

Media Release



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Dairy Farmers Support Foreign Investment

For immediate release

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“Australian Dairy Farmers recognises the importance of foreign investment to our vibrant Australian dairy industry and supports foreign investment in the industry,” said ADF President Noel Campbell.

“This view has been expressed consistently over the last two decades as various countries have invested in Australia,” said Mr Campbell.

The Australian dairy industry is a global player in a global industry. We export almost 40 per cent of our total production.

If we are to grow our industry it will be through exports. Our global market share is currently 7 per cent, we want this to grow.

“Investment, both domestic and foreign, is crucial for this growth. Australian dairy farmers support foreign investment for this reason.”

The China Free Trade Agreement is an important plank in growing our industry.

Greater China is now our biggest export destination, even without an FTA, with over half a billion dollars worth of product going there in 2013.

As with any negotiation there will be trade-offs, we cannot expect a strong deal on dairy from the Chinese government without giving something in return.

ADF is confident the current foreign investment regulatory regime is robust, will be strengthened further by the planned land register and supports the National Interest Test.

ADF believes that foreign investment that passes our foreign investment regulatory regime and accords with our national competition laws poses no more risk than other business investment.

It is worth noting that investment to drive sustainable growth was a key priority from the National Dairy Farmers’ Summit.

“I have never seen a foreign investor pick up farming land or a dairy farm and take it back to their country,” said Mr Campbell.

We welcome foreign investment that helps to grow and strengthen our industry.

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