

17 November 2017

Original: English

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

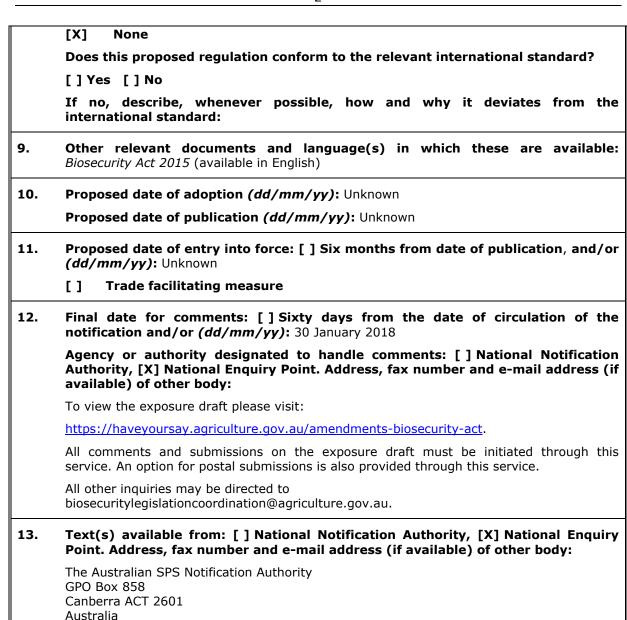
- 1. Notifying Member: AUSTRALIA If applicable, name of local government involved: 2. Agency responsible: Department of Agriculture and Water Resources 3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): General importation of goods to Australia 4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All trading partners [X] [] **Specific regions or countries:** 5. Title of the notified document: Exposure draft Biosecurity Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2017. Language(s): English. Number of pages: 12
- **6. Description of content:** The Australian Government, through the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, has commenced consultation on an exposure draft of the Biosecurity Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2017 (the Bill).

The Bill makes amendments to the *Biosecurity Act 2015* to enhance operation of Australia's biosecurity framework. The measures included in the Bill will:

- enhance information gathering powers to assist in the management of biosecurity risk;
- make minor and technical amendments to improve administration of the Biosecurity Act 2015 by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and the Department of Health;
- provide an improved ability to amend legislated biosecurity import conditions in response to changing biosecurity risk.

Consultation on the exposure draft commenced on 17 November 2017 and will close on 30 January 2018. The Australian Government encourages all interested stakeholders to read the exposure draft and participate in the consultation process via https://haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/amendments-biosecurity-act.

- 7. Objective and rationale: [] food safety, [X] animal health, [X] plant protection, [X] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [X] protect territory from other damage from pests.
- 8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:
 - [] Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):
 - [] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):
 - [] International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):



E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au