

## SUPPLEMENTARY SUBMISSION NO. 8.1



27 January 2011

Mr Kevin Bodel  
Inquiry Secretary  
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Bodel,

**Re: JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO ANZCERTA**

Please find attached a copy of a letter dated 27 September 2010 sent to The Hon Julia Gillard MP and copied to The Hon Dr Craig Emerson MP, Minister for Trade and Senator the Hon Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science & Research, in regards to amendments that have been recently introduced to Article 3 and Annex G of the Australia New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement (ANZCERTA).

The Council of Textile & Fashion Industries of Australia Ltd (TFIA) wishes to include the attached letter as a submission to the Committee's inquiry into the ANZCERTA.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo-Ann Kellock', written over a horizontal line.

Jo-Ann Kellock  
Chief Executive Officer



27 September 2010

The Hon Julia Gillard MP  
Prime Minister of Australia  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

cc The Hon Dr Craig Emerson MP, Minister for Trade  
Senator the Hon Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science & Research

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the broader Australian TCF sector, and Australian men's suits manufacturers in particular, I would like to convey my deepest concern at the way in which amendments have been recently introduced to Article 3 and Annex G of the Australia New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement (ANZCERTA).

There has been a long history of dialogue between the Australian industry and government, for over more than a decade, on repeated attempts by New Zealand to water down the content rules under ANZCERTA, specifically as they relate to men's suits manufacture. The degree of consultation, and support for the industry position, up until this latest incident has been high.

With this latest attempt to reduce the content requirements for men's suits under the ANZCERTA arrangements, both the TFIA and the manufacturers themselves (notably Stafford Ellinson and Traveller's Apparel) made representations to the Industry Minister, Senator the Hon Kim Carr and the then Trade Minister, the Hon Simon Crean, alerting them to our concerns. Our views were duly noted and we were assured that no changes would be made to these arrangements without the Government first consulting with the industry.

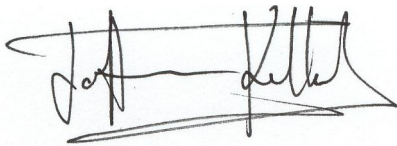
However, while it would appear that the respective Ministers honoured their commitment to the industry and did not agree to any change to the ANZCERTA arrangements, I understand that at a subsequent meeting in May between the then Australian Prime Minister and the New Zealand Prime Minister, that Australia did concede to the New Zealand request. This is extremely disappointing and concerning.

I suspect that it is now too late to reverse this decision, but if it can be I respectfully ask for your support in doing so. But at the very least, I would like to convey to you our strong dissatisfaction with the manner in which this decision was taken and the clear disregard displayed for the industry position and the Government's commitment for further consultation.

If the decision cannot be reversed, we certainly believe it is incumbent upon the Government to monitor future trade flows of men's suits from New Zealand into Australia, to ensure that no consequent adverse impacts are manifested upon the Australian industry. I would be grateful for your reassurance that this monitoring will take place and that corrective action will be taken by the Australian Government should such trade unduly impact on Australian suits manufacturers.

I look forward to your response in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo-Ann Kellock', written over a horizontal line.

Jo-Ann Kellock

Executive Director