



Outlook

Looking ahead to 2007–08, we will focus on building our capabilities to support the new governance framework and the performance expected of the APVMA. We will do this by optimising organisational structures and resource allocations and achieving outcomes in key priority reform areas covering our operation, regulation and stakeholder engagement. Our outlook and activities take into account important government initiatives such as the COAG Review of Hazardous Materials, the Productivity Commission's study of chemicals and plastics regulation, the Environment Protection and Heritage Council's national chemicals management initiative and a scheduled review of the APVMA's cost recovery arrangements. We will continue to actively engage in these policy reform agendas.

Our *Operational Plan 2007–08*, approved by the Hon Sussan Ley, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in June 2007, provides the framework for our activities. In working to achieve our objectives for 2007–08 we will focus on a number of priorities including:

- improving both the efficiency and effectiveness of our operations through optimising the administration of the legislation and implementing ANAO recommendations
- strengthening our interaction with stakeholders, particularly the rural sector, through implementing the review of existing stakeholder forums and through better relationship management
- raising the standard of service, engagement and transparency through initiatives to improve consultation and communication with stakeholders and enhancing staff issues management skills
- continuing to develop the APVMA website to enhance information architecture, assist more intuitive searching and provide more relevant content to stakeholders
- enhancing the quality of regulatory science through training by Science Fellows and the Science Fellows Forum
- consolidating current initiatives to improve the cost effective and timely availability of safe, effective chemicals for minor uses
- delivering tangible outcomes from work sharing and cooperation with regulators in other countries
- reducing the regulatory burden by expanding the functionality of the electronic application registration system and enhancing the framework for listed registration and reservation
- advancing labelling reform
- aligning processes with FSANZ to enter MRLs in the Food Standards Code in a timely manner
- supporting the export of Australian primary produce by further enhancing the communication of trade advice, contributing to the Japanese Positive List Project and advancing the development of the software for determining export intervals
- continuing legislative reform of the compliance toolkit and more effectively using existing powers
- reviewing the Ag QA Scheme
- recruiting, retaining and developing quality, valued people.