



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources**

Ref:

Senator Barry O'Sullivan
Chair
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator O'Sullivan

I am writing to correct a statement made at the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Estimates hearing of Thursday, 25 May 2017.

At page 74 of the Hansard of that date, Ms van Meurs stated in a response on the agricultural outcomes flowing on from the Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA), 'Some other examples are dairy. The calendar year 2015 was \$465 million. In calendar 2016 this has increased to \$781 million, which is a 68 per cent increase. As to tariff reductions prior to the entry into force—as of 1 January 2017 this has gone from 10 per cent to 7.5 per cent. Milk powder—'. This example does not relate to KAFTA but relates to outcomes under the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA). The tariff on milk powder as of 1 January 2017 has gone from 10 per cent prior to entry into force of ChAFTA to 8 per cent, not 7.5 per cent as was stated. The subsequent discussion regarding milk powders and the rate of annual tariff reduction also relates to China and the outcomes under ChAFTA.

At page 74 of the Hansard of that date, Ms van Meurs also stated that 'Citrus exports to Japan have increased by 27 per cent in 2016 compared with 2015, reaching \$50.3 million.' Exports have actually increased by 36 per cent in 2016 compared with 2015. The '\$50.3 million' figure is a typographical error in the Hansard and should read '\$53.3 million'. The department will submit a typographical correction to amend the error.

Yours sincerely

Paul Ross
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Trade and Market Access Division
6 June 2017