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Department of
**AGRICULTURE
FISHERIES &
FORESTRY –
AUSTRALIA**

File No. (00/3169)

29 April 2003

ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2003/12

EGG AND EGG PRODUCTS IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS

RISK ANALYSIS PANEL MEMBERSHIP

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) advises stakeholders that Professor Greg Tannock has been appointed as a member of the risk analysis panel for edible eggs and egg products import risk analysis (IRA).

As advised in ABPM 2002/52 of 18 December 2002, Dr Harvey Westbury retired from the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) and also from his membership of the uncooked chicken meat and egg and egg products risk analysis panels. The uncooked chicken meat panel considered that with the support of Technical Working Groups and given the advanced stage of the IRA process, it did not need to replace Dr Westbury.

However, the egg panel considered that a replacement virologist is necessary for its analysis. In ABPM 2002/52, Biosecurity Australia sought comments on, and expressions of interest from, suitably qualified individuals. No nominees were received and the issue was passed to the risk analysis panel for a recommendation. The panel requested Biosecurity Australia to approach Professor Tannock, Professor of Virology, Department of Biotechnology and Environmental Biology at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University in Melbourne.

Professor Tannock is a specialist virologist with extensive research and teaching experience. His major areas of interest are avian virology, rapid diagnosis of viral infections and the development and evaluation of human influenza vaccines. He is a member of the Australian Society of Microbiology and of the Australian Veterinary Poultry Association. He has accepted our invitation to serve on the panel.

The new panel is:

Dr David Banks – chair (Animal Biosecurity)
Dr Julian Cox (NSW University)
Dr Kim Critchley (Consultant)
Professor Greg Tannock (RMIT)
Dr David Buckley (Animal Biosecurity)

The panel last met on 19 and 20 February 2003 and progressed the draft IRA report. The next meeting is on 9 May 2003.

Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If those parties wish to be included in future communications on this matter they should get in touch with the contact officer (details below).

Confidentiality

Respondents are advised that, subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 and the Privacy Act 1988, all submissions received in response to ABPMs will be publicly available. Comments 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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