



Medical Technology
Association of Australia

12 December 2008

Review of Mutual Recognition Schemes
Productivity Commission
Locked Bag 2
Collins St. East
Melbourne, VIC 8003

Dear Commissioners

Review of Mutual Recognition Schemes

The Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) has read with interest the draft report on the study undertaken by the Productivity Commission in reviewing mutual recognition schemes.

In particular MTAA notes section 7.2 of the study dealing with therapeutic goods. MTAA represents the manufacturers, exporters and distributors of medical technologies which range from complex diagnostic imaging equipment, to *in vitro diagnostic* devices, implantable prostheses and consumables such as syringes and wound dressings. MTAA (and its predecessor organisation, the Medical Industry Association of Australia), was closely involved in the development of the framework for the proposed Australian and New Zealand joint agency, ANZTPA.

While MTAA supports the concept of ANZTPA and much of the draft framework, MTAA would not now like to see the unilateral regulatory reforms proposed by the Australian Government delayed further. MTAA notes the comments of the Commission on page 136 of the draft report stating that it supports Australia's efforts to progress regulatory reforms. MTAA also notes that in some areas the proposed reforms exceed the reforms proposed for ANZTPA. These are particularly welcomed by MTAA as addressing some of the barriers to industry development that have been identified in other reports by the Productivity Commission, including consideration of a model for third party conformity assessment across all regulated classes of medical devices.

MTAA does not support the draft recommendation 7.2 if resumption of negotiations would cause any delay in consideration by the Australian Government of the reforms already outlined to the medical technology industry nor those that have been identified for further development during 2009.

Yours sincerely

Anne Trimmer
Chief Executive Officer

Medical Technology for a Healthier Australia