

MEDIA RELEASE (12/02/2010)

The Australian and New Zealand Governments have in place robust regulatory arrangements to ensure the safety of food through the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* (the Code) administered by Food Standards Australia New Zealand.

The Code requires that all food sold in Australia and New Zealand must be safe.

Food substances including food additives, processing aids, novel foods and nutritive substances that involve the use of nanotechnology will require premarket approval if potentially unsafe. This approval requires a rigorous safety assessment by FSANZ using the best available scientific evidence.

FSANZ has not received any applications to approve any nanoscale particles for food use and is actively monitoring research and commercialisation developments relevant to food.

FSANZ is also engaging internationally with its regulatory food partners and through the World Health Organisation to share information and ensure appropriate regulation of food products that may be derived from nanotechnologies in the future.

A FSANZ factsheet is available at:

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/educationalmaterial/factsheets/factsheets2008/smallparticle3923.cfm>