

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNANCE FORUM ON FOOD REGULATION (FoFR)

*Convening as the Australia and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council
(ANZFRMC)*

FRIDAY 1 JUNE 2012

P1011 – Country of Origin Labelling - Unpackaged Meat Products

The Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation (FoFR) has requested that Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) review Standard P1011 – Country of Origin Labelling - Unpackaged Meat Products citing concerns that the proposed extension to the Standard is not practical on the basis that more than 99.5% of meat sold in Australia is Australian meat.

The Proposal was prepared to consider varying Standard 1.2.11 – Country of Origin Requirements, in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code to extend country of labelling to include unpackaged beef, sheep and chicken meat.

The Criteria/Ground/s for the review of Standard P1011 – Country of Origin Labelling - Unpackaged Meat Products are that:

~ **It places an unreasonable cost burden on industry and consumers**

As demonstrated by the conclusion of the Regulation Impact Statement.

~ **It is difficult to enforce or comply with in practical and resource terms**

It is considered that it places an additional cost burden on jurisdictions for negligible benefit.

~ **It is not consistent with the existing policy guidelines set by the Ministerial Council**

It is stated that the existing policy guidelines provide only for a “mixed food” labelling option for food displayed in a mix and sold in that mix.

~ **It does not provide adequate information to make informed choice**

It is considered that there is a drafting anomaly in the existing standard that allows for food displayed in a mix but available for individual sale to be displayed under the label “mix of local and imported”.