



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

Biosecurity Import Risk Analysis, issues paper & technical visit

Assessment of alternative measures for fresh
Cavendish bananas from the Philippines

June 2026

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Housekeeping



Please mute and have your camera off during the presentation. You can post any questions using the Q&A function.



We will have dedicated time for questions after the presentation. During this time, please raise your hand or post any questions using the Q&A function.



We are recording the presentation. We will publish the recording, presentation slides and all questions and answers from today on our webpage:
agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines

What we will cover



Overview of the assessment



Summary of the technical visit



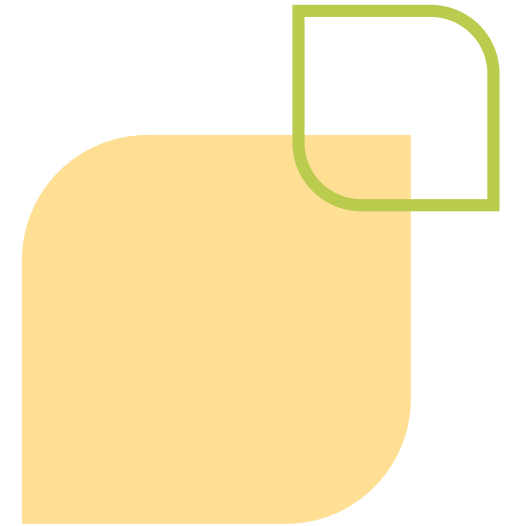
About the Biosecurity Import Risk Analysis (BIRA)



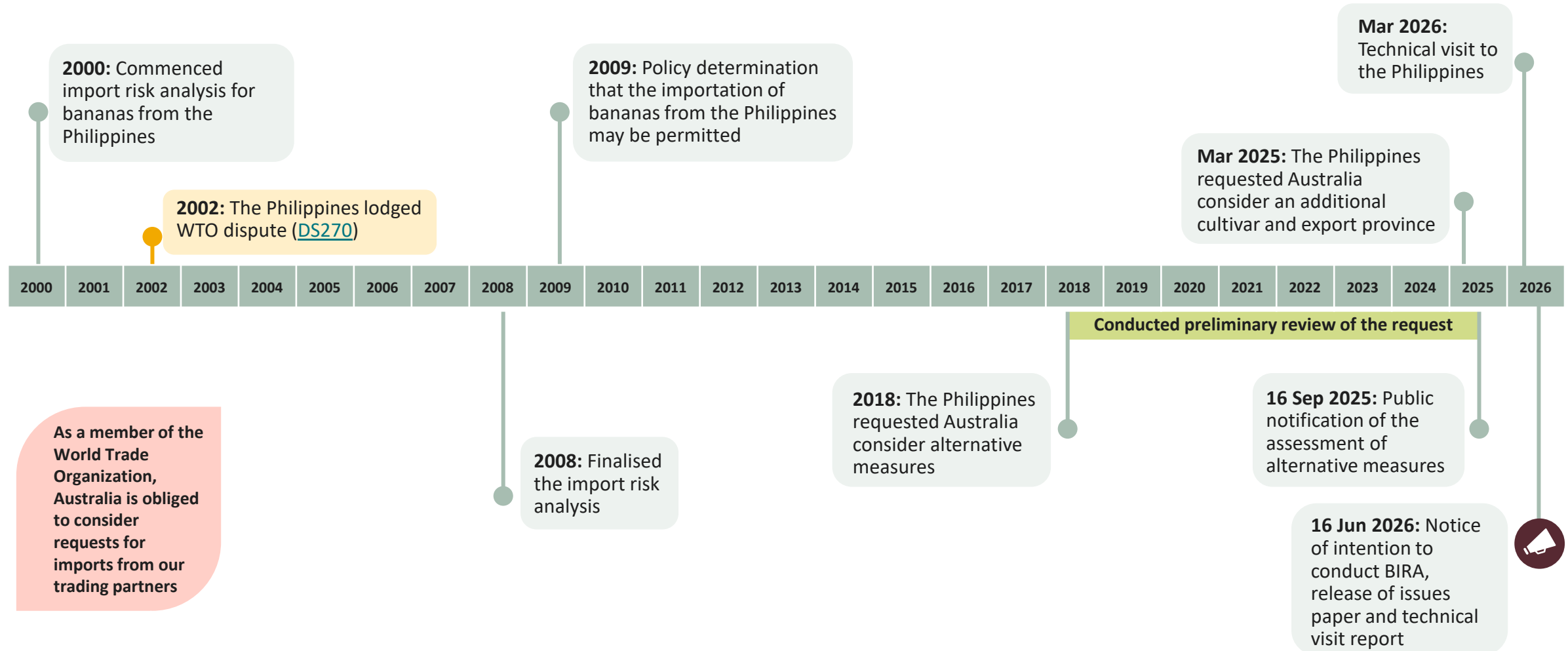
About the issues paper



Next steps



Overview of the assessment



Summary of the technical visit



When: 23 to 27 March 2026



Why: to better understand how bananas are commercially grown, managed and exported in the Philippines, and how pests and diseases are controlled.



Who: risk assessor, auditor, technical expert in banana production systems, tropical plant pathologist, Australia's Agricultural Counsellor to the Philippines.



Where: 5 farms/packing facilities across the 3 provinces that produce the most Cavendish bananas for export – Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro and Bukidnon.



Location of production areas visited in Mindanao

Summary of the technical visit

Our delegation observed production, pest management and export practices.

They visited a range of production sites and systems, including highland and lowland farms, irrigated and non-irrigated production, and different scales of operation.



Cavendish banana farm in Valencia City



Cable transport of bunches to the packing house, New Corella



Tanks for washing banana fruit, Valencia City

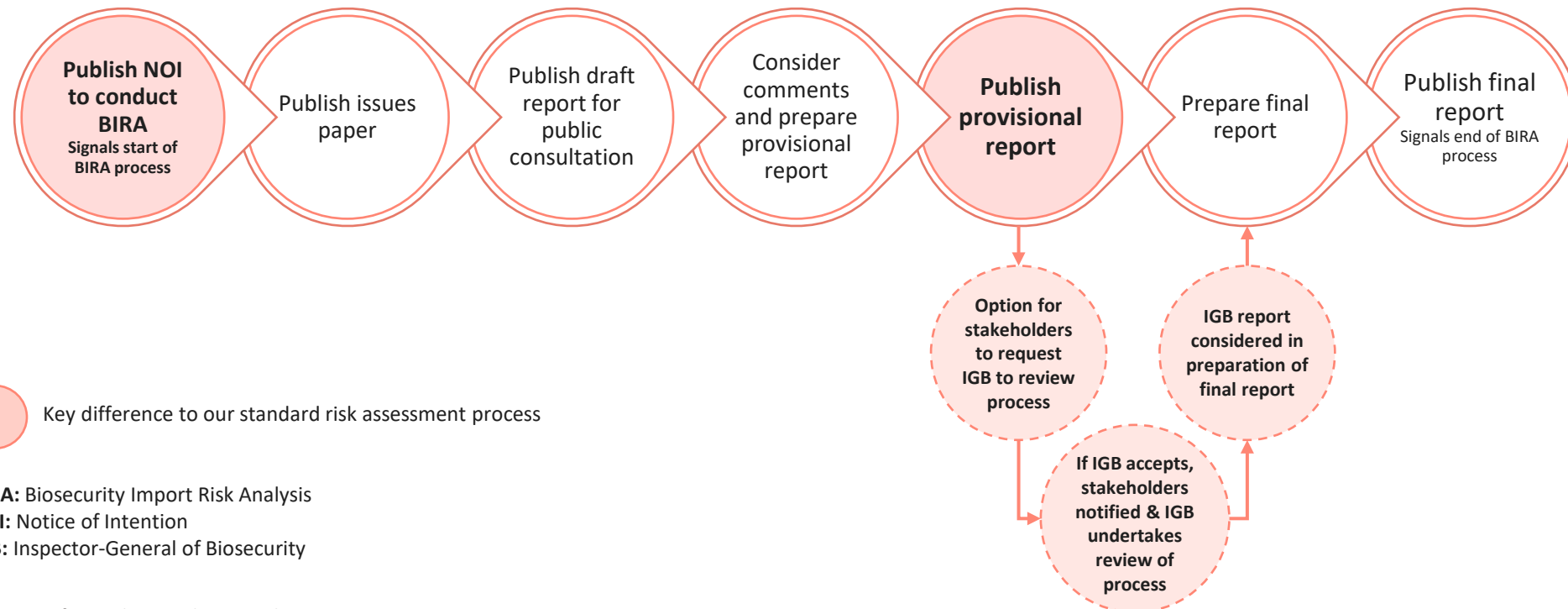
The report on the visit is available on our website: agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines

About the BIRA

We are conducting a BIRA for fresh Cavendish bananas from the Philippines as prescribed under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and the Biosecurity Regulation 2016.

BIRA process

We may ask the Scientific Advisory Group at any stage in the process to review and provide comments on any aspect of the BIRA



About the issues paper



We have published an issues paper that outlines the assessment process, the Philippine's requests and engagement steps. This is available on our website: agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines

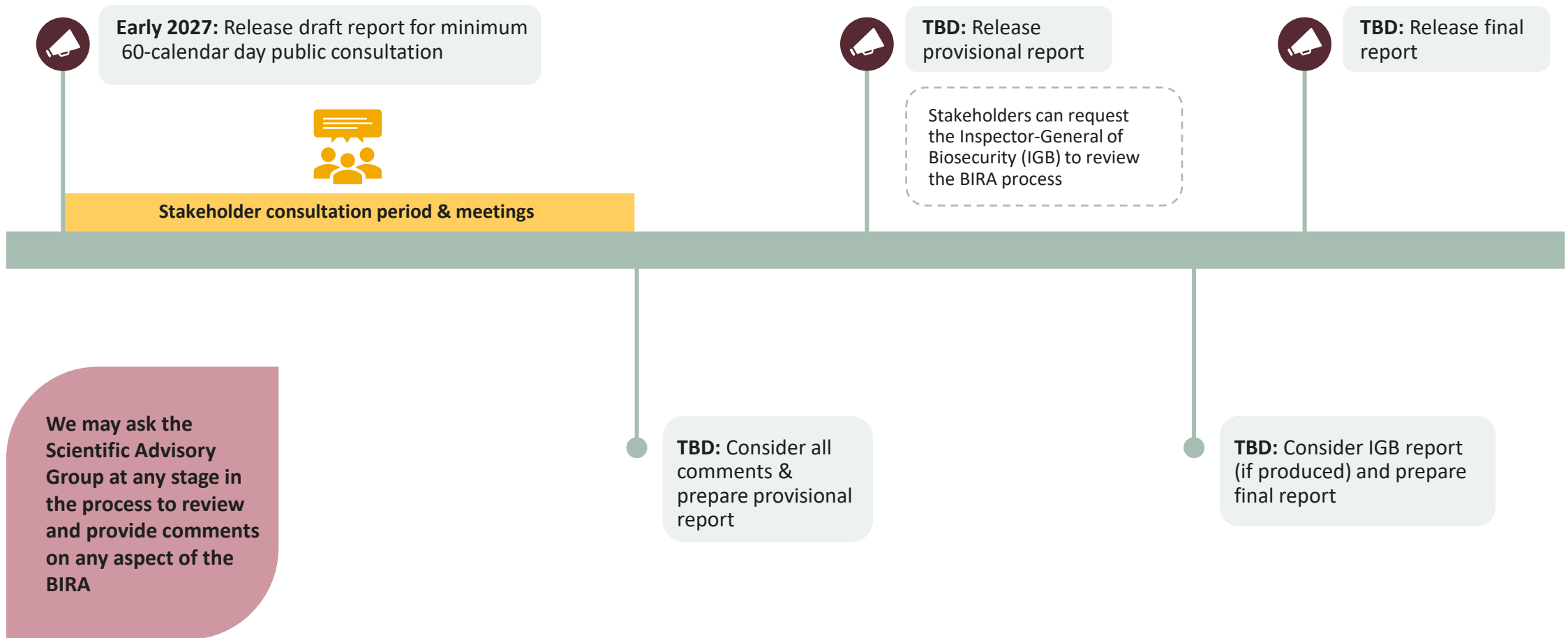


Please send feedback and/or any additional information to plantstakeholders@aff.gov.au by 5pm AEST **16 July 2026**.



We will carefully consider all feedback and information received when preparing the draft report. We expect to release the draft report for public consultation in early 2027.

Next steps

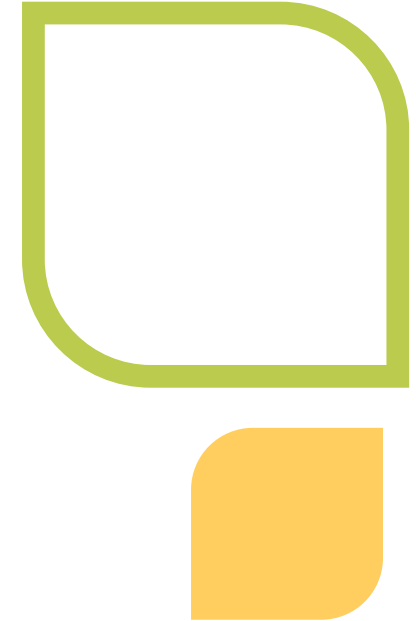


Next steps



Once the assessment is complete, **if it concludes the biosecurity risk can be effectively reduced 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.



Questions?

Submit feedback on the issues paper to plantstakeholders@aff.gov.au by 16 July 2026

For more information and to receive updates:



Bananas from the
Philippines webpage

agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines



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