



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Export of Australian Livestock

providing for animal welfare assurance and a sustainable trade

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Presented by: Dr. Mark Schipp
Seminar-Workshop on the Assessment of Good Animal Husbandry Practices of
APEC Member Economies

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Summary

1. Drivers for change
2. International action
3. Actions to date
4. Domestic action

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Drivers for change

- Poor animal welfare outcomes in some supply chains
- Australian community expectations for the humane treatment of animals
- Industry sustainability
- Needs of importing countries

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Actions to date

The following actions have been taken:

- Announcement of lifting of suspension of trade with Indonesia 6 July 2011
- Regulatory framework implemented live feeder and slaughter cattle exports to Indonesia
- Over 100,000 cattle exported to Indonesia to 21 October 2011

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Recommendations

Recommendations for change have been made in following reports:

- Farmer Review
- IGWG on live cattle exports
- IGWG on live sheep and goat exports
- Report on restraint boxes by the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer

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Objectives of new framework

The new export framework will:

- Support a strong and commercially viable livestock export trade
- Safeguard animal welfare outcomes
- Provide importing countries with confidence that Australia is a reliable trading partner

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Features of new export framework

Australian exporters will need to show that:

- Internationally agreed animal welfare requirements are met
- Control of animals through the supply chain
- Tracking/accountability of animals
- Independent auditing and reporting

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Engagement

In developing the framework engagement has occurred with:

- Industry
- State and territory governments
- Importing country governments
- Animal welfare groups

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Implementation

TRANCHE	IMPLEMENTATION DATE	PERCENTAGE OF TRADE
Existing	Post-arrival regulatory arrangements already in place.	75 per cent
Tranche 1	By 29 February 2012	
Tranche 2	By 31 August 2012	99 per cent
Tranche 3	By 31 December 2012	100 per cent

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Assistance

- The Australian Government Approved Supply Chains Program - \$5m over 2 years
- Australian aid to improve animal welfare outcomes in (ODA) eligible countries - \$10m over 4 years

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Domestic actions

- Review the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL) by 28/2/2013
- State and Territory Govts to legislate enforceable welfare standards
- Implement unique individual animal identification domestically as soon as practicable
- Encourage industry to implement a through-chain quality management system

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Domestic (*Contd*)

- Enhance system of Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) accredited veterinarians
- Review shipping standards and carriage of livestock
- Review post-arrival conditions for export of breeder livestock

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More Information

- Information is available on the Australian Government's live exports website

www.liveexports.gov.au