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Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: jsct@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir

Free Trade Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Korea

CANEGROWERS is a strong supporter of the Australia-Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA).

Once it enters into force, the AKFTA will eliminate the tariff imposed by Korea on its imports of Australian raw sugar. South Korea is the largest export market for Australia's raw sugar, with sales exceeding one million tonnes annually, valued at some \$500 million. The improved terms of trade flowing from the FTA will make Korea an even more attractive market for Australian raw sugar.

The FTA will provide a significant boost to Australia's raw sugar exports by removing the raw sugar tariff as soon as the agreement enters into force and will increase access for white sugar over 18 years, when the 35% tariff will be eliminated.

The agreement will boost the sugar trading relationship between our two countries. Its implementation and early entry into force will deliver worthwhile commercial gains for the Australian sugar industry.

CANEGROWERS welcomes the agreement and encourages the Committee to recommend to Parliament its adoption.

Yours faithfully

Brendan Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER