## National Nutritional Foods Association of New Zealand

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## Response of the National Nutritional Foods Association of New Zealand to the proposed Trans Tasman Joint Agency for Therapeutic Products.

Minutes of a special joint meeting of the NNFA's Regulations, Importers' and Manufacturers' Task Forces was convened at 1545 hrs on Wednesday July 13 2000 to discuss the proposed Trans Tasman Joint Agency for Therapeutic Products.

The meeting was attended by:

John Blanchard (President), Ron Law (Executive Director), Warren Sanderson (Chair, Regulatory Task force) Colin Inkster (Chair, Importers' Task Force) Mark Mathews (Chair, Manufacturers' Task Force) Alison Quesnel, John Alexander, Gary Mabey, Denise Elliott, Shailer Cottier, Rob Shaw, Sarah Kennedy. Also present was Marcus Blackmore, CEO of Blackmores (Aust) Ltd.

- 1. The meeting unanimously agreed that
  - a) NNFA is committed to industry being able to provide consumers safe Complementary Healthcare Products of high quality and least cost.
  - b) NNFA is committed to consumers having freedom of choice of such products.
  - c) NNFA is committed to consumers having access to truthful product information as allowed under Fair Trading Law to enable them to make informed health decisions.
- 2. NNFA endorses the concept of Trans-Tasman Harmonisation in principle, but only so long as it does not restrict consumers freedom of choice of product and does not impose extra costs on industry.
- 3. NNFA rejects all four models of Trans-Tasman Harmonisation proposed as they are inappropriate for Complementary Healthcare Products.
- 4. NNFA supports a separate Act and Regulations for Complementary Healthcare Products in order to progress Trans-Tasman Harmonisation.
- 5. NNFA agrees to a simplified notification system that is commensurate with a small business economy.
- 6. NNFA agrees with GMP appropriate to the manufacturing needs of Complementary Healthcare Products.
- 7. Administrative oversight of the Act and Regulations would be through a Board whose members would have knowledge and understanding Complementary Healthcare Products and the Complementary Healthcare Product industry.

Items 2-7 were passed by a vote of 11 votes to 1.

The one vote against was in favour of nothing to do with Trans Tasman Harmonisation at all. The above position was endorsed by all NZ industry groups and CHC (Aus).

