

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/AUS/163

15 June 2004

(04-2594)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>AUSTRALIA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)
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): Seafood at the primary production level.
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All Countries. Imported (as well as domestically produced) foods sold in Australia.
5.	Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Assessment Report for Proposal P265 – Primary Production and Processing Standard for Seafood (Australia only) (271 pages, in English).
6.	Description of content: The Seafood Draft Assessment Report contains a scientific evaluation of the safety of seafood, options for the management of seafood safety and a draft standard proposed for incorporation into the <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> . It proposes to extend mandatory food safety requirements to the -production and processing of seafood, and requires documented food safety management systems for the production, harvesting and primary processing of bivalve molluscs.
7.	Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests All proposals to change the <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> , must be assessed in the context of the following objectives: (a) the protection of public health and safety; (b) the provision of adequate information relating to food to enable consumers to make informed choices; and (c) the prevention of misleading or deceptive conduct.
8.	International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: Recommendations are consistent with Codex.
9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> (English)
10.	Proposed date of adoption: Notification to Government anticipated February 2005, with adoption (gazetted) to follow, pending Government consideration.

11. Proposed date of entry into force: Two (2) years after gazettal pending Government consideration (see 10. above).
12. Final date for comments: 9 August 2004 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Food Standards Australia New Zealand PO Box 7186 Canberra BC ACT 2610 Australia Fax: + 61 2 6271 2278 E-mail: info@foodstandards.gov.au
13. Texts available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Documents are available from the Food Standards Australia New Zealand website: www.foodstandards.gov.au/standardsdevelopment . Copies are also available from: The Australian SPS Notification Point GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601 AUSTRALIA Fax: +61 2 6272 3678 Email: sps.contact@affa.gov.au