

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/AUS/187
5 September 2005

(05-3850)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>AUSTRALIA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: The Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)
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): Solid wood packaging material used in supporting, protecting or carrying break bulk and air cargo imported into Australia.
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All countries
5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Industry Notice: Expansion of Implementation of the <i>International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) # 15: Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade (ISPM 15) to Air and Break Bulk Cargo to Cover All Wood Packing and Dunnage for Imports into Australia.</i> (available in English, 1 page).
6. Description of content: Australia currently accepts wood packing for containerised cargo according to the <i>International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15: Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packing Material in International Trade (ISPM 15)</i> . Australia now proposes to extend the adoption of ISPM 15 to cover all wood packing material and dunnage used in supporting, protecting or carrying break bulk and air cargo imported into Australia. For countries unable to comply with ISPM 15, Australia will continue to accept packaging which meets existing AQIS requirements for containerised cargo only. In the event of non-compliance with respect to wood packaging associated with break bulk and air cargo, the timber will be treated, destroyed or re-exported. Additionally, inspection will no longer be offered as an option for any imported wood packing and/or dunnage regardless of the mode of transport. In addition to the ISPM 15 measures, Australia will maintain the following existing requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• freedom from bark; and• methyl bromide fumigation at 48 grams per cubic metre for 24 hours (not 16 hours) and the timber at time of treatment being no greater than 200mm in diameter in the smallest plane. Australia will re-evaluate its required treatment period of 24 hours after the findings of an international review of the methyl bromide treatment specified under the ISPM 15 standard have been released.

7.	Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" 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
8.	<p>International standard, guideline or recommendation:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: <i>International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No.15: Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade.</i> Deviations as described in 6 above.</p>
9.	<p>Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: <i>International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures Publication No. 15 - Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade (ISPM 15).</i> The full text of ISPM 15 is available in English at:</p> <p>http://www.ippc.int/servlet/BinaryDownloaderServlet/ISPM_15_English.pdf?filename=1055161712885_ISPM15_e.pdf</p> <p>Notice to Industry No. 7/2005-06: Expansion of Implementation of the <i>International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) # 15: Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade (ISPM 15)</i> to Air and Break Bulk Cargo to Cover All Wood Packing and Dunnage for Imports into Australia. This document may be accessed at: http://www.aqis.gov.au/iian</p> <p>Australia's existing import requirements for solid wood packaging material are outlined in the Cargo Containers: Quarantine Aspects and Procedures document. AQIS approved non permanent treatments for wood packaging material is described in Appendix II of this document. This document may be accessed at: http://www.aqis.gov.au/cargoqap</p>
10.	Proposed date of adoption: 1 January 2006
11.	Proposed date of entry into force: 1 January 2006
12.	<p>Final date for comments: 7 October 2005</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <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>The Australian SPS Notification Point GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Fax: + (612) 6272 3678 Email/Internet: sps.contact@daff.gov.au Website: http://www.daff.gov.au</p>

- 13. Texts available from: [] National notification authority, [X] National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:**

The Australian SPS Notification Point

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