



## DCCC Meeting 93 Communique

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Cargo Consultative Committee (DCCC) met largely in person at the Food and Beverage Importers Association's office in Melbourne on 22 November 2022.

The Chair, Col Hunter, opened proceedings by introducing Australia's new Inspector General of Biosecurity (IGB), Dr Lloyd Klumpp.

Dr Klumpp summarised the role of the IGB in providing assurance that Australia's biosecurity risk management systems were operating effectively, identifying areas for improvement and/or acknowledging where things were working well. Dr Klumpp indicated his focus for the next year would be on the department's strategic management of science resources, use of data for evidence and science-based biosecurity decisions, and effectiveness of its stakeholder engagement and partnerships. The IGB's work program for 2022–25 is available at: [Review program | Inspector-General of Biosecurity \(igb.gov.au\)](#).

Mr Daniel Curtis of the Australian Government's Simplified Trade System (STS) Implementation Taskforce presented on the Taskforce's work to date to support simplification of trade regulations, modernisation of government ICT systems, and to make it easier for business to interact with government. He emphasised the need for reform as part of the government's trade diversification and economic recovery agendas. He also indicated the Taskforce was keen to engage with DCCC members on designing a future state model that worked for both business and government.

Discussions turned to digital reform in the biosecurity space; progress of the recently stood up Cargo Service Delivery Taskforce; and opportunities to strengthen the level and nature of the department's engagement with the import sector.

Ms Paula Svarcas informed members of the work in train to develop a workable, long term biosecurity funding model, with a discussion paper on '[sustainable funding and investment to strengthen biosecurity](#)' released seeking views on what this model should look like. The department is keen to engage with importers, exporters, service providers and other stakeholders on design options.

Discussion progressed to strategic trade related issues, including declining global shipping rates, and the potential increase in imports as a result, and the need to consider different approaches for bulk vessel inspections at designated anchorage.

Members noted the progress of actions under the Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030 (with an updated action plan expected to be released early 2023) and to implement the National Biosecurity Strategy.

Members also acknowledged upcoming changes to the leadership within the Biosecurity Operations Division, with the chair taking extended leave. Ms Tina Hutchison will take on the role of First Assistant Secretary, Biosecurity Operations Division. Members also congratulated Barbara Cooper on her retirement and acknowledged her extensive achievements over her career.

Information updates were provided on:

- progress in the implementation of new Biosecurity Trusted Importer Arrangements (Green Lane program)
- further enhancements to the Biosecurity Portal and booking request changes from early 2023



- cargo operational reforms including the Port of Melbourne led trial of a new approach to manage the risks associated with imported vehicles; and further trials using livestreaming technology in various activities including post clearing verification of used machinery
- implementation of the new Approved Arrangement Class 14.4 - Rural Tailgate Inspections
- addition of green coffee beans to Highly Compliant Importer Scheme and AEPCOMM, effective 21 November 2022
- work to date to streamline profiles using algorithms and machine learning, operationalised in the SAC pathway
- actions to progress the Biosecurity Training centre, including recent engagement with DCCC for expanding out to industry; and actions to progress the department's regulatory capability
- key information to date for the BMSB 2022-23 season measures
- further actions to address the risk of khapra beetle, including expected engagement with DCCC for the implementation of Phase 6B measures in 2023
- cargo operations and non-compliance statistics
- review of biosecurity cost recovery arrangements.

The Committee will meet again by March/April 2023.

#### Industry Attendees

- Dianne Tipping, Export Council of Australia
- Tony McDonald, Federal Chambers of Automotive Industries
- Carolyn Macgill, Food and Beverage Importers Association
- Sal Milici, Freight and Trade Alliance
- Wes McDiarmid, International Forwarders & Customs Brokers Association of Australia (observer)
- Melwyn Noronha, Shipping Australia Limited