

SCHEDULE C - ASSISTANCE MEASURES

Type C, E and F Assistance Measures are dependent upon the development of, and compliance with, an approved Investigation Program or Approved Property Program.

TYPE B: COMPENSATION

1. Purpose and Nature of Assistance Measure

Type B Assistance Measure is available for all animals slaughtered on the order of an inspector. It involves the payment of compensation to the owners of reactors or to affected Owners under an Approved Property Program. Financial assistance is provided to Owners under an Approved Property Program to compensate them in respect of Cattle slaughtered or removed from a Property on a compulsory basis because the Cattle are Tuberculosis reactors or are ordered to be slaughtered for eradication purposes.

The amount of compensation payable to an Owner will be determined by the State or Territory in which the Case or Secondary Case occurs, after taking into account the on-farm value of each head of Cattle as if it were disease free and as it stands in the yard, taking into consideration its age, sex, breed, body condition, live weight and other matters relevant to its class and, as far as practicable, the value of a similar head of Cattle in a current commercial market.

Where transport and selling costs would otherwise have been likely to be incurred in realising this value, these costs will be deducted from the value.

If requested by the TFAP Manager, arrangements will be made for the National Compensation Valuer to attend any valuation of the Cattle. The costs of the National Compensation Valuer to attend any such valuation will be a cost to Corporate Activities.

TYPE C: MUSTERING, HOLDING AND HANDLING SUBSIDY

1. Purpose

To help offset the additional costs of mustering, holding and handling of Cattle for testing and/or destocking under an Approved Property Program.

2. Nature of Assistance Measure

Type C Assistance Measure involves payment of a mustering, holding and handling subsidy and is available to all producers who are required to undertake herd testing and/or destocking as part of an Investigation Program or an Approved Property Program.

The subsidy is based on the number of Cattle certified by the TFAP Manager as having to be mustered and held.

Payment of subsidy will be on the basis of 75% of actual "agreed" operational expenditures incurred by a producer, up to a maximum of \$15 per head (to be reviewed annually by the TFAPCC) associated with mustering, handling and holding Cattle for and during testing and/or destocking. Indirect costs such as additional wear and tear on fences and yards, production losses and deaths during mustering and for and during testing are not eligible for subsidy.

The operating costs that are eligible for inclusion in the calculation of Type C Assistance Measure are staff wages, vehicle/bike/helicopter/plane operating costs, and there will be three levels of costs on which subsidy payments will be calculated:

- (a) If the test or destock muster is jointly for the TFAP and normal Cattle management activities, the costs applicable to the TFAP are 50% of eligible operating costs. The calculated subsidy in this instance is 75% of 50% (or 37.5%) of the actual agreed operating costs per head, up to the cap of \$15.00 per head of Cattle.
- (b) If the test or destock muster is primarily for the TFAP but also includes minor Cattle management activities, the agreed costs applicable to the TFAP are 75% of actual agreed operating costs. That is, the calculated subsidy is 75% of 75% (or 56.25%) of the costs per head, up to the maximum of \$15.00 per head of Cattle.
- (c) If the test or destock muster is for the TFAP purposes only, the costs applicable are 100% of actual agreed operating costs. The calculated final subsidy in this instance is 75% of the total costs per head, up to the cap of \$15.00 per head of Cattle.

When hay is fed between injection and reading the test, the full 75% subsidy of the cost of hay will be paid.

Applications for Type C Assistance Measure must be lodged within 6 months of the date of the final muster associated with a respective eradication, surveillance or destocking activity.

3. Eligibility criteria

The property must be subject to a current Investigation Program or Approved Property Program.

4. General

The TFAP Manager is responsible for determining procedures for the administration of Type C Assistance Measure within that State or Territory.

TYPE E: FREIGHT REBATES**1. Purpose**

The purpose of Type E Assistance Measure is to provide:

- (a) restocking freight rebate to assist producers to restock their Properties with disease free stock following compulsory partial or total destocking as part of an Approved Property Program; and
- (b) destocking freight rebate, in lieu of compensation, for producers who destock Cattle on a voluntary basis under an Approved Property Program in order to advance the TFAP.

2. Nature of Assistance Measure**2.1 Restocking Freight Rebate**

- (a) Restocking rebate involves payment of a freight rebate on replacement stock and is calculated as the lesser amount of 75% of the cost of the loaded journey, or \$1.10 per kilometre for a loaded cattle deck of 12.3 metres (other deck lengths on a pro-rata basis). This rate shall be reviewed annually by the TFAPCC.
- (b) Where freight is by rail, the rebate shall be 75% of the freight cost.
- (c) The currency of BTEC restocking freight rebate credits ends five years after the completion of destocking, or on the 31 December 1997, whichever is the sooner. For Cases and Secondary Cases which occurred between 1 July 1996 and 31 December 1997, restocking must occur within two years of the date of completion of destocking.

2.2 Destocking Freight Rebate

- (a) Where it is agreed by the TFAP Manager that Cattle from a herd of IN, RD or PC status, which would normally have been subjected to an order for compulsory destocking with compensation, are destocked without compensation on a voluntary basis the full cost of freight to the nearest approved abattoir may be rebated in lieu of compensation. There are no specific age limits or criteria for Cattle eligible under this type of voluntary destocking, except "normal turnoff". "Normal turnoff" stock (steers, spayed females, cull cows and mickey bulls) are ineligible for this Assistance Measure.
- (b) Restocking freight rebate is available for replacement animals up to the number of animals agreed to be destocked.

3. Eligibility

- (a) Restocking freight rebate is available to all Owners who have destocked, either partially or totally, as part of an Approved Property Program.
- (b) The total number of stock on which restocking rebate can be paid shall not exceed the total number of stock which were destocked as part of an Approved Property Program.
- (c) To be eligible for any restocking freight rebate, the stock restocked shall be of the disease status of at least CF2 maintained for a minimum of 18 months, MN or TN.
- (d) Where appropriate, restocking can occur with another species, but only up to the equivalent number of livestock units for destocked Cattle.
- (e) Restocking freight rebate is to apply only to Cattle retained on the destocked property for a minimum of three months after restocking and payment will only be made when it is confirmed that the Cattle have been there for three months.

4. General

TFAP Manager shall give prior approval:

- (a) for journeys over 500 kilometres;
- (b) for the use of private vehicles;
- (c) for restocking with another species; and
- (d) for droving in lieu of road or rail transport.

5. Transfer of restocking rebates

In the event that the Property from which the destocking has occurred is sold, an Owner may transfer freight rebate credits from the Property which was destocked to another property within that State or Territory and purchased by the Owner since the destock, subject to approval from the TFAP Manager. The maximum number of Cattle to which Type E Assistance Measure may apply to the second property is either the difference between the number of Cattle present on the second property and its grazing capacity, or the number of Type E credits transferred from the destocked Property, whichever is the lesser.

TYPE F: INTEREST SUBSIDY**1. Purpose**

The purpose of Type F Assistance Measure is to help offset the financial effects of an Approved Property Program through the provision of a partial interest reimbursement on commercial loans required for BTEC or TFAP related purposes.

2. Nature of Assistance Measure

Type F Assistance Measure involves the partial reimbursement of interest on commercial loans taken out by an Owner for BTEC or TFAP related purposes.

Eligible loans include an Owner's borrowings associated with expenditure on BTEC or TFAP related Property improvements, Property maintenance, carry-on, reconstruction of TFAP related debt, and restocking under an Approved Property Program.

The maximum subsidy rate is up to 75% of the interest paid on a commercial loan, with the maximum eligible loan interest rate on which the subsidy is paid being the Commonwealth Bank prime rate at the time the interest was paid, plus 3%.

For Owners involved in Cases and Secondary Cases prior to 1 July 1996, the interest subsidy is payable according to annual review for a period of up to ten years.

For Owners involved in Cases and Secondary Cases occurring after 1 July 1996, the interest subsidy is payable according to a fixed schedule over a period of 6 years as follows:

- (a) years 1 and 2 at 75% of the subsidisable commercial loan interest rate;
- (b) years 3 and 4 at 50% of the subsidisable commercial loan interest rate; and
- (c) years 5 and 6 at 25% of the subsidisable commercial loan interest rate.

The maximum loan, or portion thereof, which may be subsidised is:

- (d) for Property improvements, Property maintenance, carry-on, and reconstruction of BTEC or TFAP related debt - \$300,000 in respect of any one Property as a single living area, with a maximum of \$500,000 for aggregations of two or more Properties; plus
- (e) for restocking purposes - \$300,000 in respect of any one Property as a single living area, with a maximum of \$500,000 for aggregation of two or more Properties.

No additional Assistance Measures are to be provided by the State/Territory in the form of underwriting or interest repayment for the loan.

3. Eligibility

- (a) Applicants must be primary producers relying primarily on income from primary production on the Property for which this Assistance Measure is sought.
- (b) Companies do not qualify for Type F Assistance Measure unless their shareholders are bona fide primary producers who rely primarily on the income of the company from primary production for their livelihood.
- (c) To be eligible for Type F Assistance Measure, the loan must be associated with expenditure or borrowings certified as being necessary under an Approved Property Program. To qualify for the fixed schedule subsidy, the loan must be taken out in relation to a Case or Secondary Case that has occurred after 1 July 1996.
- (d) Applications for Type F Assistance Measure must be made within two years after the commencement of an Approved Property Program, or in the case of restocking, two years from the completion of destocking.

4. Guidelines for administration

The subsidy is to apply to new loans negotiated for BTEC or TFAP related purposes following the certification of an Approved Property Program. The subsidy is not available for loans associated with restructuring of total existing debts. However, restructuring of existing BTEC or TFAP related debt may be considered.

Ongoing eligibility for receipt of interest subsidy is to be subject to compliance with an Approved Property Program and annual advice to the administering agency by the TFAP Manager.

The subsidy is to be paid in arrears upon receipt of evidence from the producer's lending authority that all due interest has been paid. However, the administering agency may agree to pay the subsidy in advance, provided there are no arrears in interest payments associated with a loan.

For restocking, the subsidy is applicable to new loans representing the difference between compensation payments and the cost of restocking with equivalent disease free stock up to the maximum amount permitted for Type F Assistance Measure.

For restocking, the number of Cattle to which the subsidy may apply shall not exceed the number of animals destocked.

Support for restocking shall normally be restricted to the purchase of replacement breeders and bulls. However, this condition may be varied where, based on application by the Owner, purchase of the other types of animals is considered justified by the TFAP Manager.

SCHEDULE D - CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

Corporate Activities are those administrative, organisational or promotional activities to be undertaken or funded by the AAHC in relation to the TFAP and include:

- (a) engagement, administration of the contract, and payment of the TFAP Coordinator, and payment of expenses related to the performance of his or her functions;
- (b) organisation of and payment for travel, teleconferences and attendances at meetings by members of the TFAPCC, TFAP Property Program Group and such other persons as agreed by the TFAPCC;
- (c) payment of any fees and travel costs of the National Compensation Valuer;
- (d) undertaking, and payment of the costs of, any audit to be performed pursuant to the Deed;
- (e) undertaking and paying for TFAP promotional activities as approved by the TFAPCC;
and
- (f) payment of the management fee of the AAHC.

SCHEDULE E - TFAP COORDINATOR

The TFAP Coordinator is contracted by the AAHC to coordinate TFAP activities across Australia, including technical, administrative, and financial aspects of the TFAP and will:

1. Liaise with TFAP Managers, representatives of the cattle and buffalo industries and the Commonwealth to ensure the technical, administrative and financial objectives of the TFAP are met.
2. Coordinate and support the operations of the TFAPCC and in particular:
 - (a) the conduct of the Commonwealth's and the TFAP Managers' roles in the National Granuloma Submission Program within their jurisdictional responsibilities; and
 - (b) the provision of surveillance data to the NAHIS.
3. Participate in the TFAPCC and TFAP Property Program Group.
4. Provide information and reports to the TFAPCC including the collation of budgets and expenditure for all TFAP elements.

SCHEDULE F - TFAP COORDINATION COMMITTEE

1. Membership

The membership of the TFAPCC will be comprised of:

- (a) a representative of the AAHC;
- (b) a representative of the Commonwealth;
- (c) a representative of the CCA;
- (d) a TFAP Manager from the North (WA, Qld, NT) nominated by Veterinary Committee;
- (e) a TFAP Manager from the South (SA, Vic, NSW, Tas, ACT) nominated by Veterinary Committee; and
- (f) the TFAP Coordinator;

with the Chairperson appointed from within the membership of the TFAPCC by the AAHC Board.

2. Terms of Reference

- 2.1 To monitor the maintenance of Australia's Free Area status of Tuberculosis.
- 2.2 To consider and recommend to the AAHC:
 - (a) changes desirable in objectives, plans, policy options or procedures;
 - (b) technical, administrative, financial and other relevant matters;
 - (c) research needs and priorities; and
 - (d) other matters relevant to the TFAP.
- 2.3 To establish, as necessary, working groups to report to the TFAPCC on specific elements of the TFAP or particular issues requiring investigation.
- 2.4 To consider and make recommendations to the AAHC in respect of Corporate Activity expenditure and the annual budgets described in clause 7.1 of this Deed.
- 2.5 To refer any technical issues on which the TFAPCC is not competent to decide, or in respect of which it requires further advice, to the Veterinary Committee.

3. Other

The AAHC will determine when the TFAPCC will meet, prepare the agenda, and minutes and any other reports, and will pay the costs of attendance of members out of the Corporate Activities contributions.

Other representatives of all Parties may attend all TFAPCC meetings at their own cost.

All Parties will be provided with copies of agendas and papers in advance of any meeting and with minutes of meetings when they are produced.

SCHEDULE G - TFAP PROPERTY PROGRAM GROUP

1. Core Members

The core members of the TFAP Property Program Group will be:

- (a) the National Cattle Industry TFAP Representative;
- (b) the State or Territory Cattle Industry TFAP Representative in respect of the applicable State or Territory;
- (c) the CVO of the applicable State or Territory or his or her representative;
- (d) the TFAP Coordinator; and
- (e) the State or Territory TFAP Manager if he or she is not included as the CVO's delegate.

2. Terms of Reference

- (a) Taking into account the agreed terms of the TFAP and the likely short and long term costs to the TFAP, review Proposed Property Programs using the SDRs and collective knowledge and experience as a guide to assess the likely effectiveness of the measures proposed.
- (b) Examine each component of the proposed funding including the use and application of Assistance Measures and use of the National Compensation Valuer and their effect on approved State or Territory budgets. Where proposed funding exceeds the applicable budget for Assistance Measures, advise the Parties in order that a review of the Assistance Measures budgets may be undertaken.
- (c) Carry out the review by examining in detail a Proposed Property Program as provided by the State or Territory TFAP Manager and any additional information on previous Property activity.
- (d) The TFAP Property Program Group, in consultation with representatives from the Commonwealth and Veterinary Committee, must as soon as is practicable approve the Proposed Property Program, in which case it will become an Approved Property Program.

3. Method of Operation

The TFAP Property Program Group will generally meet by teleconference but may where appropriate meet in person.

All operations of the TFAP Property Program Group will be funded by the AAHC as a Corporate Activity.

The host TFAP Manager will chair meetings and, in consultation with other members, will prepare the written report to the TFAPCC.

SCHEDULE H - STATE AND TERRITORY ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

(cl 7.2)

INTRODUCTION

The following activity and expenditure items must be reported on (where applicable) in the order indicated.

1. Operating Conditions

One sentence on any seasonal, market or local conditions affecting the ability to carry out the activity proposed for the year.

2. Surveillance

2.1 Activity

Number of new Incidents, Cases and Secondary Cases and how detected.

For each event:

- (a) Number of Tuberculous animals detected.
- (b) Any previous herd history.
- (c) Number of Cattle in the herd, number involved in the Case or Secondary Case.
- (d) Action taken including brief description of Approved Property Program.
- (e) Testing and/or destocking required and/or carried out.
- (f) Results of tracing, neighbour testing.

2.2 Surveillance Tests

Number of tests, herds and results.

3. On-Going Eradication

3.1 Activity

- (a) Number of herds under test.
- (b) Number of tests in number of herds and results.
- (c) Number of Cattle destocked in number of herds.

4. Total Expenditure

- (a) Total field operational expenditure.
- (b) Totals of compensation expenditure for reactors and animals destocked.
- (c) Total of costs of mustering subsidy - number of properties, animals and total amount paid.
- (d) Total of expenditure on freight rebate - number of properties, animals and total amount paid.
- (e) Total expenditure on interest subsidy - number of properties and cost of subsidy.

5. Certification

- (a) This financial statement is based on proper accounts and records and is in agreement with those accounts and records.

.....
Accountant

- (b) The expenditure of monies as described in this financial statement is in accordance with the TFAP Deed.

.....
TFAP Manager

SCHEDULE I - FLOWCHARTS
(clauses 3.2, 4, 7 and 8.1)

PART 1 SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

1.1 Before each financial year:

Date	Cl.	Parties	Activity	Months
31/10	7.1	States (and Cth for NGSP Database and coordination of NGSP) provide to AAHC	Budgets for Assistance Measures, Field Operations, NGSP, TCR, TRL and NGSP Database (" States Budgets ")	Following year
31/10	4.4(a)	AAHC to other Parties	Corporate Activities Budget	Following year
15/11	7.3(a)	AAHC to TFAPCC	Consolidation of States Budgets and Corporate Activities Budget (" Consolidated Budgets ")	Following year
??	7.3(a)	TFAPCC to AAHC	Approval of Consolidated Budgets	Following year
Dec	7.3(b)	AAHC to AAHC Board	Consolidated Budgets	Following year
Jan	7.3(d)	AAHC to other Parties	Consolidated Budgets	Following year
28/2	4.2(a)	AAHC to Cth	Budget for NGSP, NGSP Database, TCR and TRL	Following year
28/2	4.3(a)	AAHC to Cth	Budget for Assistance Measures	Following year
30/6	4.2(b)	Cth to AAHC	1/4ly advance payment for NGSP, NGSP Database, TCR and TRL	July to September

1.2 During each financial year:

Date	Cl.	Parties	Activity	Months
30/9	4.2(b)	Cth to AAHC	1/4ly advance payment for NGSP, NGSP Database, TCR and TRL	October to December
31/12	4.2(b)	Cth to AAHC	1/4ly advance payment for NGSP, NGSP Database, TCR and TRL	January to March
29/1	8.1(a)	Cth to AAHC	Report on Assistance Measures, coordination of NGSP, and NGSP Database payments	July to December
29/1	8.1(b)	States to AAHC	Field Operations , NGSP, TCR and TRL Reports	July to December
28/2	7.3(c), 8.1(c)	AAHC to Parties	6 monthly reports and 6 monthly accounts	July to December
31/3	4.2(b)	Cth to AAHC	1/4ly advance payment for NGSP, NGSP Database, TCR and TRL	April to June

As required	4.3(c)	Cth to States	Payments for Assistance Measures	Period of Claim
As required	4.2(d)	Parties to AAHC	Invoices for NGSP, TRL, TCR	Period of invoice
w/i 15 days of invoice from AAHC	4.4(b)	Parties to AAHC	Payments for Corporate Activities	Period of invoice

1.3 After each financial year:

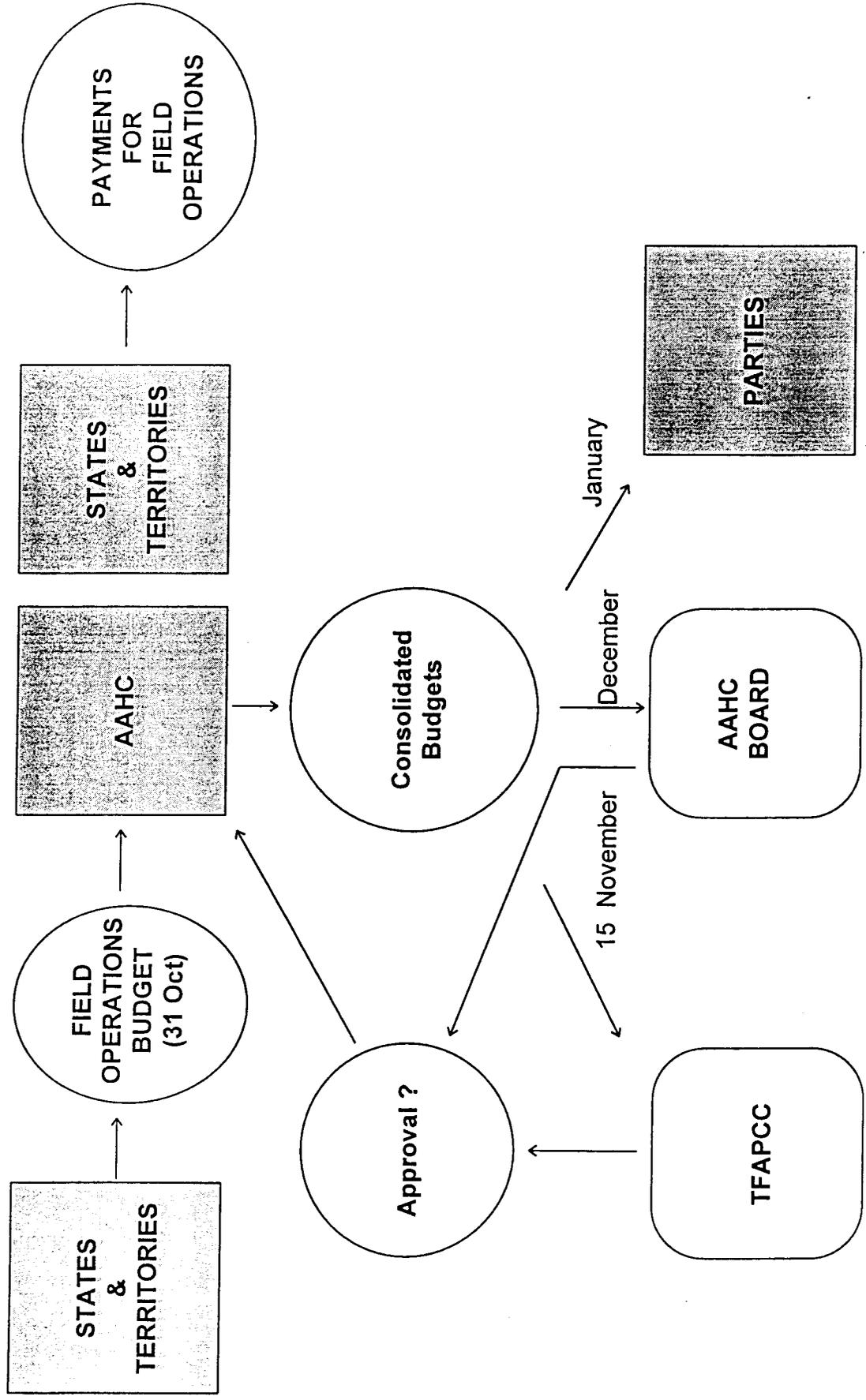
Date	Cl.	Parties	Activity	Months
29/7	8.1(a)	Cth to AAHC	Report on Assistance Measures, coordination of NGSP, and NGSP Database payments	January to June
29/7	8.1(b)	States to AAHC	Field Operations, NGSP, TCR and TRL Accounts	January to June
31/7	7.2	States to AAHC	TFAP Progress Reports	Full year
29/8	7.3(c), 8.1(c)	AAHC to Parties	6 monthly reports and 6 monthly accounts	January to June
Oct/ Nov	7.3(e)	AAHC to its Members	Report via AGM and Annual Report	Full year
As appropriate	7.3(f)	AAHC to ARMCANZ	Report to ARMCANZ	Period of Report

PART 2

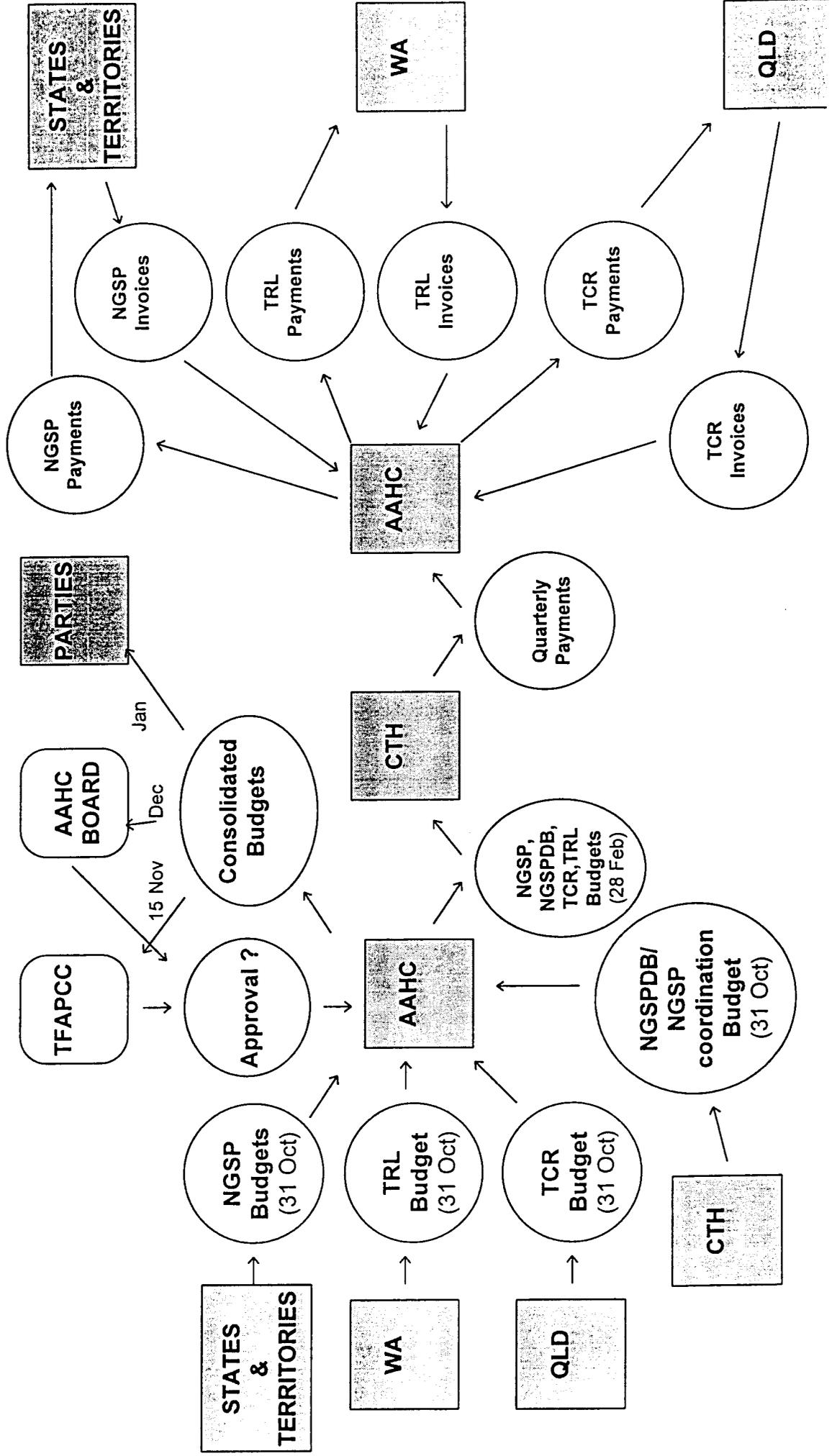
**THE TUBERCULOSIS FREEDOM
ASSURANCE PROGRAM**

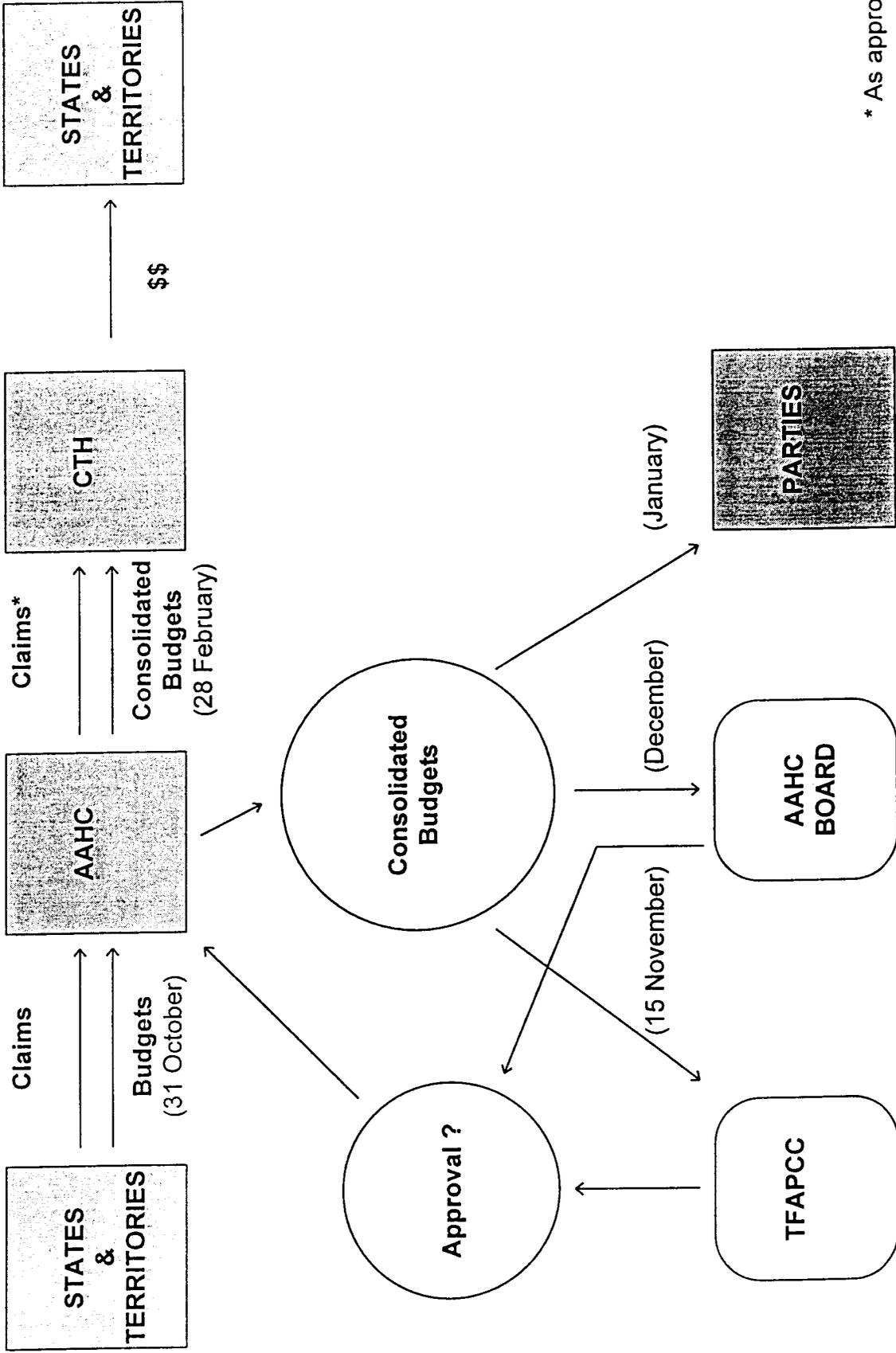
CORPORATE ACTIVITIES		
TUBERCULOSIS CASE REGISTER (TCR)	TUBERCULOSIS REFERENCE LABORATORY (TRL)	NATIONAL GRANULOMA SUBMISSION PROGRAM DATABASE (NGSPDB)
NATIONAL GRANULOMA SUBMISSION PROGRAM		
FIELD OPERATIONS	ASSISTANCE MEASURES	

2.1 FIELD OPERATIONS



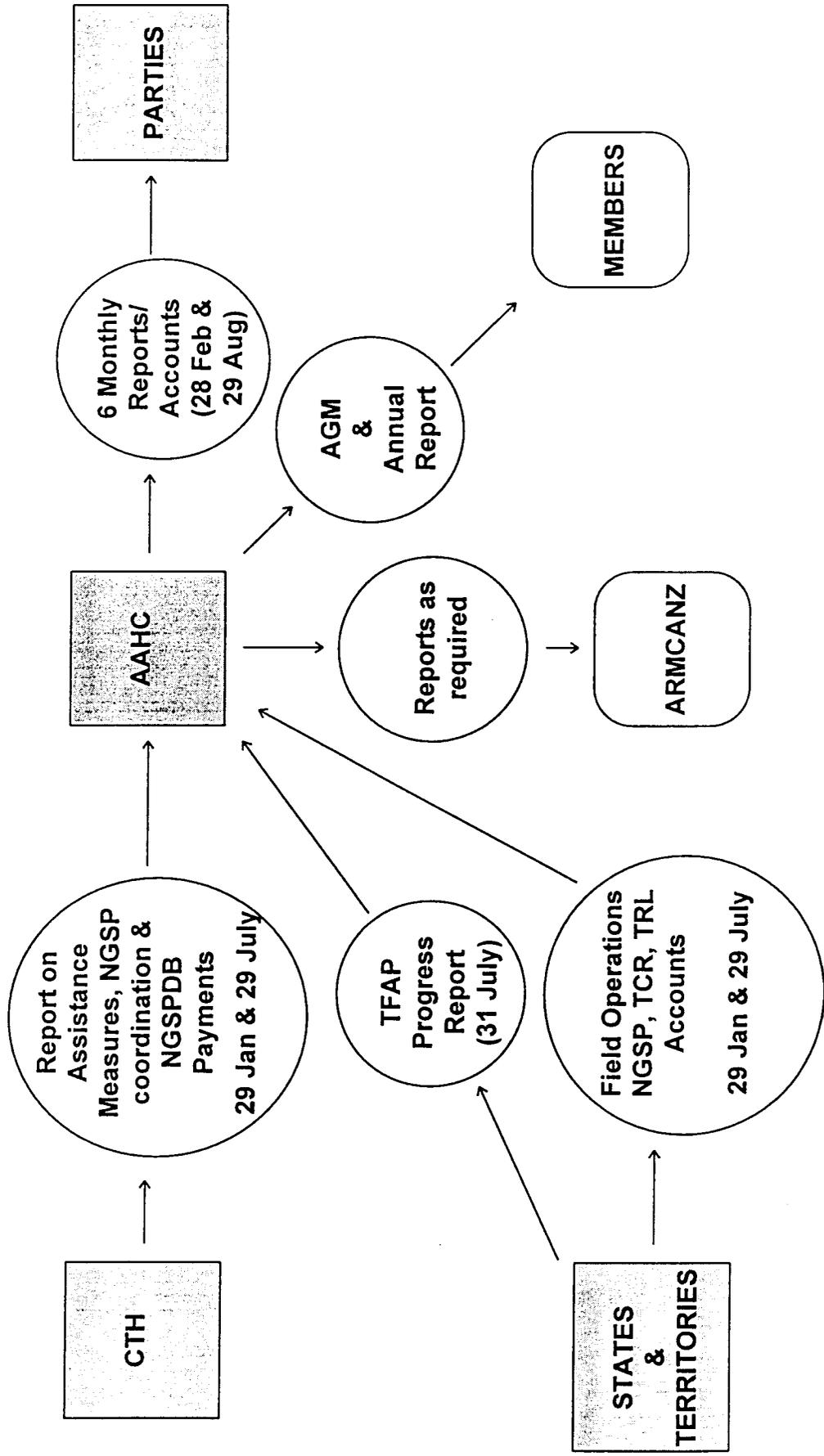
2.2 NGSP, NGSPDB, TCR & TRL





* As appropriate

2.5 REPORTS



SCHEDULE J - FORWARD BUDGET FORMAT
(cl 7.1(b))

TFAP Budget of [Name of Party] for Financial Year ending 30 June [XXXX]

1. SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES BUDGET

1.1 Core activities budget

NGSP (State) []
NGSP AQIS Component [Database and other][]
Tuberculosis Case Register []
Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory []

Total Core Activities budget []

1.2 Pre 1998 Infection and Surveillance

Total Field Operations []

Compensation []
Mustering Subsidy []
Freight Rebate []
Interest Subsidy []

Sub Total of Assistance Measures []

Total Pre 1998 Infection and Surveillance []

1.3 Total budget for Surveillance []

2. INCIDENTS, CASES AND SECONDARY CASES

2.1 Budget for post 1998 Incidents, Cases and Secondary Cases

Total Field Operations []

Compensation []
Mustering Subsidy []
Freight Rebate []
Interest Subsidy []

Sub Total of Assistance Measures []

2.2 Total budget for Incidents, Cases and Secondary Cases []

Anticipated number of Incidents, Cases and Secondary Cases []

SCHEDULE K - TFAP OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT REVIEW

A review of the TFAP will commence in July 2000 under the following conditions:

1. The review will be funded as a Corporate Activity.
2. The AAHC will appoint an independent chairperson.
3. Members will be appointed by the AAHC taking account of the recommendations from the TFAPCC but including at least the following:
 - (a) 2 persons representing the CCA;
 - (b) 2 TFAP Managers;
 - (c) 1 AAHC representative;
 - (d) 1 Commonwealth representative; and
 - (e) the TFAP Coordinator.
4. The following terms of reference will apply unless otherwise directed by the AAHC:
 - (a) using the TFAP objectives as a basis, examine the budgets provided by the States and Territories against reported actual activity for each of the preceding financial years and assess the effectiveness of the processes used in working towards achieving the objectives;
 - (b) scrutinise the effectiveness of funding arrangements including the agreed budgets and split of funding between the Parties, the use and application of Assistance Measures and compensation arrangements including use of the National Compensation Valuer;
 - (c) investigate the uniformity of application and adherence to the SDRs by the States and Territories;
 - (d) examine the effectiveness, costs and operation of the National Granuloma Submission Program, the National Granuloma Submission Program Database, the Tuberculosis Case Register and the Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory;
 - (e) examine the effectiveness of the management arrangements, including the role of the TFAP Coordinator, the TFAPCC, the TFAP Property Program Group and any other supporting committees or groups that may be approved by the AAHC;
 - (f) investigate and report on the need for a further period of surveillance for Tuberculosis;
 - (g) carry out review by examining activity and financial records and interviews with State, Territory and Commonwealth officers including the TFAP Managers, Property Owners and managers, abattoir owners and managers, Cattle industry organisations and any other persons or groups deemed relevant; and

- (h) provide a report to the AAHC by 30 October 2000, with recommendations on key issues and any proposed changes to arrangements to the TFAP for the remainder of the TFAP.

SCHEDULE L - STANDARD DEFINITIONS AND RULES

Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program

Standard Definitions and Rules

These Standard Definitions and Rules are Approved by the Standing Committee on Agriculture and
Resource Management

**AUSTRALIAN 
ANIMAL HEALTH
COUNCIL LTD.**

1998

TABLE OF CONTENTS - SCHEDULE L

1. INTRODUCTION.....	37
2. DEFINITIONS	37
2.1 MISCELLANEOUS.....	37
2.2 TUBERCULOSIS TESTS	39
2.3 HERD TESTS	40
2.4 HERD CLASSIFICATIONS	40
3. GENERAL RULES.....	41
3.1 DECLARATION OF FREE AREA.....	41
3.2 DISCOVERY OF INFECTION IN THE FREE AREA	42
3.3 MOVEMENTS	42
3.4 INFECTED HERDS	42
3.5 STANDARD TEST PROCEDURES	43
3.6. SINGLE INTRADERMAL CAUDAL FOLD TEST.....	45
3.7 COMPARATIVE INTRADERMAL TUBERCULIN TEST.....	46
4. MANAGING EVIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS	48
4.1 CASE	48
4.2 SECONDARY CASE.....	49
4.3 INCIDENT.....	49
4.4 RULES FOR MANAGING CASES AND SECONDARY CASES	49
4.5 WHERE NO FURTHER INFECTION IS DETECTED ON THE INITIAL INVESTIGATION	51
4.6 SUBSEQUENT ACTION WHERE FURTHER INFECTION IS DETECTED	51
5. RULES FOR APPROVED PROPERTY PROGRAMS	52
5.1 SELECTION CRITERIA.....	52
5.2 APPROVAL	52
5.3 MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY	52
5.4 ADMINISTRATION AND DOCUMENTATION OF AN APPROVED PROPERTY PROGRAM	53
5.5 TESTING PROGRAMS.....	54
5.6 DESTOCKING AND RESTOCKING	55
5.7 SUPERVISION OF AN APPROVED PROPERTY PROGRAM.....	56
6. APPROVED TUBERCULOSIS SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS.....	56
6.1 GENERAL	56
6.2 SURVEILLANCE TEST	57
7. APPROVED PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING GRANULOMATOUS LESIONS.....	57
7.1 SAMPLE COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION	57
7.2 LABORATORY PROCEDURES USED TO EXAMINE GRANULOMAS.....	57

1. INTRODUCTION

These Standard Definitions and Rules comprise minimum national standards upon which the States, Territories and Commonwealth manage the TFAP to suit their circumstances.

Detailed operating procedures developed for the implementation of the TFAP are the responsibility of the animal health authorities in each State, Territory and the Commonwealth. Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) may at any time, because of particular circumstances, impose requirements more stringent than these.

Advice as to the interpretation of this document is available from Australian Animal Health Council Limited, Commonwealth, State or Territory authorities.

These Definitions and Rules may be modified from time to time as appropriate.

To the extent of any conflict, the definitions, terms and conditions contained in the TFAP Deed take precedence over these Definitions and Rules. Both the Deed and the SDRs take precedence over other sources of technical information.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 Miscellaneous

“**Approved Abattoir**” means an abattoir approved by the CVO in which full time inspection procedures are carried out and the identity of Cattle is maintained throughout the inspection process.

“**Approved Laboratory**” means a veterinary diagnostic laboratory approved by the CVO for examining granulomas for evidence of Tuberculosis.

“**Approved Person**” means a person approved by the CVO to carry out Tuberculosis tests.

“**BTEC**” means the National Brucellosis and Tuberculosis Eradication Campaign that concluded when Australia was declared a Free Area on 31 December 1997.

“**Cattle**” means animals of the genus *Bos* and the genus *Bubalus* (buffalo).

“**Case**” means a confirmed occurrence of Tuberculosis.

“**Case Herd**” means a Herd in which a Case of Tuberculosis has been found, that was previously Tested Negative (TN), Monitored Negative (MN) or Confirmed Free (CF1 - CF3).

“**Culture Positive**” means a lesion from which *Mycobacterium bovis* is cultured.

“**CVO**” means the Chief Veterinary Officer of a State, Territory or the Commonwealth.

“**Destock, Destocking, Destocked**” means the process of, or outcome from, removal of all specified Cattle from an area.

“Eligible Cattle” means Cattle over six months of age. The CVO may require testing of animals younger than six months.

“For immediate slaughter” means:

- (a) consigned direct to an Approved Abattoir for slaughter within 5 working days; or
- (b) in the case of Destock Cattle, consigned to a saleyard approved by the CVO for sale for slaughter within 5 working days only. The saleyard to be such that animals so consigned are physically separated from all other classes of stock at all times.

“Free Area” means an area that has been an Impending Free Area for at least 5 years during which the number of Cases of Tuberculosis has been acceptable and effectively handled. All Tuberculosis is believed to have been eradicated. Previously infected Herds are subject to approved surveillance. An approved abattoir surveillance system and granuloma submission system is in place.

“Herd” means a group of Cattle which is managed and maintained separately from other Cattle by an approved fence or approved natural barrier. An Official Tag may only be allocated to a Herd.

“Histopathology Positive” means a lesion that is consistent with Tuberculosis by histopathological examination.

“Impending Free Area” means an area declared as such because it conformed to the requirements of the BTEC SDRs, viz., an approved monitoring system was in place, all Herds had been assessed, no Herd was Infected or Restricted and there was capacity to eradicate any Tuberculosis found within 24 months of detection.

“Incident” means an event where histopathological evidence is equivocal and culture cannot confirm Tuberculosis. An alternative diagnosis cannot be established.

“Incident Herd” means a Herd in which an Incident has occurred and in which the CVO has approved procedures to establish the cause.

“Official Tag” means a tailtag or eartag approved by the CVO to identify Cattle to a specific ownership or parcel of land.

“Official Green Tags” means those tags approved by the CVO for on-property and in-transit use to identify Cattle of status less than CF or Cattle exposed to Tuberculosis.

“Owner” means, as applicable, the owner(s) of the Cattle or the property on which the Cattle exist or have existed, or their authorised representative(s).

“Positive Lesion” means a lesion classified as Tuberculosis following examination in an Approved Laboratory.

“Quarantine” means an official order restricting Cattle to a certain location or requiring authorisation for movement to and from that location.

“Reactor” means an animal that has been detected by a tuberculin test or Gamma Interferon Test as having immunological evidence of infection with Tuberculosis.

“Secondary Case Herd” means a Herd found to be infected with Tuberculosis following tracing from a Case Herd. Should further Tuberculosis be traced from a Secondary Case Herd, that Herd itself becomes a Case Herd.

“Suspect Tuberculosis Lesion” means a granulomatous lesion that could be caused by Tuberculosis.

“TFAP Deed” means the agreement for the conduct of the TFAP agreed by the Cattle Council of Australia Inc., AAHC, Commonwealth, States and Territories.

“TFAP Coordinating Committee (TFAPCC)” means the committee that advises AAHC on conduct of the TFAP.

“Traceback” means the process of identifying the property of origin of Cattle by tracing their movements back to their source Herds.

“Traceforward” means the process of tracing the location of Cattle that have moved from a property.

“Tuberculosis” means bovine Tuberculosis caused by the organism *Mycobacterium bovis*.

“Tuberculosis Case Register” means the database where records are maintained on information of Tuberculosis Incidents, Cases and Secondary Cases.

“Veterinary Committee” means the committee of Commonwealth State and Territory CVOs, a representative of the CSIRO and the CVO of New Zealand as Approved by the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Resource Management.

2.2 Tuberculosis tests

“Single Intradermal Caudal Fold Test” means an official test as when performed by an Approved Person and carried out using the test procedure defined in clause 3.6.

“Comparative Tuberculin Test” means an official test as when performed by an Approved Person and carried out using the test procedure defined in clause 3.7.

“Gamma Interferon Test” means the test carried out on a blood sample according to manufacturers’ instructions and the Australian Standard Diagnostic Techniques.

“Post-mortem examination” means the examination of a carcass in an abattoir or by field autopsy.

“Clinical examination” means the examination of a live animal for clinical signs consistent with Tuberculosis.

2.3 Herd tests

“**Eradication Test**” means a test involving all eligible animals in a Herd carried out on Herds of SU, IN, RD, PC, CF1 and CF2 status.

“**Movement Test**” means a tuberculin test of Cattle prior to moving Cattle from one place to another.

“**Survey Test**” means a tuberculin test of some or all of the eligible animals in a Herd to assist determine the current Tuberculosis status of a Herd or area; where such testing either does not comply with requirements for an Eradication Test or a Confirmatory Test, or is not intended for that purpose.

“**Miscellaneous Test**” means a tuberculin test of some or all of the eligible animals in a Herd that is not primarily related to the conduct of the TFAP (e.g. export, introduction, show, sale, etc).

“**Diagnostic Test**” means a Tuberculosis Test of Cattle in a Herd applied as part of a differential diagnosis of a disease where Tuberculosis is one possibility.

“**Retest**” means a test of selected Cattle on a later occasion to clarify their status.

“**Confirmatory Test**” means a tuberculin test carried out on all eligible animals in a Herd or group and where no Tuberculosis is detected.

“**Negative Test**” means a tuberculin test carried out on all eligible animals in a Herd or group and where no Tuberculosis is detected.

“**Surveillance Test**” means the final check tuberculin test carried out eight years after exposure, on Cattle previously exposed to Tuberculosis. The Herd then achieves Confirmed Free 3 status. Guidelines for Herds requiring a Surveillance Test are included in clause 6.2.

2.4 Herd classifications

“**Not Assessed**” means a Herd that has not been tested and for which insufficient information is available for it to be classified otherwise.

“**Suspect (SU)**” means a Herd in which surveillance information suggests that the Herd may be Infected, but further evidence is required to classify the Herd as Infected or otherwise; or in which the field situation suggests that the Herd has a high risk of being Infected, or a Herd where a Case has been detected but not in the Herd.

“**Infected (IN)**” means a Herd in which Tuberculosis is confirmed.

“**Restricted (RD)**” means a previously Infected Herd that has had one Herd test at least 60 days (and preferably 90 days) after a previous test without evidence of infection.

“Provisionally Clear (PC)” means a previously Infected Herd that has had two consecutive Negative Tests at an interval of not less than six months.

“Administratively Provisionally Clear (APC)” means a herd that has undergone the required testing to be classified as Tested Negative, Monitored Negative or Confirmed Free (CF1 - CF3), but is set at Administratively Provisionally Clear status due to a risk of Tuberculosis remaining undetected or being introduced because of proximity to Tuberculosis in neighbouring Cattle.

“Confirmed Free (CF)/Confirmed Free One (CF1)” means a previously Provisionally Clear, Tested Negative or Monitored Negative Herd that has had at least one further Negative Test without evidence of Tuberculosis at an interval of not less than six months after achieving that status. Where the Herd was previously classified as Infected this may be referred to as Confirmed Free One status.

“Confirmed Free Two (CF2)” means a Herd that has had one further Negative Test at least 12 months after the test to achieve CF1 status.

“Confirmed Free Three (CF3)” means a Herd that has had a test in accordance with the requirements for the Surveillance Test, 8 years after the last known Tuberculosis or all exposed stock have been sent for slaughter.

“Tested Negative (TN)” means a Herd not previously classified as Infected that has had at least one Negative Test without evidence of Tuberculosis.

“Monitored Negative (MN)” means a Herd in which adequate surveillance information indicates that the Herd is free of Tuberculosis, but a Negative Test has not been carried out.

“Disbanded (DB)” means a Herd for which records were kept but which no longer exists.

3. GENERAL RULES

3.1 Declaration of Free Area

The Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand declared the whole of Australia a Free Area when:

- (a) all areas of Australia were Free or Impending Free for at least 5 years;
- (b) Veterinary Committee was satisfied that all Tuberculosis had been eradicated;
- (c) no Herds were classified as Infected, Restricted or Provisionally Clear;
- (d) movement controls were in place for Cattle from Herds that had Tuberculosis and achieved Confirmed Free One status; and

- (e) an approved abattoir surveillance system and granuloma submission program were in place.

3.2 Discovery of infection in the Free Area

The discovery of Tuberculosis in the Free Area may not automatically affect its classification.

3.3 Movements

Cattle movements from Herds with Tuberculosis or suspicion of Tuberculosis are subject to control and supervision by the CVO.

Incident, Case and Secondary Case Herds are placed under formal movement control until investigations are completed and the Herd appropriately classified.

3.4 Infected Herds

3.4.1 Restrictions

Movement of Cattle from an Infected Herd is only permitted with the approval of the CVO.

3.4.2 Testing

- (a) An Infected (IN) Herd requires one Negative Test without evidence of infection not less than 60 days (and preferably 90 days) after the previous test, to attain RD status.
- (b) A Restricted (RD) Herd requires one further Negative Test without evidence of infection not less than 6 months after the test by which it attained RD status to attain PC status.
- (c) A Provisionally Clear (PC) Herd requires one further Negative Test without evidence of infection at an interval of not less than 6 months after the test by which it attained PC status to attain CF1 status.
- (d) A Confirmed Free One (CF1) Herd requires one Negative Test not less than 12 months after attaining CF1 status to attain CF2 status.
- (e) A Confirmed Free Two (CF2) Herd requires a review 8 years after the last known Tuberculosis and all Cattle previously exposed to Tuberculosis require one Negative Test. Such a test is a Surveillance Test and the Herd achieves CF3 status.

3.4.3 Movement of Reactors

When Reactors are sent for immediate slaughter, they will be identified and will be transported under a permit issued by an official inspector.

3.5 Standard test procedures

3.5.1 Testing

- (a) All Tuberculosis Tests are official and subject to CVO control.
- (b) An Approved Person must carry out all testing.
- (c) Reactors and/or animals deemed to be suspect will be identified by the Approved Person in a manner prescribed by the CVO.

3.5.2 Reports

The Approved Person will submit a report on all tests to the CVO.

3.5.3 Isolation

Reactors and Cattle deemed to be suspect will be placed in isolation from all other Cattle pending their disposal.

3.5.4 Disposal

Unless a Retest is permitted, Reactor Cattle will be disposed of within 21 days by:

- (a) Consignment to an Approved Abattoir for immediate slaughter. The Officer-in-Charge of inspection at the abattoir must be advised prior to the dispatch of the reactors; or
- (b) Slaughter and autopsy on the property of origin, with disposal of the carcass in a manner approved by the CVO.

3.5.5 Examination of Reactors

- (a) An examination of Reactors will be made at slaughter concentrating on the thorax and with detailed examination of all the tissues listed in the table that follows.
- (a) Any granuloma or other suspicious lesion will be submitted for examination in an Approved Laboratory.

- (b) In herds where previous exposure to Tuberculosis has been confirmed, all lymph nodes listed must be submitted from any Reactors.
- (c) The rigour of examination of samples from NVL Reactors found after the first round of testing is at the discretion of the CVO.
- (d) All Approved Laboratories will use methods described in the Australian Standard Diagnostic Techniques for Animal Diseases (ASDTs).

Priority	Tissue	
Essential	Medial retropharyngeal ln	Left and right
	Tracheobronchial (bronchial) ln	Left and right
	Mediastinal ln	Anterior and posterior
Highly desirable	Tracheobronchial (bronchial) ln	Cranial and medial
	Other thoracic lymph nodes	
Desirable	Mandibular ln	Left and right
	Parotid ln	Left and right
	Lateral retropharyngeal ln	Left and right
	Medial iliac ln	Left and right
	Mesenteric ln from the region of the duodenum, jejunum and ileum	
	Superficial inguinal (mammary or scrotal) ln	Left and right

- (f) Officers-in-charge of meat inspection at Approved Abattoirs will report to the CVO:
- (i) all Reactors processed, with identification and results;
 - (ii) all suspect lesions, with identification and description; and
 - (iii) all specimens submitted for laboratory examination.
- (g) Officers-in-charge of laboratories will report to the CVO, and to the officer-in-charge of meat inspection at the Approved Abattoir, the results of all examinations for Tuberculosis.
- (h) The CVO will ensure that information on the State or Territory of origin of Reactors and carcasses with suspicious lesions is relayed as soon as possible to the appropriate CVO.

3.5.6 Compensation

All Cattle ordered to be slaughtered as a part of Tuberculosis eradication procedures are eligible for compensation.

3.5.7 Animals eligible for Tuberculosis Tests

All Cattle over six months of age are eligible animals. In Infected Herds, testing of animals younger than six months may be required by the CVO.

3.6. Single Intradermal Caudal Fold Test

An intradermal injection of 0.1 ml of Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) tuberculin containing 3mg PPD per ml [i.e. CSL Tuberculin PPD (bovine) 3 mg/ml] is made into the caudal fold. The test is assessed by visual examination and palpation of the injection site. The optimum time for assessment is 72 hours after injection.

3.6.1 Retesting

Where a Retest of Cattle is deemed necessary the Retest may be performed at the same injection site or at another injection site not less than 60 days (and preferably 90 days) after the last injection.

3.6.2 Equipment

- (a) **Syringe** - an approved type of single or multi dose syringe with the means of accurately dispensing 0.1 ml of tuberculin.
- (b) **Needles** - 22 gauge or finer, the unsheathed portion of the needle when attached to the syringe, to be no less than 2 mm and no more than 5 mm in length.

3.6.3 Method

- (a) The caudal fold should be examined for abnormalities. If any abnormality is detected it should be recorded.
- (b) The fold to be injected should be located and immobilised using the fingers, or fingers and thumb of the hand not holding the syringe. The fold should be injected at the level of the third or fourth coccygeal vertebrae.
- (c) An intradermal injection is made by inserting the needle at an appropriate angle, depending on the thickness of the caudal fold to ensure the delivery of a 0.1 ml dose intradermally. Intradermal deposition of tuberculin is indicated by the immediate formation of palpable bleb at the site of injection.

3.6.4 Reading

Interpretation of the test is made by raising the tail and examining the injection site both manually and visually at or soon after the optimum time of 72 hours after injection. Both caudal folds may be examined to determine if there is any swelling, thickening or oedema of the injected site.

3.6.5 Interpretation

A Reactor is an animal showing visible or palpable swelling at the site of injection.

3.7 Comparative Intradermal Tuberculin Test

The test involves intradermal injections of 0.1 ml of bovine tuberculin PPD and 0.1 ml of avian tuberculin PPD into separate clipped sites in the mid-neck region in front of the line of the shoulder. The test is assessed by examining and measuring the sites of injection before and at an optimum time of 72 hours after injection.

3.7.1 Equipment

- (a) **Syringes** - as for the Single Intradermal Caudal Fold Test. Two syringes must be used each identified for the type of tuberculin to be used and used for that tuberculin only.
- (b) **Needles** - as for the single intradermal caudal fold test.
- (c) **Hand clippers or curved scissors.**
- (d) **Tuberculin** - bovine tuberculin PPD at a potency of 1 mg/ml and avian tuberculin PPD at a potency of 2500 IU/ml. (IU = international units) i.e. CSL Tuberculin PPD (Bovine) 1 mg/ml; CSL Tuberculin PPD (Avian).
- (e) **Skin Calipers** - of approved design. The calipers may or may not be calibrated in millimetres.
- (f) **Ruler** - calibrated in centimetres and millimetres.
- (g) **Record sheets.**

3.7.2 Method

- (a) The injection sites should be in a line in front of and parallel with the line of the shoulder. The upper site, used only for the avian tuberculin, should be at least 10 cm below the crest of the neck. The lower site, used only for the bovine tuberculin, should be not less than 19 cm from the upper site.

- (b) For young Cattle, in which the two sites cannot be separated sufficiently, an injection should be made on each side of the neck at an equivalent site.
- (c) The selected site is clipped and clean. A fold of skin within the clipped area is taken up between the finger and thumb and measured to the nearest millimetre, using calipers, BEFORE injection. The measurements are recorded. The intradermal injection is made in a similar manner to the single intradermal caudal fold test. If a bleb is not raised then a further injection is made preferably on the other side of the neck and at a similar site.

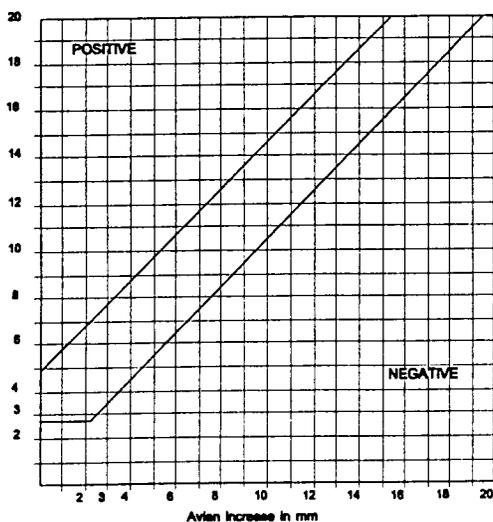
3.7.3 Reading

The test is read by picking up the skin fold so that the swelling or injection site is at the apex. The thickness of the fold is then measured to the nearest millimetre with calipers and recorded. It is important that the nature of the swelling is noted and the presence of even a minimum amount of either diffuse or discrete oedema is considered as highly significant. The result of the test is interpreted according to the rules set down.

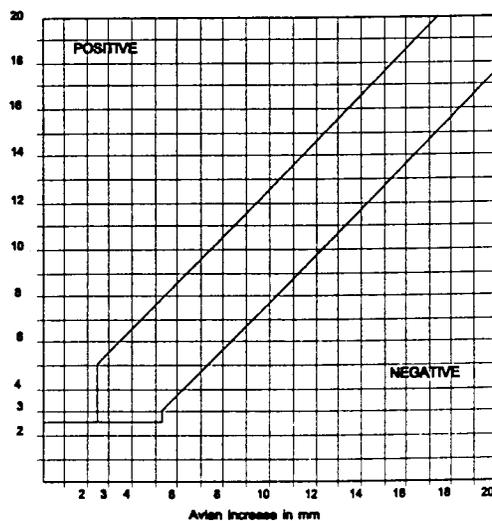
3.7.4 Interpretation

The following graphs explain the **standard** and **severe** interpretations of the test.

Standard interpretation
Avian/Bovine Tuberculin Test



Severe interpretation
(To be used only on CVO's instruction)



3.7.5 Standard Interpretation

- (a) To be used as the normal interpretation.
- (b) Used for Herds where the history is not suggestive of Tuberculosis or Herds with a non-specific sensitisation.

3.7.6 Severe Interpretation

- (a) To be used only on the instruction of the CVO.
- (b) May be used for Herds with a recent history of Tuberculosis or with an inadequate history.

3.7.7 Reactor

An animal showing visible or palpable swelling at the injection sites which when measured is interpreted as positive or suspect on reference to the above graphs.

4. MANAGING EVIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS

Evidence of tuberculosis in a MN, TN or CF, CF1, CF2, or CF3 herd follows detection at an abattoir, by herd testing or other type of tuberculosis investigation.

4.1 Case

A Case is where Tuberculosis is confirmed because of:

- (a) Positive Lesion from the original or subsequent sample submission; and/or
- (b) Positive Histopathology and negative culture and a professional decision has been made that the Case is Tuberculosis following consideration of accumulated evidence such as gross pathology, laboratory findings and epidemiological evidence such as previous history of Tuberculosis.

All Cases of Tuberculosis must be reported to the TFAPCC and Veterinary Committee.

Where a Case has been detected in a Herd, the status of that Herd is Infected (IN).

Where a Case has been detected not in a Herd, then the Herd from which that animal has moved shall be assigned Suspect (SU) status.

4.2 Secondary Case

A Secondary Case is a Herd where Tuberculosis is confirmed in introduced animals following Traceback or Traceforward from a Case Herd.

Secondary Cases are handled as for Cases and further investigation and tracing is initiated to determine if Tuberculosis may have been transferred into the Secondary Case Herd and to other properties.

Where evidence of the spread of Tuberculosis is found in a Secondary Case Herd, the Secondary Case Herd becomes a Case Herd.

4.3 Incident

This is where histopathological examination is equivocal and culture cannot confirm Tuberculosis.

Incidents are investigated as approved by the CVO to assist exclusion of Tuberculosis as a diagnosis. They must be reported to the Tuberculosis Case Register.

The procedure for dealing with Incidents is to:

- (a) conduct an intensive examination of lesions in an Approved Laboratory;
- (b) forward any a portion of any sample which remains suspect for Tuberculosis to the Australian Reference Laboratory for Bovine Tuberculosis;
- (c) carry out an epidemiological investigation assessing in particular the Herd history, monitoring and neighbours;
- (d) where appropriate, increase monitoring through abattoirs or carry out field testing to assist exclusion of Tuberculosis as a diagnosis.

4.4 Rules for managing Cases and Secondary Cases

4.4.1 Tracing

- (a) Upon detection of a suspect lesion the person detecting the lesion or the Officer-in-Charge of the Approved Abattoirs is required to ensure that a record is kept of the tag number(s) of the animal involved and the size, location and description of the lesion(s). This description is submitted on a National Granuloma Submission Program submission form with the specimen(s) to an Approved Laboratory.
- (b) Any other information that may assist with Traceback should also be recorded. This may include: brand, ear tag, tailtag colour, sex, age, breed, animal colour and

- any health certification that accompanied the animal. Identification of other animals in the group is required if the suspect animal is not fully identified.
- (c) Where a lesion is Histopathology Positive or suspect, Traceback of the carcase to the Herd of origin must occur and be confirmed to the satisfaction of the CVO.
 - (d) Where tracing to a Herd and investigation determines that the animal was not born on that property, further tracing shall occur to determine, where possible, on what other properties the animal has been depastured. Appropriate action is then taken on these Herds.
 - (e) Where Tuberculosis is confirmed, full Traceback and Traceforward are to be carried out.
 - (f) To identify the direct contacts of all infected animals, tracing may have to go back for the lifetime of the infected animal(s). In the absence of knowledge of the source of the Tuberculosis, tracing should go back five years. All Herds, which have received animals from a Case Herd or Secondary Case Herd, are to be investigated. The status assigned to the Herd may be subsequently modified or limited to the groups containing, or that have contained, the Cattle identified by Traceforward and subsequent investigation.
 - (g) Any risk groups on neighbouring properties may also be placed under quarantine, and appropriate action taken. i.e. Herd test or Destock. A second test may be required after Tuberculosis has been eradicated from neighbouring Herds.

4.4.2 Investigation

- (a) Where Herds are under suspicion the initial investigation of a Herd should aim to confirm whether or not Tuberculosis exists on the property.
- (b) Where a Case or Secondary Case is traced to a Herd the initial investigation should aim to confirm whether further infected animals remain in the Herd.
- (c) In either case the investigation may take the form of:
 - (i) testing of the Herd or group;
 - (ii) Destocking of the whole Herd or group involved, with testing of the remaining Cattle on the property that are at risk;
 - (iii) Destocking of defined age groups and testing of the remaining Cattle; or
 - (iv) in the case of an Incident, the CVO will determine whether a Negative Test is required.

4.4.3 Destocking

Factors affecting the use of Destocking as part of the initial strategy are:

- (a) detection of Tuberculosis;
- (b) positive Traceback to a particular group of animals;
- (c) previous history of Tuberculosis in the Herd;
- (d) doubt that testing will be effective eg. age of Cattle or Cattle on a falling plane of nutrition;
- (e) management not capable of implementing the required testing program;
- (f) inadequate stock control or geographical/environmental conditions prevent adequate musters; and
- (g) Destocking is economically advantageous to both the Owner and the TFAP.

4.5 Where no further infection is detected on the initial investigation

4.5.1 Cases and Secondary Cases

- (a) Where the Herd of origin has been confirmed, the number of tests required to progress to CF3 status is to be included in the Approved Property Program.
- (b) Where the Herd of origin has not been confirmed, Herds under investigation may be required to undertake one or more tests.
- (c) The number of tests required to progress to CF3 status may be reduced from that given in clause 3.4.2 for groups of animals not related to the Infected group, or groups that have been segregated for a significant period of time, especially if these groups have already received tests.
- (d) The agreed number of tests will be stated in the Approved Property Program.

4.5.2 Incidents

No further action, or at the discretion of the CVO (refer 4.3).

4.6 Subsequent action where further infection is detected

- (a) Where the initial investigation confirms that further Tuberculosis is present in the Herd, Destocking of the group/Herd will be the program of choice.

- (b) Animals may be retained for testing, subject to approval of the TFAPCC and Veterinary Committee, where:
 - (i) there is no evidence of transmission of Tuberculosis to younger age groups;
 - (ii) the specified groups of animals have been segregated from the infected group;
 - (iii) Destocking of all animals is not economically feasible.
- (c) For retained animals, the number of tests required to progress to CF3 status is to be included in the Approved Property Program.
- (d) The number of tests required to progress to CF3 status may be reduced from that given in clause 3.4.2 for groups of animals not related to the Infected group, or groups that have been segregated for a significant period of time, especially if these groups have already received tests.

5. RULES FOR APPROVED PROPERTY PROGRAMS

5.1 Selection criteria

The following criteria will assist in the choice of an Approved Property Program:

- (a) capacity of property management to implement the program;
- (b) financial effects on the Owner;
- (c) short and long term costs to the TFAP; and
- (d) the program's potential to advance the status of the Herd to at least CF1 status within 2 years of detection of infection.

5.2 Approval

- (a) Approved Property Programs are developed in consultation with the Owner.
- (b) Final approval of Approved Property Programs lies with the CVO who must follow procedures defined in the TFAP Deed as well as obtain Veterinary Committee/TFAPCC approval.

5.3 Management capability

The effect of property management on the performance of a proposed program may be influenced by:

- (a) ability to plan a realistic and detailed management routine integrated with the eradication program;
- (b) reliability in implementing routine or extra management activities;
- (c) availability of competent staff to support the testing program; and
- (d) frequency and thoroughness of paddock inspections.

5.4 Administration and documentation of an Approved Property Program

5.4.1 Scope

An Approved Property Program must consider the total Cattle enterprise on the property and identify key elements.

5.4.2 Premises

- (a) To assist administration, a property may be divided into premises or areas.
- (b) Each premise must be a self-contained unit, run separately from all other premises.
- (c) Such separation must have secure defined boundaries.
- (d) Each premise may have an individual Official Tag number.
- (e) Movement conditions similar to those applying to movements between properties apply to movements between premises.

5.4.3 General documentation

This should include:

- (a) the start, finish and interim target dates;
- (b) a three year outline of the program;
- (c) an adequate map of the area indicating the area occupied by the Cattle and the surrounding discrete Herds;
- (d) the number, sex, age and disease status of the Cattle under the Approved Property Program and their eartag identification system; and
- (e) the provision of security for the adjoining Herds to prevent spread of Tuberculosis.

5.4.4 Detailed documentation

Detailed documentation of the implementation of the program for year one should be prepared and incorporated in a written agreement with the Owner and reviewed annually.

5.5 Testing programs

5.5.1 Facilities

Facilities should include sufficient adequately equipped Cattle yards and holding paddocks where necessary.

5.5.2 Frequency of testing

- (a) All Cattle in the Program undergoing Eradication Testing should be tested at least twice per year or once if determined appropriate by the CVO, having regard to the Program, disease prevalence and any special epidemiological features of the disease in that area.
- (b) The ability to muster at short notice is desirable.

5.5.3 Size of group

Test groups should be restricted to a size that can be safely handled and securely held in the available facilities and that does not impair the Approved Person's ability to carry out the test as specified.

5.5.4 Test Group Integrity

- (a) All animals being tested are to be identified by eartag or other identification approved by the CVO.
- (b) Unidentified Cattle are to be assessed with regard to their disease risk.
- (c) All areas undertaking tests are to be inspected for unmustered stock by ground and/or air, as the CVO deems necessary and appropriate action is to be taken.
- (d) Fencing or other barriers must provide an adequate degree of security.
- (e) The disease status of Cattle in the surrounding areas must be assessed.
- (f) Separation of exposed Cattle from other groups must be maintained until CF3 status is achieved or they are disposed of.

5.5.5 Definition of difficult to muster areas

Areas that cannot be satisfactorily mustered should be excluded from a testing program and should be Destocked over a period to be determined by the CVO.

5.5.6 Contingency plans

- (a) Approved Property Programs should include a contingency to review the program in the event of drought, flood, fire or market depression.
- (b) Cattle under test must be segregated from untested Cattle.

5.6 Destocking and restocking

5.6.1 Destocking

- (a) A maximum time period must be specified for Destocking.
- (b) Progress must be satisfactory within the specified timetable.
- (c) All Cattle turned off must go for immediate slaughter or as approved by the CVO.
- (d) All other remaining Cattle must be destroyed or incorporated in an Approved Property Program.

5.6.2 Restocking

- (a) Areas which have been restocked must be capable of being adequately monitored either through Approved Abattoirs or by Tuberculin Test surveillance programs after Cattle are put back in such an area. If this cannot be achieved, then Cattle must be denied access until the Cattle in the surrounding areas are free of Tuberculosis.
- (b) Cattle moved onto a Destocked property must be confirmed as coming from a Herd that has achieved TN, MN or at least CF2 status.
- (c) The CVO will determine any further testing required.

5.6.3 Destocking and restocking safeguards

- (a) All movements must be recorded and Cattle kept under surveillance.
- (b) Precautions must be taken to prevent Cattle escaping when unloading. Where Cattle do escape early notification to the nearest inspector is required.

- (c) Supervise the movement of Cattle to slaughter.
- (d) The period during which an area must remain Destocked is to be determined by the CVO but must be a minimum of 30 days after the removal of the last Cattle.
- (e) A departmental officer must make an aerial and/or ground survey at the end of the 30 days after the removal of the last animal. It may be necessary to perform one or more checks within this period.
- (f) The status of neighbouring areas and the potential for ingress of Cattle of unknown status or with Tuberculosis must be considered before restocking is allowed to commence.

5.7 Supervision of an Approved Property Program

A departmental officer should be present at all eradication procedures involving extensive Herds to :

- (a) check the identity of Cattle;
- (b) check the accuracy of identification of samples;
- (c) supervise any age culling;
- (d) check the effectiveness of mustering;
- (e) check the effectiveness of Destocking;
- (f) supervise ear tagging; and
- (g) report to the CVO on the effectiveness of the test and the Owner's compliance with the Approved Property Program.

6. APPROVED TUBERCULOSIS SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS

6.1 General

- (a) An approved surveillance system is used to review the status of Herds and to maintain area surveillance. Surveillance is achieved by the National Granuloma Submission Program or by Surveillance Test.
- (b) Surveillance to maintain a Confirmed Free, Monitored Negative or Tested Negative status should be at an intensity to provide a 95% probability of detecting a 5% prevalence.
- (c) Surveillance in Herds containing Cattle exposed to Tuberculosis should be at an intensity to provide a 95% probability of detecting a 1% prevalence.

- (d) In Destocked, uncontrolled areas with a previous history of Tuberculosis, low cost methods are to be retained to monitor for freedom from Tuberculosis. Such surveillance methods shall take into account each area's past history and degree of risk.

6.2 Surveillance Test

Eight years after known exposure to Tuberculosis, exposed Cattle are to either have a final confirmatory test (known as the Surveillance Test) or Cattle which had the previous exposure to disease are to be culled by slaughter at an Approved Abattoir (this is interpreted as all exposed Cattle over eight years of age).

7. APPROVED PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING GRANULOMATOUS LESIONS

7.1 Sample collection and submission

As per AQIS Notice Number MEAT 96/31. Basically, lesions should be divided into two equally representative portions and submitted, one refrigerated in a sterile leak proof container, and the other in 10% buffered formalin, within 48 hours of collection. If a lesion is too small to be divided a fresh refrigerated sample for bacteriology must be submitted as soon as possible. The veterinary pathologist will make the final decision on further division of the sample.

Any sample without tail tag identification must be treated as a normal sample to obtain a diagnosis.

7.2 Laboratory Procedures used to examine granulomas

7.2.1 Histopathology

If both fresh and fixed tissue are received, the fresh tissue is frozen at -20°C until the results of histopathology examination are known.

All granulomas should be examined by routine H&E histopathology for evidence of characteristic lesions, with additional special stains used to further identify an aetiological agent¹.

- (a) If a neoplasm is detected on H&E, further staining is generally not required.
- (b) If fungal infection is suspected on H&E, Grocott and/or PAS, or other stain that will stain fungal elements should be performed to confirm this as the cause of the granuloma.
- (c) Where club colonies consistent with Actinobacillosis/ Actinomycosis/ Botryomycosis are seen, a gram stain may be performed for confirmation, however a Ziehl Neelson (ZN) stain need not be performed routinely.

¹ Corner, L.A. 1993. *Bovine Tuberculosis: Pathology and Bacteriology* in L.A. Corner and T.J. Bagust (ed.) *Australian Standard Diagnostic Techniques for Animal Diseases*, CSIRO, East Melbourne.

- (d) In all other cases where a granulomatous lesion is seen, a gram stain and ZN should be performed. If no bacteria or acid fast bacilli (AFB) are seen, serial sections (~x10) should be cut, ZN's performed and the serial sections examined carefully for AFB's. Additional sections may be made from any fixed material remaining after cutting in. The sections should be examined systematically under oil immersion (x1000) until all areas have been covered.

7.2.2 General culture

General culture need not be performed routinely. In cases where Botryomycosis, Nocardia or Rhodococcus infection is diagnosed by histopathology, general culture may be performed to confirm this.

General culture should be attempted when it is considered that the diagnosis is indeterminate and general culture may provide additional information for diagnosis.

Culture of Actinomyces, and Streptomyces may be difficult, especially from old chronic lesions. It is recommended that 5 days incubation be used for growth of Nocardia and Streptomyces and 7-10 days for Actinomyces.

7.2.3 Mycobacterial culture

Mycobacterial culture as described in the Australian Standard Diagnostic Techniques for Animal Diseases should be performed in Approved laboratories in all cases where:

- (a) There is insufficient tissue for histopathology.
- (b) The lesion is consistent with or suspect for bovine tuberculosis on histopathology.
- (c) The property of origin has a history of Tuberculosis (where this information is available).

7.2.4 Identification of *Mycobacterium* spp

Mycobacterium bovis may be identified in Approved Laboratories by:

- (a) Characteristic morphology² and biochemical tests.
- (b) Characteristic morphology and the Immunoperoxidase test.

Alternatively, Approved Laboratories may submit samples direct for culture and/or acid fast organisms for identification to the Australian Reference Laboratory for Bovine Tuberculosis.

Mycobacterium bovis may be identified in the Australian Reference Laboratory for Bovine Tuberculosis by (a) and (b) above and/or:

² Colony morphology and growth characteristics consistent with *M. bovis* and acid fast staining consistent with *M. bovis*.

- (a) Conventional morphology and the multiplex PCR test that can differentiate *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex from *M. avium*/*M. paratuberculosis*, *M. intracellulare* from other *Mycobacterium* spp.
- (b) Conventional morphology and PCR that differentiates *M. bovis* from other *M. tuberculosis* complex isolates.

7.2.5 Confirmation of identification and genotype by the ARLBTB

All isolates identified as *M. bovis* in Approved Laboratories must be submitted to the ARLBTB for:

- (a) Confirmation of identification.
- (b) Long term storage of isolates in the National Culture Collection.
- (c) DNA fingerprinting.

SCHEDULE M1
(cl 4.3(c))

Process for payment of Assistance Measures to the States and Territories by the Commonwealth from the National Cattle Disease Eradication Trust Account (NCDETA)

1. Where the States and Territories have incurred, or anticipate that they are about to incur, expenses in respect of Assistance Measures, they may send a claim for payment (“Claim”) to the AAHC requesting reimbursement or payment of the amount referred to in the Claim. Those Claims must be in such form and provide such information as reasonably required by the AAHC by written notice to the States and Territories from time to time. As a minimum they must be for a fixed amount and must outline the nature of the payment requested and attach sufficient documentation in support of the Claim to enable the Commonwealth to verify the Claim.
2. Where the AAHC is satisfied that a Claim in respect of the Assistance Measures is properly made, it must promptly forward the Claim to the Commonwealth (to the attention of the Section Head, Animal Health Programs, Livestock and Pastoral Division, DPIE) together with a statement that it is so satisfied.
3. Where the AAHC is not satisfied of the matters in paragraph 2 above, it must promptly notify the relevant State or Territory and the Commonwealth of this, together with its reasons for not being so satisfied.
4. Subject to being satisfied that the Claim in respect of the Assistance Measures is properly made and payable under the NCDETA Act, the Commonwealth must promptly (and must endeavour to pay by telegraphic transfer on the same day) pay to the relevant State or Territory, out of the NCDETA, the amount of the Claim.
5. The Commonwealth must keep records of the amount and date of receipt of each Claim and the amount and date of payment of each payment made by it for Assistance Measures in response to a Claim.
6. The AAHC and the Commonwealth may each at any time request from the relevant State or Territory any further information or documentation reasonably required to substantiate any Claim and may otherwise take such steps from time to time as it may require in order to substantiate the use of funds the subject of a Claim.

SCHEDULE M2
(cl 4.3(e))

1. Where the States and Territories have provided or are about to provide Assistance Measures in accordance with the TFAP Deed, they may claim from the AAHC in respect of the costs incurred or to be incurred in the provision of such Assistance Measures (“**Claim**”). Those Claims must be in such form and provide such information as reasonably required by the AAHC by written notice to the States and Territories from time to time. As a minimum they must be for a fixed amount and must outline the nature of the payment requested and attach sufficient documentation in support of the Claim to enable the AAHC to verify the claim. The States and Territories must provide further supporting documentation as may be reasonably required by the AAHC.

2. Where the AAHC is satisfied that the Assistance Measures have been or are to be provided by a State or Territory in accordance with this Deed and that a Claim in respect of them is properly made, it must as soon as is practicable (and must endeavour to pay by telegraphic transfer on the same day) pay to the relevant State or Territory, out of the NCDETA, the amount of the Claim.