

21 December 2006

BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2006/39

IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS OF BANANAS FROM THE PHILIPPINES STATUS REPORT

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum is to inform stakeholders that Biosecurity Australia expects to release a revised draft import risk analysis report for mature hard green Cavendish bananas from the Philippines during February 2007 for stakeholder comment.

Biosecurity Australia issued a draft import risk analysis (IRA) report of bananas from the Philippines in 2004. In 2005, Biosecurity Australia notified stakeholders that it was reviewing this draft IRA and would issue a revised draft IRA report when this review was completed.

The review of this draft IRA is now close to completion. The review takes account of a substantial number of stakeholder comments provided in response to the earlier draft report and has also involved considerable further analysis by Biosecurity Australia and a specialist IRA team. I now expect to release the revised draft report during February 2007 for a further period of stakeholder comment.

Information on all IRAs and policy reviews being conducted by Biosecurity Australia is available on our website www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au.

John Cahill Chief Executive