

99/3404  
25 August 2000

## ANIMAL QUARANTINE POLICY MEMORANDUM 2000/40

### ADOPTION OF QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF CAMELIDS FROM CHILE AND PERU

This Animal Quarantine Policy Memorandum (AQPM) advises that the revised conditions for the importation of camelids from Chile and Peru will take effect from 25 August 2000. The Import Risk Analysis Appeal Panel (IRAAP) considered the issues raised in the appeal against the final import risk analysis (IRA) report were not appealable matters.

AQPM 2000/27 of 23 May 2000 provided the final IRA report for the importation of camelids from Chile and Peru. The appeal period closed on 19 June 2000 and an appeal was lodged by the NSW Farmers' Association. AQPM 2000/32 of 28 June 2000 advised receipt of the appeal.

In its appeal, the NSW Farmers' Association advised that it did not consider the revised conditions would be consistent with maintaining Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP). The Association also drew attention to implications for livestock exporters in the event of an outbreak of disease, the possibility that at present unknown diseases, or new strains of existing diseases, may emerge, and potential differences between quarantine protocols and their execution in practice.

According to the procedures set out in the *AQIS IRA Process Handbook*, an IRAAP was established and its members were Professor Malcolm Nairn as Chair (in his position as Chair of the Quarantine and Exports Advisory Council, QEAC); Mr Greg Read representing the Director of Animal and Plant Quarantine (the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australia); Dr Geoff Gard representing the Chief Veterinary Officer, and Associate Dean Carolyn Tanner as the other QEAC member.

The IRAAP considered that the issues raised in the appeal were not within the scope of the appeal procedure described in the *Handbook* and therefore could be considered appealable matters. The IRAAP was satisfied that the process set out in the *Handbook* had been followed and that the requirements of that process had been met.

As a result of the IRAAP finding, AQIS will adopt the revised conditions on 25 August 2000. Thank you to those who contributed to the revision of this quarantine policy.

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