in-class neuraminidase inhibitor, zanamivir, subsequently marketed by GlaxoSmithKline as Relenza. Biota research breakthroughs include a series of candidate drugs aimed at treatment of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) disease and Hepatitis C (HCV) virus infections. Biota has a well advanced program for human rhinovirus (HRV) infection with a completed Phase IIb study in asthmatic subjects.

In addition, Biota and Daiichi Sankyo co-own a range of second generation influenza antivirals, of which the lead product Inavir[®], is marketed in Japan. Biota holds a contract from the US Office of Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) for the advanced development of laninamivir in the USA.

Relenza[™] is a registered trademark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies.

Inavir[®] is registered to Daiichi Sankyo.

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