

**Recommendation 4.73: Continue collaboration to implement the Productivity Commission's 2004 recommendations on native vegetation and biodiversity**

The Australian Government should continue to work collaboratively with the states and territories to implement the recommendations from the recent Productivity Commission review to enhance the effectiveness of regulatory arrangements for native vegetation and biodiversity.

**Response**

The Australian Government agrees to the recommendation and will continue to work with the states and territories through the Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council – a body which aims to promote the conservation and sustainable use of Australia's natural resources. The Australian Government is working with state and territory governments to improve arrangements for management of native vegetation and biodiversity in line with the recommendations of the Productivity Commission Report, including to ensure landowners are able to manage their properties flexibly.

**Recommendation 4.74: Develop nationally consistent regulation in the plantation timber industry**

The Australian Government should continue to provide national leadership and work with state and territory Governments to develop nationally consistent regulation of the plantation timber industry.

**Response**

The Australian Government agrees to the recommendation. *Plantations for Australia: The 2020 Vision*, which was revised in 2002 and is being implemented by the Australian and state and territory governments in partnership with the plantation growing and processing industries, promotes the continued development of a regulatory framework that supports and complements the policy framework to maintain investor confidence and maintain plantation sector investment. While much of the regulatory framework relating to land use planning is the responsibility of state, territory and local governments, the Australian Government will continue to play a leadership role in implementing the 2020 Vision.