



Australian Dairy Industry Council Inc.

Media Release

China-Australia FTA to deliver extraordinary opportunities for Australian dairy

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For Immediate Release

The Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) has welcomed news that the Senate today passed the Bills necessary for the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA) to enter the final processes before ratification.

Once entry into force occurs, Australian dairy exporters will experience the first year of tariff reductions for dairy exports to China as agreed under the ChAFTA agreement. This will be followed by a further reduction in tariffs on 1 January 2016.

ADIC Chair, Noel Campbell applauded the support for the ChAFTA, praising Federal Parliament for recognising the importance of swiftly implementing the agreement.

“China is our number one dairy market by volume with 136,441 tonnes of dairy product worth AUD \$424 million exported to Greater China in 2014/15. This is 18 per cent of total Australian dairy exports by volume for the calendar year,”¹ Mr Campbell said.

“The ChAFTA places Australia on a more level playing field with key international competitors. Once the agreement enters into force it will enhance the competitive position of Australian dairy. This is good for growth, for jobs, for the economy and a boon for our export market.”

The dairy industry, led by the ADIC, has fought hard for the implementation of ChAFTA and is pleased to see bipartisan support and collaboration for ratifying this important trade agreement.

The ADIC thanked Minister for Trade and Investment, Andrew Robb, and his team of negotiators as well as the Australian government, industry and the broader dairy community for its ongoing support and for working to ratify the deal in the 2015 calendar year.

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¹ Dairy Australia, *Australian Dairy Industry In Focus 2015*, 20-21

The Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) is the dairy industry's peak policy body. It co-ordinates industry's policy and represents all sectors of the industry on national and international issues through its two constituent bodies, Australian Dairy Farmers Ltd (ADF) and the Australian Dairy Products Federation (ADPF). It aims to foster, promote and protect the interests of the Australian dairy industry by driving a whole of industry approach to dairy policy and the development of the dairy industry.

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