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**ADF ready to work with re-elected Coalition government**

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**For Immediate Release**

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Peak dairy farmer group Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) has congratulated Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, David Littleproud, and the Liberal National government for being returned for a third term.

On behalf of Australia's dairy farmers, ADF has worked closely with the Coalition in the lead up to this Election and remains firmly committed to working with the government on getting positive outcomes for dairy farmers.

The Coalition pledged during the election campaign to commit \$22 million in projects to benefit the dairy sector, including over \$1 million in initiatives to be delivered by ADF.

These include:

- \$560,000 to facilitate the development of a new dairy industry trading platform;
- \$300,000 to develop a real time dairy payment system and supply chain information sharing capacity using blockchain technology; and
- \$150,000 to develop with processors a simple standard form contract that incorporates requirements of the industry's mandatory code of conduct.

Dairy farmers are looking for and expect leadership from industry representatives as well as government. ADF stands ready and welcomes the opportunity to work with the government on delivering these projects and we are confident that there will be positive benefits for the dairy farmers as well as the wider industry.

Other projects that the Coalition committed to include:

- \$10 million to support dairy farmers investing in more energy efficient equipment to reduce energy costs through more energy efficient equipment
- \$8.1 million to extend the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) agriculture unit, a significant boost to the \$2.7 million outlined in the 2020 budget;
- \$3 million in grants to assist farmer groups to establish farm cooperatives and other collaborative business models;
- \$500,000 to services body *Dairy Australia* to continue its financial and legal advice service to farmers, and to improve legal and financial literacy for contract negotiations with processors; and
- a dairy industry specialist position within the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) agriculture unit.

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