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Committee Secretary
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

By email: fadt.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir

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

The Australian Sugar industry Alliance (ASA) strongly supports the Australia-Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA).

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 AKFTA will eliminate the tariff imposed by Korea on its imports of Australian raw sugar on its entry into force. The improved terms of trade flowing from the FTA will make Korea an even more attractive market for Australian raw sugar.

Removing the raw sugar tariff as soon as the agreement enters into force will provide a significant boost to Australia's raw sugar exports. Access for white sugar will be improved over 18 years when the 35% tariff will be eliminated.

The implementation and early entry into force of the agreement will deliver worthwhile commercial gains for the Australian sugar industry.

The agreement will boost the sugar trading relationship between our two countries and ASA encourages the Committee to recommend to parliament its early adoption.

Yours faithfully

John Pratt
Chairman
Australian Sugar Industry Alliance