

11 October 1999

## ANIMAL QUARANTINE POLICY MEMORANDUM 1999/68

Chief Veterinary Officers, all States and the NT  
Animal Programs Section, AQIS Operations  
Office of the Australian CVO  
Animal Diseases/Incidents Section, LPD, DPIE  
Animal and Plant Health Branch, BRS  
Australian Egg Industry Association  
Australian Ostrich Association  
Australian Chicken Growers Council Ltd  
Australian Chicken Meat Federation

CSIRO Division of Animal Health  
National Farmers' Federation  
Quarantine and Animal Health Task Force, NFF  
Australian Animal Health Council  
Australian Veterinary Association  
Australian Livestock Exporters' Council  
National Meat Association of Australia  
National Poultry Association  
Australian Poultry Industries' Association

Veterinary Attache, Embassy of the USA  
Veterinary Counsellors, Washington, Brussels & Seoul  
Agricultural Counsellor, Tokyo

Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of Thailand  
EU Delegation, Canberra  
Chief Veterinary Officer, MAF RA, NZ

### IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS: UNCOOKED CHICKEN MEAT

#### CONSULTATION ON SCOPE AND PROCESS ISSUES

This Animal Quarantine Policy Memorandum (AQPM) provides details, and seeks stakeholder comment, on the scope of and process to be followed in the import risk analysis (IRA) of uncooked chicken meat.

AQPM 1998/97 sought comment on the proposed approach to the IRA. Thirteen stakeholders responded; all supported the non-routine approach which was agreed by the Executive Director of AQIS. This AQPM invites your comment on the scope of the IRA and membership of the risk analysis panel (RAP) which will undertake the IRA.

#### Scope

The IRA will consider the importation of uncooked chicken meat from any source, ie a generic IRA. The IRA will include assessment of all potential disease agents that may be introduced to Australia via the importation of chicken meat, and risk management options, which may include cooking and other meat processing techniques. Generic import conditions which may be developed would be applied to countries seeking access, as appropriate to their avian health status.

#### Process Issues

The role of the RAP will be to:

- . develop a detailed work program for the IRA
- . produce a draft technical issues paper and a draft IRA report
- . take account of stakeholder comment in preparing its reports
- . identify the need for and scope of other assessments (environmental or economic) which should be carried out by appropriate experts
- . consult as appropriate to obtain a full and accurate assessment of all relevant scientific issues
- . take into account Australia's appropriate level of quarantine protection, obligations under the Quarantine Act 1908 and Australia's international rights and obligations
- . provide a final report containing recommendations on risk management for consideration by the Executive Director of AQIS.

AQIS will chair the RAP and coordinate the IRA process. The panel will include independent members with experience and expertise in quarantine risk analysis and/or relevant scientific expertise. The proposed membership is:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation/Position</b>	<b>Expertise</b>
David Banks <i>(Chair)</i>	Animal Quarantine Policy Branch, AQIS	animal quarantine policy/ practice; international trade obligations
Andrew Turner	Victorian DNRE/CVO	avian disease, exotic disease control
Harvey Westbury	AAHL	avian disease, epidemiology and poultry research
Peter Coloe	RMIT	food microbiology
Paul Gilchrist	Consultant	avian disease

Further information on the proposed members is available from the contact officer (details below).

### **Your comments are invited**

Comment is invited on the scope of the IRA and the proposed membership of the RAP. You may also wish to nominate technical experts who might be approached to participate in the analysis as part of any Technical Working Groups that might be formed. Your responses should be addressed to the contact officer by 12 November 1999.

## **Confidentiality**

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1982*, all submissions received in response to Animal Quarantine Policy Memoranda will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the Memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the Privacy Act.

The contents of the submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

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Animal Quarantine Policy Branch

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