



5 March 2020

(20-1735)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, received on 3 March 2020, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Australia.

Agricultural Export Legislation - Passed the Australian Parliament, the Export Control Bills Package 2019

The Australian Parliament has passed the Export Control Bills Package 2019 (the Bills Package) without amendment on 27 February 2020. The Bills Package consists of the Export Control Bill 2019 (the Bill), Export Control (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provision) Bill 2019 and three Imposition Amendment Bills 2019 (Excise, General and Customs). Each Bill is accompanied by an Explanatory Memorandum and the Explanatory Memorandum for the Bill includes a Regulation Impact Statement (SPS Notification G/SPS/N/AUS/433/Add.2 Refers). The Bills will become Acts when they shortly receive Royal Assent.

The Bill consolidates export-related provisions currently within the *Export Control Act 1982* and *Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997* into a single Export Control Bill. Commodity-specific requirements will be reflected in the new Export Control Rules (the rules), which will replace the current Export Control Orders without changing their intent. Initial consultation on draft Meat, Milk, Eggs and Fish rules has already taken place, with drafting continuing on the remaining commodity specific rules. Trading partners will be provided with an opportunity to comment on all the rules in 2020.

The improved legislative framework will commence shortly before 1 April 2021.

Trading Partners should be assured that existing levels of government oversight and regulatory powers will be maintained within the new legislation. Australia's ability to meet importing country requirements and international trade obligations will not be impacted as a result of these improvements.

Improved export legislation provides the framework for complying with exporting requirements, creating a system that is more flexible and efficient to administer. This will ensure the continued integrity of Australia's export system and promote consistent and efficient administration across Australia's export chains.

Business practices and regulatory requirements will remain consistent between the current and future legislation. The continuation of current business practices means costs for regulatory services will remain the same.

Further information on the Bill is available from the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment website at agriculture.gov.au/improving-export-legislation

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:

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): Not applicable.

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 Authority
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia
Email: sps.contact@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 Authority
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