



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture  
and Water Resources**

Senator O'Sullivan  
Chair  
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs  
and Transport Legislation Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator O'Sullivan

Having reviewed the proof Hansard of the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016, I wish to make the following corrections.

The corrections relate to responses by Louise van Meurs, First Assistant Secretary Trade and Market Access Division, to questions from Senator Sterle. The relevant dialogue is in paragraphs 11 and 13 on page 117 of the proof Hansard:

**Ms van Meurs:** I can talk around the China free trade agreement. As you probably know, China is our biggest export market for agriculture. There has been an increase of 40 per cent in four years to \$7 billion.

**Ms van Meurs:** All agricultural products, yes. On the specifics of meat, there have been a number of drops in tariffs. At the moment there will be a total elimination over 10 years for beef and veal into China – it is between 10 and 25 per cent, depending on which type of beef or veal you are talking about.

The correct responses should read:

**Ms van Meurs:** I can talk around the China free trade agreement. As you probably know, China is our biggest export market for agriculture. There has been an increase of 40 per cent in four years up from \$7 billion in 2012.

**Ms van Meurs:** All agricultural products, yes. On the specifics of meat, there have been a number of drops in tariffs. At the moment there will be a total elimination over 10 years for beef and veal into China – it is between 12 and 25 per cent, depending on which type of beef or veal you are talking about.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and to provide clarification on the department's response.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Worrell  
Assistant Secretary  
Trade and Market Access Division

Date 2/11/2016