

Produce and Grocery Industry Code Administration Committee

Statement of Outcomes

The Produce and Grocery Industry Code Administration Committee (the Committee) held its thirtieth meeting on 10 February 2011 in Melbourne.

Future Direction of the Committee

The National Farmers Federation presented a paper on the strategic direction, membership and role of the Committee. This paper focused on the opportunities available to the Committee to discuss broader supply chain issues and be proactive in its response to industry concerns. Discussion explored the option to include an expanded and flexible membership to enable the views of the supply chain as a whole to be presented to government where appropriate.

The Committee agreed that at its next meeting, to be held in May, to develop a roadmap to change and further outline the required amendments to the Committee's objectives, structure and membership.

Horticulture Industry Representation

Following the wind up of the Horticulture Australia Council on 30 June 2010, the Committee agreed to the importance of ongoing representation of the horticulture industry on the Committee.

The Committee agreed that Ms Damiani was welcome to attend all future meetings as an observer until such time as the Horticulture Taskforce is formalised.

National Food Plan

The Committee received an update on the progress of the National Food Plan.

The Committee agreed that it would like to provide the government with input on the development of the plan and will seek to consult with government over the coming months.

Produce and Grocery Industry Ombudsman

The Committee accepted the Ombudsman's quarterly report for the period from 1 October to 31 December 2010. The Ombudsman received 2 dispute enquiries.

The Committee discussed the educational, awareness and promotional activities undertaken by the Ombudsman. It was agreed by the Committee that the Ombudsman should reduce its focus on the horticulture industry and focus on increasing the broader industry awareness of the Produce and Grocery Code and Ombudsman services.

For further information, contact Committee Chairman, Mr Ian Davis on (03) 8608 2897 or email info@produceandgrocerycode.com.au

Background

The Produce and Grocery Industry Code Administration Committee administers the Produce and Grocery Industry Code of Conduct. The code covers all industry participants in the produce and grocery industry in their vertical supply chain relationships, from primary producers and growers to supermarket retailers and provides a mechanism for dispute resolution through the Produce and Grocery Industry Ombudsman.

10 February 2011