



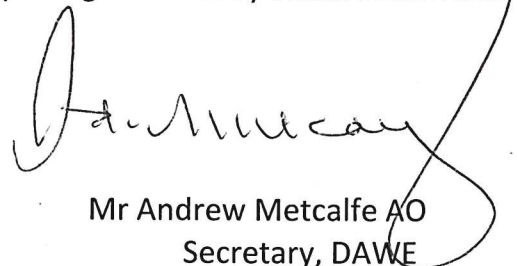
Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

Joint Statement – 30 June 2022

1. The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment was pleased to host a delegation visit from India's Food Safety and Standards Authority (FSSAI) and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare this week.
2. Food safety issues and food standards are important issues for both governments. FSSAI and DAWE agreed to deepen cooperation and technical exchange on these issues by prioritising the finalisation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Food Safety.
3. India's requirement for non-GM certification at the time of import was discussed and a pathway forward was agreed. Australia will provide a Non-GM Certificate in electronic format agreeable to both sides.
4. Australian exporters benefited from discussions with FSSAI on India's food safety requirements. While in Australia FSSAI also met with Wine Australia, the Department of Health and Food Standards Australia New Zealand. Discussions covered Australia's health star rating system, food import control systems and export opportunities.
5. DAWE and FSSAI both look forward to deepening collaboration on information sharing in the event of rejected consignments, developing mechanisms on import alerts, reducing import clearance times, and technical exchanges.
6. Both sides also agreed to deepening cooperation in Codex and to connect where there are issues of concern in Codex for either country.
7. In order to improve border clearance processes DAWE agreed to continue discussions with India on opportunities towards electronic certification for Australian products exported to India. Electronic Certificates are already issued to importing countries by Indian authorities.


30/6/22

Shri Arun Singhal
CEO, FSSAI & Secretary to Government of India


Mr Andrew Metcalfe AO
Secretary, DAWE