

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>AUSTRALIA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Australia New Zealand Food Authority
3.	Products covered (tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Foods derived from gene technology
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Explanatory Notes - Proposal P97 (9 pages)
5.	Description of content: A proposal to include a standard, A18 - Food Derived from Gene Technology, in the Australian <i>Food Standards code</i> . This standard will establish the requirement to assess the safety of foods derived from gene technology on a case-by-case basis. It is proposed that individual foods derived from gene technology will be permitted to be sold only when approved and specified in the standard. Safety assessments will be conducted using the guidelines referred to in 8 below.
6.	Objective and rationale: Food safety
7.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist [X]. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations:
8.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Information Paper <i>Assessment Guidelines for foods and food ingredients to be included in Standard A18 - Food Derived from Gene Technology</i> (29 pages)
9.	Proposed date of adoption: Recommendation to Government anticipated July 1997
10.	Proposed date of entry into force: Anticipated entry into force December 1997

- 11. Final date for comments:** The domestic closing date for comments is 3 April 1997 however comments from members can be accepted until 30 April 1997.

Agency or authority designated to handle comments:

- 12. Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telefax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:**

Australia New Zealand Food Authority

Fax: + 61 6 271 22 78, quoting Proposal P97