

AUSTRALIAN BANKERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

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Korea FTA Task Force Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade RG Casey Building John McEwen Crescent BARTON ACT 0221

Dear Task Force,

Australia-Republic of Korea Joint Non-Government FTA Study

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Australia-Republic of Korea Joint Non-Government FTA Study.

The ABA supports the development of an FTA with Korea and would like to see it include, at a minimum, a financial services chapter (covering securities and financial products/services).

It should also provide for both:

- (1) Unilateral recognition where possible, but it is acknowledged that this may not be feasible in the current environment; and,
- (2) Mutual recognition of Australian financial services providers.

Australia also has in place a tax treaty with South Korea which is a pre-CGT treaty. It is recommended that this be reviewed in parallel with development of the FTA.

Tony Burke		
Yours sincerely		