

NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>AUSTRALIA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Australia New Zealand Food Authority (ANZFA)
3.	<p>Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable). All beef and beef-based products, defined as tissue from cattle, buffalo and bison, but excluding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) collagen from bovine skins and hides (including sausage casings produced from this type of collagen);(b) bovine fats and bovine tallow;(c) gelatine sourced from bovines;(d) milk and other dairy products sourced from bovines. <p>Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All countries</p>
4.	<p>Title and number of pages of the notified document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE): human health requirements for the importation of beef and beef products (certification requirements);(b) Imports of beef and beef products – implications for human health and rationale for Australia's policy;(c) Australian questionnaire to assess BSE country freedom. <p>Documents available at www.anzfa.gov.au.</p>
5.	<p>Description of content: A new national food standard within the <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> has been agreed to by Australia's Food Standards Council to replace the interim measure announced by Australia on 5 January 2001 (G/SPS/N/AUS/125). The Standard, which was developed to meet Australia's appropriate level of protection, only applies to Australia and requires that beef and beef products sold in Australia be sourced from cattle herds which are free from BSE. A system for the certification of countries intending to export beef and beef products to Australia will be implemented to ensure that all countries comply with the BSE Standard. Countries wishing to export beef and beef products to Australia will need to undergo classification by ANZFA with regard to their BSE-risk status. Countries will need to make a formal application to ANZFA for BSE risk classification through completion of a detailed questionnaire. Exporting countries will be classified into one of four BSE-risk categories: Categories A, B, C and D (see accompanying documents for an explanation of categories). The stringency of the certification requirements for a country will be commensurate with the BSE-risk status of a country as determined by ANZFA, including by reference to relevant international standards and risk assessments undertaken by other countries.</p>

6.	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
7.	Nature of the urgent problem(s): Potential presence of BSE in beef and beef products sold in Australia and consequent risk of contracting vCJD.
8.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> . If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give its appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:
9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Subclause 7(2) and 7(3) in Standard C1 in Volume 1 and clause 11(1) and 11(2) in Standard 2.2.1 in Volume 2 of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code. Available in English at www.anzfa.gov.au
10.	Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable): 1. Application by countries for BSE categorisation required by 15 September; 2. Certification in force from 16 September.
11.	Texts available from/and 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: