Treaties tabled on 13 May 2014 Submission 10

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29 May 2014

**Committee Secretary** 

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

PO Box 6021

Canberra ACT 2600

By email: jsct@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir

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

We would like to advise you that Queensland Sugar Limited (QSL) supports the Australia-Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA).

QSL represents the growers and millers of the Queensland sugar industry to be the marketer of around 2 million tonnes of exported raw sugar annually. These raw sugar exports are delivered largely to the refineries in the Asian region, and Korea has historically been and remains to be a very significant market for Queensland. The current value of this market is around \$500 million per year.

The new AKFTA will remove the current raw sugar tariff; which will enhance the ability for the Queensland sugar industry to increase our competitiveness and to be able to retain Korea as a key market.

We would encourage the Committee to recommend to parliament an early adoption of the AKFTA as soon as possible as this will deliver further commercial gains for the Queensland sugar industry.

**Yours Faithfully** 

Greg Beashel

Managing Director and CEO

QSL