



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

Assessment of alternative measures

Fresh Cavendish bananas from the Philippines

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What we will cover



History



About the assessment



Why we need to consider the Philippines' request



Next steps and how we will engage with you



If you have any questions, please submit them using the **Q&A function**.

We will post responses to all questions on our webpage: agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines.

Please note: We are recording this webinar and will publish the recording on our webpage: agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines

History



About the assessment

We are conducting an assessment of alternative measures for the importation of fresh Cavendish bananas from the Philippines.



Comprehensive scientific risk assessment for the 3 main pathogens of concern (Moko, black Sigatoka and banana freckle) and consideration of risk management measures alternative to those proposed in the 2008 import risk analysis.



Review of the 2008 import risk analysis to ensure the assessments of other pests are still appropriate and determine whether any new biosecurity risks have emerged.



Consideration of the Philippines' request for access for an additional cultivar and export province that were not assessed in the 2008 import risk analysis.

We will only agree to alternative measures if our assessment concludes the measures effectively manage the biosecurity risks to achieve Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP).

Why we need to consider the Philippines' request

As a member of the World Trade Organization, Australia is obliged to consider requests for market access from trading partners, including requests for alternative measures.

Where possible, we must develop import conditions that address any associated risks to an appropriate level, are scientifically justified and do not unreasonably restrict trade.

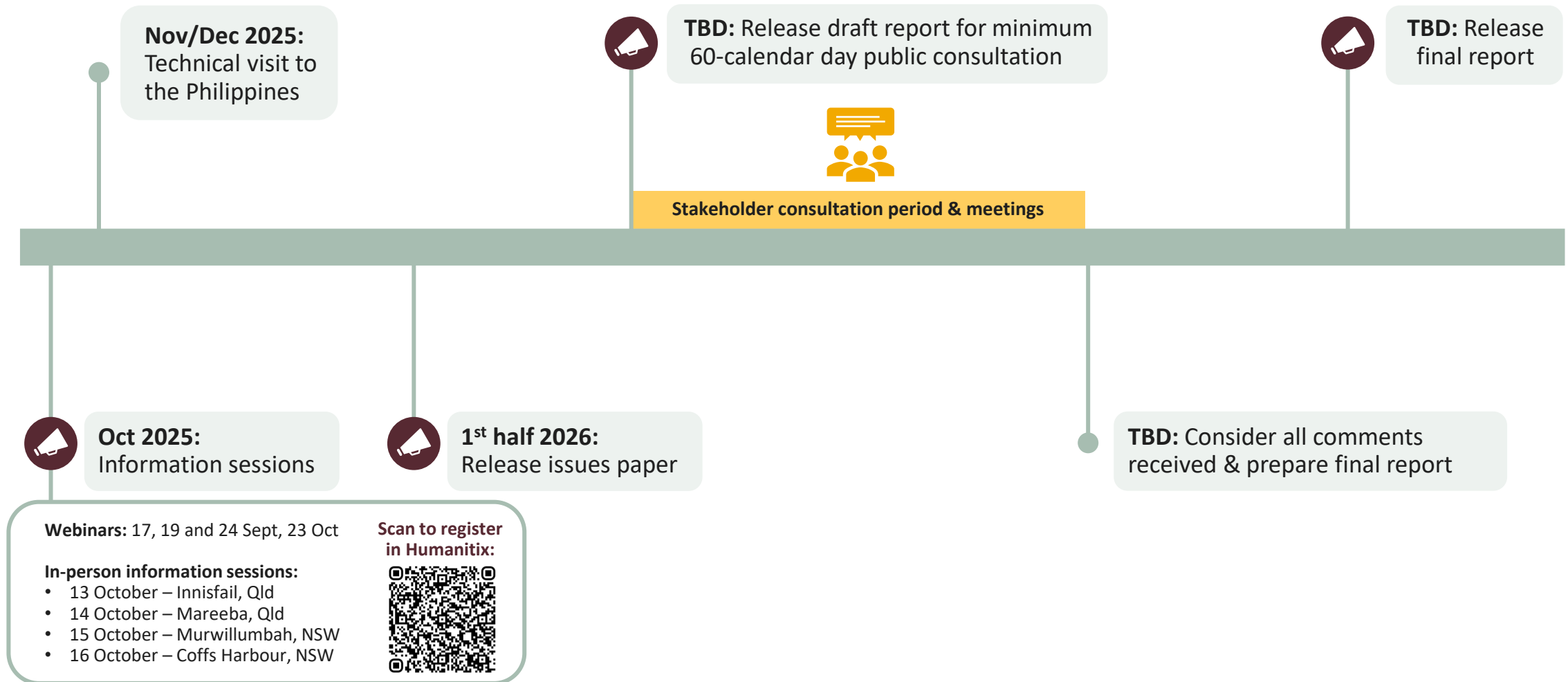
Our trading partners use the same principles when assessing Australian market access requests.

In 2002, the Philippines lodged a trade dispute with the WTO regarding measures affecting horticultural imports to Australia (DS270). If Australia doesn't meet its international obligations, the Philippines may resume their dispute which may take the ultimate decision on measures out of Australia's hands.

Australia's agricultural trade relationships are important to our agricultural industries and broader economy.

BUT – we will not compromise on biosecurity to allow trade.

Next steps



Next steps cont.

Once the assessment is complete, **if it concludes the biosecurity risk can be effectively managed to achieve Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP)**, there are several further steps before trade could commence.

- This includes verifying that the Philippines can meet our import requirements.
- The whole process could take several years.



Thank you and questions?



Bananas from the Philippines webpage

We will post responses to all questions, the slides and a recording of this webinar on our website:
agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines



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