COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES



SUBMISSION: Examination of the Foreign Investment Review Board National Interest Test

To: Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Rural Affairs

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From: Agricultural and Environmental Committee

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The Country Women's Association of NSW is pleased to have the opportunity to submit to the Senate Committee on the Foreign Investment Review Board National Interest Test inquiry.

CWA members are extremely concerned regarding the increasing trend in Australia of acquisition of agricultural land and agricultural-related assets by overseas investors, particularly sovereign investment. There appears to be a trend developing that Australian land is being purchased by governments from various areas of the world to produce food for their own country. This will mean that we will lose control of the means of production and should be of serious concern to the Federal Government. Australia must act to ensure protection for our country's future food security in order to allow us to continue to produce enough food for Australians and the overseas markets we supply.

CWA of NSW believes that the trigger point of \$231 million currently used should be drastically reduced and that a register must be established that will monitor all foreign investment in agricultural assets.

Agricultural and Environmental Committee Country Women's Association of NSW