



Dissenting Report – Exchange of Letters constituting an Agreement with New Zealand to amend Article 3 of the Australia New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement

- 1.1 The Opposition members of the Committee support comments included in paragraph 2.69 and recommendation 1 of the Report. For the reasons outlined in the next paragraph, Opposition members of the Committee dissent from recommendation 2 and make a new recommendation.
- 1.2 On balance, Opposition Members of the Committee recognise that the Agreement will increase trade between Australia and New Zealand in a mutually beneficial way and serve to strengthen existing economic ties between the countries. However, the Opposition Members of the Committee remain extremely concerned about the impact on jobs as a result of the change to the rules of origin in respect of the category of goods manufactured by Albright and Wilson (Australia).

Recommendation

The Committee supports the *Exchange of Letters constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand to amend Article 3 of the Australia New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement (ANZCERTA) of 28 March 1983* and recommends that:

- (a) binding treaty action be taken; and**
- (b) negotiations between Australia and New Zealand commence immediately to secure agreement on retention of the RVC method of calculating ROO under the current ANZCERTA for tariff line 3402.20 before the Amending Agreement comes into force.**

Mr Kim Wilkie MP

Mr Dick Adams MP

Deputy Chair

Senator Carol Brown

Mr Bernie Ripoll MP

Senator Glenn Sterle

Senator Dana Wortley