

DISCLAIMER: *The Commission and Australia are publishing the texts of the Agreement following the announcement of conclusion of the negotiations on 24 March 2026. The texts are published in view of the public interest in the Agreement, for information purposes only and they may undergo further minor modifications, including as a result of the process of legal and linguistic revision. These texts are without prejudice to the final outcome of the Agreement between the EU and Australia. The texts will be final upon signature. The Agreement will become binding on the Parties under international law only after completion by each Party of its applicable legal requirements and procedures necessary for the entry into force of the Agreement.*

ANNEX 25

JOINT DECLARATION

Concerning Customs Unions

1. The Union recalls the obligation of those countries that have established a customs union with the Union to align their trade regime to that of the Union, and for certain of them, to conclude preferential agreements with countries having preferential agreements with the Union.

2. In this context, the Parties note that Australia shall favourably consider starting negotiations for a bilateral agreement establishing a free trade area in accordance with Article XXIV of GATT 1994 with those countries which:

(a) have established a customs union with the Union; and

(b) whose products do not benefit from the tariff concessions under this Agreement,

with a view to having the agreement concluded and entering into force as quickly as possible after the date of entry into force of this Agreement.