

Biota Holdings Limited

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For Immediate Release

Biota appoints Chief Financial Officer

Melbourne, Australia—15 August 2005; Biota Holdings Limited (ASX:BTA) announced today the appointment of Mr. Damian Lismore to the role of Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary for Biota, effective 26 August 2005.

Mr. Lismore has an impressive accounting and commercial background, which includes 10 years with Price Waterhouse (now PwC) in Australia and 6 years with Deloitte Haskins & Sells in the UK. More recently, he has served as Group Financial Controller for the major Australian pharmaceutical company, Sigma, and as Managing Director of MNT Innovations, the commercial arm of the CRC (Cooperative Research Centre) for MicroTechnology. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Accounting, is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, and a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Biota CEO, Peter Molloy, stated that Mr Lismore's industry background, experience with publicly listed companies, and skills in mergers and acquisitions would fit well with Biota's strategic growth plans.

About Biota

Biota is a world-leading antiviral drug discovery company with its headquarters in Melbourne, Australia. Biota was responsible for zanamivir, the first in class neuraminidase inhibitor, subsequently launched by GSK as Relenza™ in 1999 for the treatment of influenza. In partnership with Sankyo, Biota is developing second generation flu antivirals (LANI or Long Acting Neuraminidase Inhibitors). Biota is also developing potential therapies for the common cold, (Human Rhinovirus or HRV infection, RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) infection, and liver disease caused by hepatitis C. In partnership with Thermo Electron, Biota also markets the FLU OIA® diagnostics range for the rapid detection of influenza.

Media Enquiries

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**Further information available at www.biota.com.au*