



Export Council of Australia
The Voice for Australia's Exporters

Agreements with Key Australian Trading Partners is Vital for Economic Growth

7 April, 2017

The Export Council of Australia (ECA) applauds the successful conclusion of a joint scoping exercise between Australia and the European Union (EU) on a future free trade agreement (FTA).

ECA CEO Lisa McAuley says “Australia’s trade and investment relationship with the EU as a whole is one of our most important around the world. A future Australia-EU FTA will further build and enhance ties that are already worth nearly AUD 100 billion in bilateral trade, and more than \$1.5 trillion in bilateral investment.”

As noted by The Hon Steven Ciobo MP, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, today, the FTA is expected to drive further economic growth by opening new export opportunities for Australian companies, as well as and enhance bilateral investment flows.

Collectively, the EU is already Australia’s largest source of foreign investment and our second largest trading partner. By seeking to remove remaining barriers to market access and obstacles to investment, the Australia-EU FTA can deepen our important trade and investment ties with existing European partners, and hopefully foster new opportunities for Australian companies in markets across the continent.

“Given the relative uncertainty in today’s international trading environment, the ECA strongly supports efforts to reach wide-ranging agreements with key Australian trading partners, such as the Australia-EU FTA, to ensure we maintain and grow market access and therefore opportunities for Australian exporters,” Ms McAuley says.

For further information:

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