



21 January 2016

(16-0442)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, received on 21 January 2016, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Australia.

New draft biosecurity regulations out for consultation

The Australian Government, through the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, has released further draft regulations under Australia's new Biosecurity Act 2015 for public consideration.

The following draft regulations have been published on the department's website:

- Biosecurity (General) Regulation 2015: Approved Arrangements;
- Biosecurity (General) Regulation 2015: Inspector-General of Biosecurity- Biosecurity (General) Regulation 2015: Infringement Notices;
- Biosecurity (General) Regulation 2015: First Points of Entry.

Approved Arrangements provide an opportunity for businesses to enter into a voluntary arrangement with the Commonwealth to manage the biosecurity risk associated with their activities.

The Inspector-General of Biosecurity is an important statutory position to provide independent oversight of our system.

Infringement notices are one of the tools we have to manage compliance with Australia's biosecurity requirements.

First points of entry are required to ensure that overseas aircraft and any goods on board enter Australia at a designated place that has the appropriate facilities to effectively manage biosecurity risks.

The release of the draft regulations gives interested clients, stakeholders and trading partners the opportunity to provide feedback on how the regulations will work in practice when Australia's new Biosecurity Act takes effect on 16 June 2016.

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources is working in consultation with the Department of Health to implement the new legislation and develop the delegated legislation including the draft First Points of Entry Regulation.

For more information, or to make a submission, please visit: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecuritylegislation> or contact the Biosecurity Legislation Implementation Support Office at newbiosecuritylegislation@agriculture.gov.au.

Submissions on the draft First Points of Entry Regulation relating to human health can be directed to the Department of Health. Please visit the Department of Health's website for more information: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-biosecurity-bill.htm>

This addendum concerns a:

- ☐ Modification of final date for comments
- ☐ Notification of adoption, publication or entry into force of regulation
- ☐ Modification of content and/or scope of previously notified draft regulation
- ☐ Withdrawal of proposed regulation
- ☐ Change in proposed date of adoption, publication or date of entry into force
- ☒ Other: New draft biosecurity regulations out for consultation

Comment period: *(If the addendum extends the scope of the previously notified measure in terms of products and/or potentially affected Members, a new deadline for receipt of comments should be provided, normally of at least 60 calendar days. Under other circumstances, such as extension of originally announced final date for comments, the comment period provided in the addendum may vary.)*

- ☐ Sixty days from the date of circulation of the addendum to the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): Consultation on the draft regulations for Approved Arrangements, Inspector-General of Biosecurity and Infringement Notices closes on 10 February 2016; with consultation on the First Points of Entry closing on 10 March 2016.

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: ☒ National Notification Authority, ☒ National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

The Australian SPS Notification Point
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia
Fax: +(61 2) 6272 3678
E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au

Specific enquires about the new legislation and implementation process may be sent to:
Biosecurity Legislation Implementation Support Office
Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601
E-mail: newbiosecuritylegislation@agriculture.gov.au

Text(s) available from: ☒ National Notification Authority, ☒ National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

The Australian SPS Notification Point
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