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## ANIMAL QUARANTINE POLICY MEMORANDUM 1998/14

Chief Veterinary Officers, all States and the NT  
Director, Animal and Plant Health Branch, BRS  
Chief, CSIRO Division of Animal Health

National Farmers' Federation  
Australian Livestock Exporters' Council  
National Meat Association of Australia

Assistant Secretary, Wildlife Australia, Environment  
Australia

Veterinary Counsellors, Australian Embassies,  
Washington, Brussels and Seoul  
Agricultural Counsellor, Australian Embassy, Tokyo

Office of the Australian CVO  
Manager, Animal Programs Section, AQIS Operations  
Head, Foreign Diseases Unit, DPIE  
Australian Animal Health Council  
Quarantine and Animal Health Task Force, NFF  
Australian Veterinary Association

Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks  
and Aquaria

EU Delegation, Canberra

### IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS: ZOO CARNIVORES

#### CONSULTATION ON APPROACH

The purpose of this AQPM is to seek stakeholder comment on the approach to be taken for the import risk analysis (IRA) for the revision of quarantine requirements for the importation of zoo carnivores.

AQPM 97/102 advised the commencement of IRAs for a number of animal and animal products including for the importation of zoo carnivores.

The review is necessary to ensure Australia's requirements are scientifically sound and in line with international standards.

The Animal Quarantine Policy Branch of AQIS has undertaken an initial and general evaluation of the review. As it involves the revision of existing policy and is not expected to require evaluation of significant disease risk, we propose that the zoo carnivores IRA be undertaken as routine analysis.

Under the new IRA processes adopted by AQIS following the Government's response to the Nairn review, routine analyses are conducted by an AQIS in-house team of experts using internal procedures based on international standards. This is no less scientific than

the other approach, a non-routine analysis, which is used for projects involving the

development of new policy and/or involving significant uncertainties about quarantine risks associated with importation. The non-routine approach is conducted by a risk analysis panel made up of experts from inside and outside AQIS with expertise in quarantine risk assessment and relevant animal diseases.

We would welcome your comments on whether the zoo carnivores IRA should be subject to a routine or non-routine analyses. Your comments will be taken into account when the Executive Director of AQIS decides on the approach to be taken (the next AQPM will advise the Executive Director's decision).

Your comments would be appreciated by 27 February 1998.

### **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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