AUSTRALIA N CUSTOM S NOTIC E NO . 2007/29

**Amendments to the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* Export of Human Embryos**

Regulation 7 of the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* (the Prohibited Exports Regulations) that prohibits the exportation of human embryos without the permission of the Minister for Justice and Customs will be repealed on 12 June 2007.

The *Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002* and the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* were reviewed by a Committee chaired by Justice Lockhart AO QC. Following this review, Parliament passed the *Prohibition of Human Cloning for Reproduction and the Regulation of Human Embryo Research Amendment Act* 2006 (the Act) on 7 December 2006. This Act implements recommendations from the Lockhart review and takes effect on 12 June 2007.

Schedule 4 of the Act repeals Regulation 7 of the Prohibited Exports Regulations on 12 June 2007.

From that date, the control on the exportation of human embryos will revert to the previous export control under Regulation 8 (Item 1, Schedule 6) of the Prohibited Exports Regulations. This item prohibits, without permission, the exportation of human body fluids, organs and other tissue, including a part or constituent of material of that kind, if the internal volume of the immediate container in which the material is packed exceeds 50ml.

Accordingly, the exportation of human embryos shipped in a container where the internal volume does not exceed 50ml will not require an export permission under Regulation 8 of the Prohibited Exports Regulations.

Enquiries regarding this notice may be directed to Community Protection Policy on telephone

(02) 6275 6114 or via email to [community.protection@customs.gov.au](mailto:community.protection@customs.gov.au).

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