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To:China FTA/People/DFATL@DFATL
cc:
Subject: China FTA

Dear Sir/Madam

Please consider this a submission to the Australia/China FTA consultations. I attended a Briefing with Taskforce representatives and staff from DFAT in Brisbane on 15 September where I made these points and having read the DFAT UPDATE email dated 15 December felt that I should also make the points in writing. Please confirm that you will accept this submission.

The Australian Prawn Farmers Association is the peak industry body representing the \$75 million prawn farming sector. We have more than 100 members who provide around 1200 FTE jobs in regional Australia. Our members have suffered a significant drop in profitability in the past two years in direct response to a massive increase in the volume of cheap imported Chinese prawns (called 'vannamei' or 'Tropical White' in the Australian market).

Australia must maintain anti-dumping regulations until we are satisfied countries such as China and Vietnam are not dumping into our market. Last week, the United States imposed massive anti-dumping tariffs on Chinese and Vietnamese shrimp of 112% and 25% respectively. This followed an extensive investigation over a period of 18 months which found that with the exception of one Chinese producer/exporter, all Chinese and Vietnamese producers/exporters had sold frozen and canned shrimp in the U.S. market at less than fair value. The US decision has massive implications for Australian seafood producers. We are currently considering lodging an anti-dumping application with the Australian Government in respect of at least two exporting nations.

We request that the following matters be considered within the scope of the Australia/China FTA:

1. The impact of the US anti-dumping decision on Australian producers
2. The maintenance of Australia's anti-dumping regulations
3. The inclusion of equivalent labour, food safety and environmental standards in trade of goods, in particular food and agricultural produce

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