



ASX AND MEDIA RELEASE

Financial results for 2004

BRISBANE, Australia, 10 August, 2004: Peplin Biotech Ltd (ASX: PEP) today released its audited financial results for the year ended 30 June 2004. Total revenue for the 12 months to 30 June 2004 was \$6.4 million, \$3.2 million or 98% higher than for the same period last year. The consolidated net loss for the 12 months to 30 June 2004 was \$5.1 million compared with a net loss of \$3.7 million last year.

Peplin's Managing Director and CEO, Michael Aldridge commented "The loss was in line with expectations and is a direct function of the significant increase in the number and scale of product development programs underway. Peplin's major focus this past year has been to build and advance its product pipeline. Today, Peplin's pipeline is three times larger and more advanced than it was at this time last year"

Research and development expenses increased to \$9.9 million in the 12 months to 30 June 2004 from \$5.2 million last year. This reflects the significant increase in investment made during this period and arises principally from:

- increased contracted research, development and production activities primarily relating to:
 1. PEP005 pre-clinical toxicology and pharmacology for both the skin cancer and leukaemia programs;
 2. PEP005 Topical product formulation development and manufacturing; and
 3. production and manufacturing process development and optimisation (some of which was funded by Allergan); and
- a decision by the Board to fully amortise the acquisition costs of the EPUFA portfolio of potential therapeutic products.

General and administrative expenses were \$1.5 million in the 12 month period to 30 June 2004 as compared with \$1.7 million last year.

Cash as at 30 June 2004 was \$7.6 million as compared to \$6.4 million at the same time in 2003.

"Although Peplin has significantly increased the scale of its business over the last 12 months this has been achieved while keeping corporate expenses under control. Importantly we finished the year in a strong cash position" said Mr Aldridge.

ABOUT PEPLIN

Peplin is focused on the discovery, development and commercialisation of prescription human therapeutic products for the treatment of cancer and other diseases which have limited therapeutic options. Peplin's strategy is to leverage its pipeline of novel proprietary products through collaborative development and commercialisation arrangements with international pharmaceutical companies. Peplin's lead product is a potential topical therapy for actinic keratosis and non-melanoma skin cancer. It is the subject of a joint development agreement with Allergan, Inc. of Irvine, California for commercialisation in North and South America. Peplin retains rest of world rights for PEP005 Topical and all rights world wide to other oncology applications of PEP005.

Peplin's earlier stage pipeline is targeted at bladder cancer using PEP005 in an intracavity or intravesical formulation (PEP005 IC) and leukaemia using an intravenous formulation (PEP005 IV). Its new portfolio of EPUFA compounds opens additional potential opportunities in cancer and adds candidates for cardiovascular disease, pain, inflammation and diabetic complications.

Further information on Peplin:

Michael Aldridge
Managing Director & CEO
Tel: 07-3250-1200
michael.aldridge@peplin.com

Media enquiries:

Anita Westerberg-Jaensch
PhillipsGroup
Tel: 07-3230 5000
awesterberg-jaensch@phillipsgroup.com.au

Peplin Biotech Ltd ABN 55 090 819 275

Level 2, Brisbane Portal, 1 Breakfast Creek Road, Newstead, Queensland 4006, Australia.

Tel: 61-7-3250 1200

Fax: 61-7-3250 1299

www.peplin.com