



**National Council of  
Women of New Zealand**  
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Wahine O Aotearoa

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S15.15

## **Submission to the Ministry for Primary Industries on the Policy proposals for inclusion in the Food Safety Law Reform Bill MPI Public Discussion Paper No: 2015/08**

The National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) is an umbrella group representing 288 organisations affiliated at either the national level or to one of our 21 branches. In addition to our organisational membership, about 260 women are individual members of branches. NCWNZ's function is to represent and promote the interests of New Zealand women through research, discussion and action.

This submission has been prepared by the NCWNZ Consumer Affairs Standing Committee. The Committee has reviewed earlier submissions from NCWNZ members on related food safety topics but did not consult with them on this discussion paper as it is intended to seek members' input on specific topics on the Food Safety Law Reform Bill when it is open for public submission.

### **Chapters 3 and 4**

NCWNZ has always taken an interest in the development and implementation of food safety standards. We are heartened to see the close attention paid to the implementation of the recommendations from the inquiry into the Whey Protein Contamination Incident. It has provided an opportunity to identify current inconsistencies in reporting and tracing regulations and the required technical legislative changes. This is a positive outcome from the original unfortunate incident and will assist in confirming New Zealand's commitment to the highest standards of safety in food production.

### **Chapter 10.1**

We support the intention for the new regulations to use a 'Director General statement' to inform as well as protect the public.

## Chapter 12.1

We support the rationale to extend the requirements for the Ministry for Primary Industries to use automated electronic systems for its statutory functions including decision-making and for the Director-General to require information to be provided electronically and in a particular format.

We look forward to the opportunity to make a submission on the forthcoming Food Safety Law Reform Bill.

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Rae Duff  
National President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Gavin', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Mary Gavin  
Consumer Affairs Standing Committee