



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Office of the Director General



Our Ref: 200900996
Enquiries: Stephen Hurley

Jerome Brown
A / g Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

SUBMISSION No.10

TT 3 February 2009

Dear Mr Brown

TREATIES TABLED ON 3 FEBRUARY 2009: AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ON TRADE IN WINE (BRUSSELS, 1 DECEMBER 2008)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Australia's proposed accession to the *Australia – European Community Agreement on Trade in Wine* (Brussels, 1 December 2008).

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet has consulted with other Western Australian State agencies and can advise that we are supportive of the proposed Agreement as it provides greater clarity and certainty for the Western Australian wine industry in what is its largest export market.

The wine industry makes an important contribution in Western Australia through employment, both directly as well as the downstream support it offers to the retail, wholesale, tourism and hospitality industries. Maintaining a strong presence in the international market, and particularly the European Community is of fundamental importance to the continued viability of the State's wine industry.

I trust that this is of assistance. Should you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Stephen Hurley, Policy Officer, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, on (08) 8222 9328 or stephen.hurley@dpc.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Peter Conran
DIRECTOR GENERAL

21 APR 2009