



Australia-UK FTA Coordinator  
Regional Trade Agreements Division  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
RG Casey Building, John McEwen Crescent  
Barton ACT 0221

19 August 2020

Sent via email to [ukfta@dfat.gov.au](mailto:ukfta@dfat.gov.au)

## Submission to the UK FTA Coordinator UK-Australia Trade Negotiations Australia

This submission is made by SEAFOOD PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION LIMITED t/a Association of International Seafood Professionals ABN: 79 634 578 000 ACN: 634 578 000 – a Not for Profit organisation known as the Association of International Seafood Professionals. The organisation provides services to its members both nationally and internationally.

We thank Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) for the opportunity to make this submission specifically related to seafood (fish, fish products, marine ingredients, etc).

We comment as follows:

**Goods market access (tariffs and quotas)** – as a believer in Free Trade we support zero tariffs and quotas on all trade between Australia/UK and UK/Australia. We draw your attention to the submission from Geraldton Fishermen's Co-operative highlighting the import tariffs on Australian rock lobster (HS030631 and 030621 currently 12.5%). Australian producers have been penalised for many years and that has clearly impacted trade opportunities. Australia has opportunities for higher value species for hotel/restaurant sector, but tariffs have prevented good regular business.

We know that many years ago seafood trade between the countries was substantially higher than it is today. There are many reasons for the decline. UK are expected to have greater quantities of fish/fish products available after Brexit and some of the species they harvest are suitable and marketable in Australia, especially in foodservice/fast food.

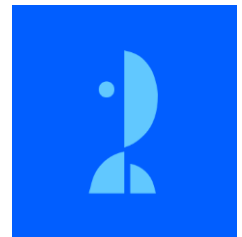
**Biosecurity and food safety issues** – more and more we are seeing trade disrupted through knee-jerk decisions and protectionism through 'biosecurity and food safety' and there is a need for a more professional collaborative approach.

For more information contact [ukfta@dfat.gov.au](mailto:ukfta@dfat.gov.au) or [info@seafoodprofessionals.org](mailto:info@seafoodprofessionals.org)

Website: <http://seafoodprofessionals.org>



<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Association-International-Seafood-Professionals-3814650>



**Regulatory issues** – Labelling is an important matter to mention regards to seafood imports from UK in that it needs to be highlighted that Australia has the excellent Australian Fish Names Standard AS5300 (AFNS) and that all seafood needs to be labelled accordingly. We raise this as the Australian Government has a somewhat weird approach in insisting that all Exports are named in accordance with AFNS but fail to control Imports. It is important to note that the AFNS was created for the Australian consumer and the AFNS has no relevance to what other countries name their seafood.

**Cross-border trade in services** – There is an opportunity for research and development in marine matters and this should be investigated, and collaboration supported.

**Sustainable development** – This is essential, and collaboration should be focused on the enormous opportunities that the Blue Economy can bring to both island nations.

**Additional** – FTA opportunities need to be well understood by as many people as possible otherwise the opportunities are not fully taken up. We believe it is a failure of the current system where great negotiations have created good FTA opportunities but, as they are not fully understood, by the various actors, they do not reach their potential.

We propose a Seafood Trade Corridor program, which could be organised virtually through our organisation, where industry, scientists/researchers and governments are invited and discuss potential collaborative trade, research, logistic opportunities. These could be recorded on video and promoted widely throughout the sectors in Australia and UK so that everyone can see the potential.

We look forward to being further engaged along the journey.

Yours sincerely

Roy D Palmer

Executive Director

Association International Seafood Professionals



AISP is an accredited association recognized by International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA).

## Social Media links

Twitter @intoseafood

#intoseafood

LinkedIn- <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3814650> (AISP)

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4058427> - [GILLS - Global Initiative for Life and Leadership through Seafood](#)

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1808793> - Seafood Brokers & Distributors –

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1989527> - Seafood Supply Chain

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2887103> - Seafood Processors

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/seafoodprofessionals/>

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/GILLSEAFOOD/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/Australian-Seafood-209782902452630/?fref=ts>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/AustralianFishNamesStandardAsSsa5300/?fref=ts>

<https://www.facebook.com/seafoodprofessionals/?ref=bookmarks> - The Wonders and Opportunities of the Ocean

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/146920800549/> Seafood & Health

AISP GLOBAL INSIGHTS series – SeafoodMedia.tv

Spend a little time getting to know some of our global experts who are presenting on a diverse range of subjects.

Log into <https://gis2020.navus.io> creating your own free account then use the Promo code MBAISP20 which will provide a zero-cost ticket. We are adding to these each week.

- Status of Global Fisheries – What is Working and What is not with Ray Hilborn, School of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, University of Washington
- Shrimp Farming Industry – History of Development, Routes to Market, Current Technologies, Trends and Future with Patrick Wood
- The Norwegian Aquaculture Industry – A Modern Industrial Adventure with Erik Hempel
- Anti-Inflammation & Seafood with John Quinn
- Ocean Sustainable Development with Paul Holthus
- Unlocking the Potential of Responsibly sourced Marine Ingredients with Libby Woodhatch
- Aquaculture in South-East Asia with Lukas Manomaitis
- International Trade of Ornamental Fish - Trends and Opportunities with Shane Willis
- Insights from Tanzania with Geoffrey Rucho
- An update on the Global Aquaculture Scene and impacts on Latin America with Dr Antonio Garza de Yta (2 video's English & Spanish)
- Contracts/COVID with Katherine Hawes

**Tel:** +61 419 528733    **e:** [Roy.D.Palmer@seafoodprofessionals.org](mailto:Roy.D.Palmer@seafoodprofessionals.org)    **Skype:** seafoodhealth

**Website:** <http://seafoodprofessionals.org>



<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Association-International-Seafood-Professionals-3814650>