



16 November 2018

(18-7206)

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Committee on Agriculture

Original: English

### NOTIFICATION

The following submission, dated 1 November 2018, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of **Australia**. The notification concerns new or modified domestic support measures exempt from reduction (**Table DS:2**).

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**Table DS:2****DOMESTIC SUPPORT: AUSTRALIA****NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 18:3 OF THE AGREEMENT:  
NEW OR MODIFIED DOMESTIC SUPPORT MEASURES EXEMPT FROM REDUCTION**

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**(1) FULL TITLE OF MEASURE:**

Established pest animals and weeds management

**(2) DOMESTIC LEGISLATION REFERENCE:**

Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997 (Cth)

**(3) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE WITH REFERENCE TO CRITERIA:**

This measure is exempt from reduction commitments consistent with Annex 2, paragraph 2(b) regarding pest and disease control.

The management of established pest animals and weeds measure is supported by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. The aim of the measure is to improve the management of established pest animals and weeds to reduce their incidence, distribution and impact on agricultural competitiveness and subsequently improve Australia's environment and natural resource base (land, water and vegetation). Funding is supporting the development and implementation of new or improved control tools or technologies, building the skills and capacity of landholders, the community and industry and assisting in national coordination and collaboration to manage established pest animals and weeds, as well as collecting and disseminating information to build awareness amongst landholders and the community of the benefits of pest animals and weeds management and costs of inaction.

**(4) COST OF MEASURE:**

2015-2017 expenditure AUD 13.9 million. Overall budgeted cost AUD 50 million.

**(5) DATE OF ENTRY INTO EFFECT:**

4 July 2015

**(6) PERIOD OF APPLICATION:**

4 July 2015 - to 30 June 2019

**(7) PRODUCTS TO PRINCIPALLY BENEFIT (IF ANY INDIVIDUAL PRODUCT(S)):**

No specific product

**Table DS:2****DOMESTIC SUPPORT: AUSTRALIA****NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 18:3 OF THE AGREEMENT:  
NEW OR MODIFIED DOMESTIC SUPPORT MEASURES EXEMPT FROM REDUCTION****(1) FULL TITLE OF MEASURE:**

Plant Biosecurity Programs

**(2) DOMESTIC LEGISLATION REFERENCE:**

Nil

**(3) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE WITH REFERENCE TO CRITERIA:**

This measure is exempt from reduction commitments consistent with Annex 2, paragraph 2(b) regarding pest and disease control.

This represents various programs relating to pest and disease control managed by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources including:

- National Surveillance Workshop
- Implementing the National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostics Strategy
- eLearning for Registered Crop Monitors for nectarines
- National plant health surveillance program
- National exotic fruit fly surveillance program
- National grower-led plant health surveillance system
- Grant to improve biosecurity capabilities for demonstrating pest area freedom
- Grant to investigate the use of smart traps in fruit fly surveillance
- National Bee Pest Surveillance Program Enhancements
- National diagnostic protocols and standards development
- Evaluation of biological collections to support trade, biosecurity and market access
- Upgrade of the National Plant Biosecurity Diagnosticians Network
- Annual surveillance workshop 2018.

**(4) COST OF MEASURE:**

2016/2017 expenditure AUD 3.649 million.

**(5) DATE OF ENTRY INTO EFFECT:**

1 July 2016

**(6) PERIOD OF APPLICATION:**

2016 onwards

**(7) PRODUCTS TO PRINCIPALLY BENEFIT (IF ANY INDIVIDUAL PRODUCT(S)):**

No specific products

**Table DS:2**

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: AUSTRALIA**

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 18:3 OF THE AGREEMENT:  
NEW OR MODIFIED DOMESTIC SUPPORT MEASURES EXEMPT FROM REDUCTION**

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**(1) FULL TITLE OF MEASURE:**

Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation (ATMAC) program

**(2) DOMESTIC LEGISLATION REFERENCE:**

Nil

**(3) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE WITH REFERENCE TO CRITERIA:**

This measure is exempt from reduction commitments consistent with Annex 2, paragraph 2(d) regarding extension and advisory services.

The Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation program (the ATMAC program) is supported by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. It was established under the accessing premium markets initiative of the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper. This initiative aims to assist in breaking down technical barriers to trade for Australian agricultural exports and secure new and improved access to premium markets.

**(4) COST OF MEASURE:**

Overall budgeted cost AUD 3.1 million.

**(5) DATE OF ENTRY INTO EFFECT:**

4 March 2016

**(6) PERIOD OF APPLICATION:**

4 March 2016 to 30 June 2019

**(7) PRODUCTS TO PRINCIPALLY BENEFIT (IF ANY INDIVIDUAL PRODUCT(S)):**

No specific product.

**Table DS:2**

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: AUSTRALIA**

NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 18:3 OF THE AGREEMENT:  
NEW OR MODIFIED DOMESTIC SUPPORT MEASURES EXEMPT FROM REDUCTION

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**(1) FULL TITLE OF MEASURE:**

Healthy Soils and Premium Foods

**(2) DOMESTIC LEGISLATION REFERENCE:**

South Australia Natural Resources Management Act 2004

**(3) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE WITH REFERENCE TO CRITERIA:**

This measure is exempt from reduction commitments consistent with Annex 2, paragraph 2(d) regarding extension and advisory services.

The Healthy Soils for Premium Food Program is supported by the Australian Government and engages with regional and agricultural industry delivery partners to encourage the adoption of improved farming practices, promote the integration of sustainable agriculture with the management of natural resources, and improve the sustainable management of soil that underpins the production of premium food.

**(4) COST OF MEASURE:**

2016/2017 expenditure AUD 0.069 million. Overall budgeted cost AUD 0.139 million.

**(5) DATE OF ENTRY INTO EFFECT:**

1 July 2016

**(6) PERIOD OF APPLICATION:**

1 July 2016 - 30 June 2018

**(7) PRODUCTS TO PRINCIPALLY BENEFIT (IF ANY INDIVIDUAL PRODUCT(S)):**

No specific products

**Table DS:2****DOMESTIC SUPPORT: AUSTRALIA****NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 18:3 OF THE AGREEMENT:  
NEW OR MODIFIED DOMESTIC SUPPORT MEASURES EXEMPT FROM REDUCTION**

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**(1) FULL TITLE OF MEASURE:**

Northern Australia Beef Roads Program

**(2) DOMESTIC LEGISLATION REFERENCE:**

National Land Transport Act 2014

**(3) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE WITH REFERENCE TO CRITERIA:**

This measure is exempt from reduction commitments consistent with Annex 2, paragraph 2(g) regarding infrastructure services.

The AUD 100 million Northern Australia Beef Roads Program (Beef Roads Program) is supported by the Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Rural Development and Cities. It forms part of the White Paper on Developing Northern Australia, but was announced during the 2015 Budget, aims to improve the reliability, productivity and resilience of cattle supply chains in northern Australia and thereby reduce freight costs and strengthen links to markets, through undertaking targeted upgrades to key roads necessary for the transportation of cattle.

**(4) COST OF MEASURE:**

The appropriation for financial year 2016-17 is AUD 1.7 million. Overall Program funding from 2016-17 to 2019-20 is AUD 100 million.

**(5) DATE OF ENTRY INTO EFFECT:**

The Beef Roads Program was announced on 8 May 2015.

**(6) PERIOD OF APPLICATION:**

Funding is available over four years from 2016-17 to 2019-2020.

**(7) PRODUCTS TO PRINCIPALLY BENEFIT (IF ANY INDIVIDUAL PRODUCT(S)):**

Cattle, with benefits to both the broader agriculture industry and other road users.

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NEW OR MODIFIED DOMESTIC SUPPORT MEASURES EXEMPT FROM REDUCTION**

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**(1) FULL TITLE OF MEASURE:**

Agriculture Infrastructure and Jobs Fund (AIJF)

**(2) DOMESTIC LEGISLATION REFERENCE:**

The establishment of the AIJF was subject to the successful passage of the Delivering Victorian Infrastructure (Port of Melbourne Lease Transaction) Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 22 March 2016.

**(3) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE WITH REFERENCE TO CRITERIA:**

This measure is exempt from reduction commitments consistent with Annex 2, paragraph 2(g) regarding infrastructure services.

The AIJF is supported by the Victorian Government and comprises two funding streams – Infrastructure (AUD175 million) which includes the Major Capital Works program and the Local Roads to Market Program; and Program (AUD25 million). The streams are designed to reduce costs to farmers, businesses and industries and strengthen sector resilience. Infrastructure stream supports investment in enabling economic infrastructure along agriculture supply chains to boost productivity, increase exports and reduce costs to farmers. The Program Stream focuses on improving market access and traceability for the sector, supporting agricultural productivity and assisting farm businesses to innovate and develop skills for the modern agriculture sector.

**(4) COST OF MEASURE:**

2016–2017 expenditure AUD 75 million. Overall budgeted cost AUD 200 million.

**(5) DATE OF ENTRY INTO EFFECT:**

The AIJF was announced by the Victorian Premier on 2 August 2015, but was not officially launched until 22 July 2016.

**(6) PERIOD OF APPLICATION:**

July 2016 to June 2019.

**(7) PRODUCTS TO PRINCIPALLY BENEFIT (IF ANY INDIVIDUAL PRODUCT(S)):**

No specific product.

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**(1) FULL TITLE OF MEASURE:**

Flood Recovery Loan Scheme

**(2) DOMESTIC LEGISLATION REFERENCE:**

No legislation exists, concessional loan scheme for eligible businesses effected by the floods. Loans ranged from AUD 25,000 to AUD 200,000.

**(3) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE WITH REFERENCE TO CRITERIA:**

This measure is exempt from reduction commitments consistent with Annex 2, paragraph 8 regarding relief from natural disasters.

The Flood Recovery Loan Scheme is supported by the Tasmanian Government and provided financial assistance to Tasmanian Primary Producers that are located within flood declared local areas that have suffered direct damage as a result of the 2016 floods. Assistance under the scheme was by way of a loan to applicants that were in urgent and genuine need of assistance. The loan was available for essential working capital and replacement and repair of damage caused to the property, associated improvements and plant and equipment not covered by insurance. Loans ranged from AUD 25,000 to AUD 200,000.

**(4) COST OF MEASURE:**

2016-2017 expenditure AUD 0.077 million and 2017-2018 AUD 0.033 million.

**(5) DATE OF ENTRY INTO EFFECT:**

June 2016.

**(6) PERIOD OF APPLICATION:**

June 2016 – July 2017.

**(7) PRODUCTS TO PRINCIPALLY BENEFIT (IF ANY INDIVIDUAL PRODUCT(S)):**

No specific product.

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