NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** Australia  **If applicable, name of local government involved:** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources |
| **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):** Seeds for sowing of *Citrullus lanatus* (watermelon), *Cucumis melo* (melon), *Cucumis sativus* (cucumber) and *Cucurbita pepo* (zucchini) |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**  **[****X] All trading partners**  **[ ]** **Specific regions or countries:** |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Emergency measures for cucurbit seeds. **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 3 |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** Emergency phytosanitary measures for the importation of *Citrullus lanatus*, *Cucumis melo*, *Cucumis sativa* and *Cucurbita pepo* are being introduced to mitigate the biosecurity risk posed by *Kyuri green mottle mosaic virus* (KGMMV), *Zucchini green mottle mosaic virus* (ZGMMV) and *Phomopsis cucurbitae*. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale: [ ]****food safety, [ ]****animal health, [****X] plant protection, [****X] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [****X] protect territory from other damage from pests.** |
| **8.** | **Nature of the urgent problem(s) and reason for urgent action:** Australia is currently undertaking a review of import conditions for cucurbit seeds for sowing. This review has identified three new pests of quarantine concern: KGMMV, ZGMMV and *Phomopsis cucurbitae*.  Australia's existing policy does not require specific risk mitigation measures against these pests for the importation of host seeds. Therefore, emergency measures are required for host cucurbit seeds to prevent the introduction of these pests.  The draft review was be released on 6 December 2017 for a 75 calendar day consultation period and all trading partners have been notified by an SPS notification.  The emergency measures will be implemented in two phases to minimise trade disruption:  Phase 0: Transition phase  Consignments that land in Australia prior to or on 31 January 2018 will be allowed entry into Australia under existing arrangements (no testing required).  Phase 0 conditions expire at midnight 31 January 2018 and will be replaced by Phase 1 conditions.  Phase 1: Commencement of mandatory testing or treatment.  Consignments that land in Australia from 1 February 2018 will be required to be tested or treated (depending on species), either off-shore or on-shore, to manage the identified quarantine pests.  Mandatory off-shore or on-shore testing by ISTA validated ELISA on a sample size of 9,400 seeds (or 20 per cent for small seed lots) for seeds of *Cucumis sativus* (KGMMV only)*, Cucurbita pepo* (KGMMV and ZGMMV)*,* and *Citrullus lanatus* (KGMMV and ZGMMV)*.* Mandatory off-shore or on-shore fungicidal seed treatment with a broad-spectrum systemic fungicide for seeds of *Cucumis melo* (*Phomopsis cucurbitae*).  Phytosanitary certification requirements:  Seed lots of *Citrullus lanatus*, *Cucumis sativus* and *Cucurbita pepo* that are tested off-shore must be accompanied by an official government Phytosanitary Certificate endorsed with the following additional declaration:  'The consignment of [*botanical name* *(s)* (*Genus species*)] comprises [*insert number of cucurbit seed lots*] seed lot(s); for each seed lot, seeds were tested by ELISA [*insert laboratory name(s) and report number(s)*] on a sample size of 9,400 seeds (or 20 per cent of small seed lots) and found free from [*name of the virus*]'.  Seeds lots of *Cucumis melo* treated with a fungicide off-shore must be accompanied by an official government Phytosanitary Certificate endorsed with the following additional declaration:  'The [*insert plant species name*] seeds in this consignment have been treated with [*insert the name of the chemical and dosage*]'. |
| **9.** | **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:**  **[ ]** **Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:**  **[ ]** **World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:**  **[****X] International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:**IPPC Article 7 and IPSM 1  **[ ]** **None**  **Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?**  **[****X] Yes [ ]** **No**  **If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** |
| **10.** | **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:** |
| **11.** | **Date of entry into force (*dd/mm/yy*)/period of application (as applicable):** 1 February 2018  **[ ]** **Trade facilitating measure** |
| **12.** | **Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [****X] National Notification Authority, [****X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**  The Australian SPS Contact Point  GPO Box 858  Canberra ACT 2601  Australia  E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au |
| **13.** | **Text(s) available from: [****X] National Notification Authority, [****X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**  The Australian SPS Contact Point  GPO Box 858  Canberra ACT 2601  Australia  E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au |