



2nd May 2008

David Mortimer AO
Chair, Review of Export Policies and Programs
c/- Trade Development Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
R.G. Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent,
BARTON ACT 0221

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Dear Mr Mortimer,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Review of Export Policies and Programs.

IDP Education Pty Ltd has been involved in international education since 1969 and played a major role in developing and growing Australia's exports of education services. IDP operates the largest placement service for international students enrolling in Australian institutions and is a partner in IELTS, a world-leading English proficiency test.

IDP has an active research arm which conducts ongoing research and data collection on international education.

The attached submission is intended to inform the review about Australia's third largest export industry and highlight challenges which need to be met for the continuing success of education exports.

The education sector has been a leading contributor to the success of Australia's services exports over the past two decades. In addition to producing economic benefits for Australia, education exports have also contributed mightily to Australia's relationship with the Asian region.

As a result of the growth of international education, large numbers of professionals, government officials and opinion leaders in regional countries have been educated in Australia and spent a formative part of their lives in this country. The presence of so many overseas students in Australia has also led to burgeoning person-to-person relationships between Australians and citizens of other countries in our region which will promote business and trade links in the future.

If required, IDP is able to provide the review with further statistic data and information about education services exports. In the first instance please contact our Head of Research, Melissa Banks melissa.banks@idp.com or our Manager, External Relations, Tim Dodd, tim.dodd@idp.com

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Pollock'.

Anthony Pollock
Chief Executive Officer