



**FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND
TRADE**

22 July 1999

The Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Primary Industries and Regional Services
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Dr Hnatiuk

I attach the submission from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to the inquiry being conducted by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Primary Industries and Regional Services into primary producer access to gene technology.

The submission provides a summary of current international developments as background to the Committee's inquiry, as previously discussed with you by Mr John Hannoush. As Mr Hannoush also advised, we would be happy to provide further briefing to the Committee to assist it in its inquiry.

Allan McKinnon
Assistant Secretary
Agriculture Branch