



ASX Release

New Director Joins Avexa Board

Friday 18 November 2005

Research and development biotechnology company Avexa Limited (ASX: AVX) today announced that Stephen Cooper has joined its Board as a Non-Executive Director.

Mr Cooper is a director of Grant Samuel, a leading independent Australasian investment house, where he works with small and large companies to further their development, across a range of industry sectors. Prior to that, he was Senior Manager for KPMG Peat Marwick, Melbourne, in the area of strategic planning and business development.

“Stephen brings a wealth of experience to the Board – in particular his work with emerging small companies and his M&A background will make a valuable contribution to the future of Avexa,” said Dr Hugh Niall, Chairman of Avexa Limited.

“Stephen joins the Board at a pivotal time in the Company’s growth as we move to complete the Phase IIb trial of AVX754, our lead HIV compound, early in the new year. His knowledge and acumen in the areas of corporate finance and capital markets will be invaluable as Avexa continues to reach significant milestones in its development,” said Dr Niall.

Mr Cooper holds an Honours Degree in Commerce from the University of Cape Town and is an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants (Aust) and Associate of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (UK). He joins Dr Hugh Niall, Ms Helen Cameron, Dr Errol Malta and Dr Julian Chick on the Board of Avexa.

The appointment of Mr Cooper to the Avexa Board will begin immediately.

For more information:

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About Avexa

Avexa Limited is an ASX-listed Melbourne-based biotechnology company with a focus on research and development of anti-infectives. The company is developing drugs for the treatment of infectious diseases which have a significant unmet medical need. Avexa is focused on developing therapies for the treatment of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis, and an antibiotic alternative for antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections. The company recently in-licensed the Phase II stage drug, AVX754, from global specialty pharmaceutical company Shire Pharmaceuticals Group. Avexa is currently undertaking Phase IIb trials on AVX754 with results expected in the first quarter of 2006. Avexa has followed the ASX Code of Best Practice for Biotechnology C