

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/AUS/163

15 June 2004

(04-2594)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION

<b>1. Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>AUSTRALIA</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)
<b>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):</b> Seafood at the primary production level.
<b>4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> All Countries. Imported (as well as domestically produced) foods sold in Australia.
<b>5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document:</b> Draft Assessment Report for Proposal P265 – Primary Production and Processing Standard for Seafood (Australia only) (271 pages, in English).
<b>6. Description of content:</b> 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.
<b>7. Objective and rationale:</b> <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.
<b>8. International standard, guideline or recommendation:</b> <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 <b>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</b> Recommendations are consistent with Codex.
<b>9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> (English)
<b>10. Proposed date of adoption:</b> Notification to Government anticipated February 2005, with adoption (gazettal) to follow, pending Government consideration.

<p><b>11. Proposed date of entry into force:</b> Two (2) years after gazettal pending Government consideration (see 10. above).</p>
<p><b>12. Final date for comments:</b> 9 August 2004</p> <p><b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b> <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:</p> <p>Food Standards Australia New Zealand PO Box 7186 Canberra BC ACT 2610 Australia Fax: + 61 2 6271 2278 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@foodstandards.gov.au">info@foodstandards.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>13. Texts available from:</b> <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: <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/standardsdevelopment">www.foodstandards.gov.au/standardsdevelopment</a>. Copies are also available from:</p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Point GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601 AUSTRALIA Fax: +61 2 6272 3678 Email: <a href="mailto:sps.contact@affa.gov.au">sps.contact@affa.gov.au</a></p>