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Sent: Friday, 8 January 2016 11:49 a.m.
To: DOLPHIN, David (LGL) <David.Dolphin@mfat.govt.nz>; Susana Delgado <sdelgado@sprfmo.int>
Cc: Robertson, Kerrie <Kerrie.Robertson@agriculture.gov.au>; Neil, Gordon <Gordon.Neil@agriculture.gov.au>; Buchanan, Kelly <Kelly.Buchanan@agriculture.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Circulation of letter by the Chair of the FAC and relevant documents
[SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear David and Susana

Thank you for sending the report and the revised staff regulations through for consideration.

On the whole, the report and proposed amendments to the staff regulations thus far appear fair and sensible to us – Australia doesn't have any major issues with them. We note however that further discussion will be required particularly around the provisions on superannuation, medical insurance, performance review, leave approval, education allowances and overtime – we are happy to discuss our views on these issues with you in greater detail. We would also suggest making a few amendments to the way the terms 'commission' and 'organisation' are used throughout the document to accurately reflect the meaning of each of these terms. We could probably propose some drafting changes if a word version of the document exists that could be marked up.

We note that there are several elements of the regulations that have not yet been finalised and are marked with placeholder text pending further consideration and, further, that you are still seeking some modelling of the costs of specific provisions and that these elements of the regulations will require further discussion. We also note that there may be the need for factual adjustments based on some comments from the Secretariat.

We understand that there will be the opportunity for further discussion in Valdivia during the FAC meeting – is it your intention to progress negotiations on the text of the regulations in this way?

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any of the above.

Kind regards

Zoe