



## Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement under review

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties will conduct public hearings in Sydney and Brisbane this week to examine the costs and benefits of the proposed Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA).

Korea is Australia's third-largest export market, fourth-largest trading partner, and a growing investment partner. It is Australia's fifth-largest market for agricultural exports and an important export market for Australian ores and concentrates, crude petroleum, coal, inorganic chemical elements, pharmaceuticals, and automotive parts.

KAFTA has been generally welcomed by business and industry but submissions to the Committee's inquiry have raised a number of concerns including the inclusion of investor-state dispute mechanisms and changes to intellectual property rights.

Committee Chair Wyatt Roy said that the Committee is interested in speaking to a range of witnesses including academic experts, industry and business representatives, community organisations and the unions so as to assess the impact of KAFTA on the broader economy and community.

### **Public Hearing: Tuesday 29 July 2014**

**Commonwealth Parliament Offices, Meeting Room 1, Level 21, 1 Bligh Street, Sydney**

- 9.30am** Dr Randal, Convenor, Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network
- 10.15am** Assoc Prof Weatherall, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
- 11.00am** Meat & Livestock Australia
- 11.45am** National Farmers' Federation
- 12.30pm** Break
- 1.15pm** Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union
- 2.00pm** Office of Horticultural Market Access
- 2.45pm** Financial Services Council
- 3.30pm** Close

### **Public Hearing: Wednesday 30 July 2014**

**Committee Room 3, Level 6, Parliamentary Annex, Parliament House, Brisbane**

- 9.30am** Australian Sugar Industry Alliance Limited
- 10.15am** Australian Nut Industry Council
- 11.00am** Australian Agricultural Company Limited
- 11.45am** Close

The hearing will be broadcast through: [www.aph.gov.au/live](http://www.aph.gov.au/live)

Copies of the treaties and submissions received can be found at:

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Joint/Treaties](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Treaties)

Alternatively, interested parties may email [jsct@aph.gov.au](mailto:jsct@aph.gov.au) or phone (02) 6277 4002.

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

**Media contact:** Mr Wyatt Roy MP  
**Background:** Committee Secretariat

**0421 059 438**  
**(02) 6277 4002**