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| James Baxter                                                                       |                      |
| <u>Post</u><br>Ambassador – Margaret<br>Twomey                                     |                      |
| Visit Coordinator –<br>Tracy Reid                                                  |                      |
| Trade and Investment<br>Commissioner – Naila<br>Mazzucco (Austrade)                |                      |
| Media Coordinator –<br>s22(1)(a)(ii)                                               |                      |
| Consul – s22(1)(a)(ii)<br>s22(1)(a)(ii)                                            |                      |
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| First Secretary – s22(1)(a)(ii)<br>s22(1)(a)(ii)                                   |                      |
| In case of emergency: Call any of above post staff.                                |                      |

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY  
**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR TRADE DAILY PROGRAM**  
**Saturday 21 January 2023**  
**Rome, Italy**

| Local time                                  | Event                          | CBR time<br>(+10hrs) |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1800                                        | Media interview with ABC radio | <u>0400+1</u>        |
| <b><u>No other official engagements</u></b> |                                |                      |

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**  
**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR TRADE DAILY PROGRAM**  
**Sunday 22 January 2023**  
**Rome, Italy**

| Local time | Event                                                                                                                                                                           | CBR time<br>(+10hrs) |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0900       | <b>Breakfast meeting and briefing with Ambassador Twomey</b><br>Venue: Le Palme room, Grand Hotel Flora (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco, Ms Reid) | 1900                 |
| 1030-1200  | <b>Introductory Rome walk (familiarisation) – with Ambassador Twomey</b><br>Venue: Depart from hotel (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco)             | 2030-2200            |
| 1200-1330  | <b>Informal lunch in historic centre</b><br>Venue: Hostaria Pantheon, Piazza della Rotonda 72 (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco)                    | 2200-2330            |
| 1330-1350  | Depart for Grand Hotel Flora, Via Veneto, 191                                                                                                                                   | 2330-2350            |
| 1350-1500  | Opportunity to refresh<br>Venue: Grand Hotel Flora                                                                                                                              | 1350-1300            |

s47E(d)

|           |                                                                                          |           |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1830-1850 | Depart for Grand Hotel Flora, Via Veneto, 191                                            | 0330-0350 |
| 1850      | <b>Arrive Grand Hotel Flora. End of official engagements</b><br><b>Dinner at leisure</b> | 0350      |

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY  
 ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR TRADE DAILY PROGRAM  
 Monday 23 January 2023  
 Rome, Italy

| Local time | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | CBR time<br>(+10hrs) |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0910       | Depart Accommodation for Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Viale delle Terme di Caracalla                                                                                                                                           | 1910                 |
| 1000-1050  | <b>Meeting with Qu Dongyu, Director-General FAO, and Máximo Torero, FAO Chief Economist</b><br>Venue: Food and Agriculture Organization (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Hatcher)                                      | 2000-2050            |
| 1100       | Depart for Australian Ambassador's Residence, Salita dei Panoli, 40                                                                                                                                                                        | 2100                 |
| 1120-1140  | Short break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2120-2140            |
| 1140       | Depart for Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Piazzale della Farnesina, 1                                                                                                                                                                        | 2140                 |
| 1200       | <b>Meeting with Maria Tripodi, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation</b><br>Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Mr Minns, Ms Mazzucco)                         | 2200                 |
| 1245       | Depart for Coldiretti, Via XXIV Maggio, 43                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 2245                 |
| 1315       | <b>Meeting with Mr Nicola Bertinelli, Deputy President, Coldiretti</b><br>Venue: Coldiretti (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco, Ms Reid, Ms Mazzotti)                                                           | 2315                 |
| 1415       | Depart Coldiretti for Grand Hotel Flora, Via Vittorio Veneto, 191                                                                                                                                                                          | 0015+10              |
| 1415-1520  | Short break at Grand Hotel Flora                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 0015-0120            |
| 1520       | Depart for Ministry of Business and Made in Italy, Via Vittorio Veneto, 33                                                                                                                                                                 | 0120                 |
| 1530       | <b>Meeting with Valentino Valentini, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Business and Made in Italy</b><br>Venue: Ministry of Business and Made in Italy (Attendees: Ambassador Twomey, s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ms Mazzucco, Ms Reid)                  | 0130                 |
| 1630       | Depart for Confagricoltura, Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 101                                                                                                                                                                                | 0230                 |
| 1645       | <b>Meeting with Mr Massimiliano Giansanti, President Confagricoltura</b><br>Venue: Confagricoltura (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco, Mr Minns, Ms Mazzotti)                                                   | 0245                 |
| 1730       | Depart for Grand Hotel Flora, Via Vittorio Veneto, 191                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0330                 |
| 1830       | <b>Drinks with members of Italian Parliament and Italian members of European Parliament</b><br>Venue: Grand Hotel Flora 'La Dolce Vita' room (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco, Ms Reid, Mr Minns, Mr Garwood) | 0430                 |
| 2000       | <b>Private delegation dinner and debrief</b><br>Venue: tba                                                                                                                                                                                 | 0600                 |

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**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR TRADE DAILY PROGRAM**  
**Tuesday 24 January 2023**  
**Rome, Italy**

| Local time | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | CBR time<br>(+10hrs) |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0930       | <b>Depart for Italian Senate</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1930                 |
| 0950       | <b>Tour of Italian Senate</b><br>Venue: Italian Senate (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco, Ms Reid)                                                                                                                                   | 1950                 |
| 1040       | Depart for Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, Via XX Settembre                                                                                                                                                                              | 2040                 |
| 1100       | <b>Meeting with Under-secretary Patrizio Giacomo La Pietra, Ministry for Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry</b><br>Venue: Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry (Attendees: s47F(1) Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco, Ms Reid) | 2100                 |
| 1200       | Depart for Federalimentare, Via Bruxelles 67 (Ferrero offices)                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2200                 |
| 1215       | <b>Meeting with Mr Paolo Mascarino, President of Federalimentare and Vice President, Ferrero</b><br>Venue: Ferrero offices (Attendees: s47F(1), Mr Baxter, Ambassador Twomey, Ms Mazzucco, Ms Reid, Mr Minns)                                                    | 2215                 |
| 1300       | Depart for Airport                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 2300                 |
| 1510       | <b>Delegation to depart Rome on EK0098</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0110                 |





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**MEETING WITH FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL  
(QU) AND CHIEF ECONOMIST (TORERO)**

- Commend the FAO's excellent analysis and advocacy for a global response to food security.
- Seek outlook for 2023 on global food security.
- Note Australia is at the forefront of efforts to reform WTO rules on agricultural subsidies.
- Welcome input on how the FAO proposes to take forward ongoing work on repurposing subsidies.

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## FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION: QU DONGYU [CHOO] AND MÁXIMO TORERO [TO-RER-RO]

Director General and Chief Economist

s33(a)(iii)

*Note: photos will be taken prior to the commencement of the meeting.*

### Talking points:

- Pleased to meet you *[this is your first meeting]*.
- Australia is deeply concerned by the rising levels of food insecurity globally *[roughly 800 million facing hunger]* – reversing recent trends of hunger reduction.
- Australia condemns Russia's illegal, immoral and unilateral invasion of Ukraine – which has exacerbated an already precarious global food security situation
  - putting further pressure on food prices, energy and fertiliser costs and sending many more millions into hunger
  - important that the current food *access* crisis does not become a food *availability* crisis (as a result of higher fertilizer and fuel costs impacting production in coming seasons)
  - welcome FAO's continued analysis and response to the impacts of the war on global food security.

### Food security

- We need to find a way to feed the world in a sustainable way *[estimated 10 billion global population by 2050]*.
- Australia believes reform of WTO agriculture rules to reduce distortions to global agri-food markets would contribute significantly to realising global food security goals
  - keen to discuss.
- We commend the FAO's excellent analysis and advocacy for a global response to the food security crisis – including at the WTO and the Cairns Group *[Torero presented to Cairns HODs in April 2022]* – and its normative and standard setting work
  - FAO's contributions, together with other UN agencies, the World Bank and the OECD are encouraging and informing the global debate



- » Australia strongly supports the FAO's Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) and its vital role keeping markets informed and preventing policy responses that can inadvertently exacerbate global food insecurity.
- What is your outlook for this year in terms of food and fertiliser prices, grains shortfall and global hunger levels?
- Australia is responding to growing global food insecurity by:
  - continuing to provide high levels of humanitarian assistance through organisations such as WFP to deliver lifesaving food assistance to those most in need
  - providing financial and technical assistance to address the root-causes of food insecurity and help build long-term food resilience
  - supporting the development of social protection systems that provide a safety net for those affected by the food price crisis and
  - advocating for open, transparent, and predictable agricultural trade; reduction of harmful subsidies and avoidance of export restrictions on food and fertilisers, including as Chair of the Cairns Group
    - » to promote the continued flow of food, products and inputs essential for agricultural and food production.
- Australia is committed to remaining a reliable, open supplier of food products to the world and is urging other countries to avoid imposing export restrictions on food and fertilisers
  - these measures lead to a decline in global agricultural food production and increase prices, potentially prolonging the current food security crisis
  - Australia is also calling for any strategic food reserves to be managed in a way that does not distort global markets
  - in the medium to long-term, agriculture reform is essential if we are to meet the SDGs (particularly SDG2 – Zero Hunger) and our global climate change goals.

#### **Harmful impacts of agricultural subsidies**

- Australia is at the forefront of efforts to reform WTO rules on agricultural subsidies, including through our role as Chair of the Cairns Group.
  - According to the OECD, government support to agriculture across 54 countries increased by 13 per cent to AUD1.18 trillion over 2019-21
    - this serves to distort markets, drive poor environmental outcomes and makes our world less food secure.
  - Australia strongly supports work that the FAO has done to evaluate the impact of agricultural support, including outlining how that funding could be repurposed to better support food security globally
- s33(a)(iii)

- Australia is currently working with the OECD to prioritise work on the negative repercussions of environmentally harmful subsidies and take new work on the issue forward in 2023.

- The politics of WTO agricultural reform are fraught, but Australia remains committed to pursuing reforms to reduce Members' entitlements to provide agricultural subsidies and other distorting measures.
- Reducing distortions in global agricultural markets would promote global food security, including by:
  - reducing long-entrenched incentives that promote less efficient and more environmentally harmful production decisions and
  - supporting biodiversity and environmentally sustainable production systems, which are essential to future agricultural productivity.

### **Innovation and food security**

- Boosting long term resilience in agriculture is critical to addressing current and future food security needs
  - key to this resilience is investment in science-based, climate resilient agricultural innovation
  - production-distorting and environmentally harmful agricultural subsidies can divert public resources away from investments in innovation and research and development.
- Australia has a long history of public-private co-investment in agricultural innovation, and we recognise that innovation, technology and agricultural research and development are critical to building resilience, increasing sustainability, and driving productivity growth to ensure food security.
- To achieve SDG2 and keep agricultural emissions on track to reach Paris Agreement targets, average global agricultural productivity needs to increase by 28 per cent over the next decade
  - this is triple the increase achieved over the past decade and requires increased investment
  - however, the share of agricultural support for general services, such as innovation, biosecurity or infrastructure, has declined to 13 per cent of support directed to the sector, down from 16 per cent two decades earlier.
- We welcome the FAO's renewed focus on science, technology and innovation – including through the development of the Organization's first ever *Science and Innovation Strategy* last year – and we look forward to its implementation.

**If raised:**

s33(a)(iii)



s33(a)(iii)

***Role of the private sector in food security***

- There are many private sector actors (from farms to agribusinesses) that produce and handle food and they play a vital role in tackling rising global food insecurity.
- Improving both agricultural yields and sustainability is essential but will require changes in farming practices
  - agribusinesses can play a key role in assisting farmers to make those changes, particularly smallholder farmers who produce the majority of food in developing countries
  - the World Economic Forum (WEF) has been a very active player in promoting transformation in agriculture to being nature-positive and meeting emissions targetsAustralia encourages the WEF to continue its efforts.

***Extension of the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BGSi)***

- We welcome the extension of the Black Sea Grain Initiative for a further 120 days from 19 November.
- The Initiative has facilitated the flow of food from Ukraine to the global market, reducing the price of essential grains, cereals and oils.
- The initiative provides a guarantee that commercial vessels following an agreed humanitarian corridor through the Black Sea and the relevant Ukrainian port facilities are not attacked.
- We call on all parties to honour the agreement
  - Russia has indicated that it would continue to support the Initiative
  - this is vital as any obstruction will increase food prices and exacerbate food insecurity in the Indo-Pacific and globally.

s33(a)(iii)

## Background

### *Australia in the FAO*

Australia was one of the FAO's founding nations in 1945. With 194 Member nations, one Member Organisation and two Associate Members, FAO is the only globally representative body dealing with food and agriculture issues, including fisheries and forestry. FAO membership allows Australia to:

- protect Australia's agricultural trade interests, via promoting a transparent and rules based international agricultural trade
- influence international standards that facilitate agricultural trade and market access
- influence FAO's policy agenda and resource allocation to advance Australian priorities
- use FAO's technical work, statistics and expertise in domestic agricultural policies and programs including biodiversity and sustainability
- s33(a)(iii)

Australia takes an active role in FAO management to ensure that its work programme supports Australian priorities. We place a high priority on good governance principles and organizational transparency and continue to monitor these issues closely. s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii)



s33(a)(iii)

*Trade Distorting Agricultural Subsidies*

Reducing the level of trade and production distorting domestic support (agricultural subsidies) globally is a long-standing agricultural trade policy priority for Australia.

Programs that subsidise inputs such as fertiliser and electricity, crop insurance programs and government guaranteed minimum prices for selected commodities can all distort production and/or trade decisions. This can suppress world prices, making it harder for producers in other (less distorted) economies, such as Australia and many developing countries, to compete.

Around 80 per cent of trade and production distorting agricultural subsidies are provided by the top five subsidisers – China, India, the US, the EU and Japan. Global sugar, rice, cotton and dairy markets are particularly distorted owing to especially high levels of subsidies concentrated on these commodities by major producers. There is significant growth in production-distorting agricultural subsidies in large developing economies – China, India, Indonesia.

A number of Australia's primary competitors make considerable use of government subsidies, including the types of support considered by international trade law to be trade distorting. There are other competitors (and key Cairns Group Members e.g. Canada and New Zealand) however, who have reformed their agricultural sectors and provide low levels of trade and production supporting subsidies.

*Environmentally Harmful Agricultural Subsidies*

Australia has been proactively advocating in the OECD for work to address environmentally harmful subsidies and is supporting OECD work on the relationship between trade distorting agricultural subsidies and environmental harm. This builds on work by Adelaide University's Institute of International Trade commissioned by DFAT in 2022.

In 2021 FAO, UNEP and UNDP released the report, a *Multi-Billion-Dollar Opportunity: Repurposing agricultural support to transform food systems*. It called for governments to rethink the way agriculture is subsidised and supported, finding that the majority (87 per cent) of USD540 billion (AUD780 billion) of support to agricultural producers is either price distorting or harmful to nature and health. The *State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022*, by the FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO, also highlighted the importance of repurposing current public support for achieving healthy and affordable diets. The consistent message is that repurposing agricultural and other public supports offers a pathway to help transform ecosystems, production systems and deliver significant progress towards the SDGs and the global biodiversity framework.

Trade and production distorting agricultural subsidies can also have negative impacts on the environment, including by influencing the greenhouse gas emissions arising from agricultural production. Distorting agricultural subsidies and non-market-based policies incentivise inefficient production methods and localised over-production. This can lead to negative environmental and climatic impacts, undermining global efforts to address these challenges.



### *Food Security*

Food insecurity is rising across the world. This is the result of compounding factors, including conflict, climate change, COVID-19 and Russia's invasion of Ukraine. WFP estimates that up to 349 million people across 79 countries are facing acute food insecurity, an increase of almost 200 million people since 2019. An estimated 49 million people across 49 countries are on the brink of famine. Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen are among the countries of highest concern.

Australia is ensuring immediate food security needs are met through our humanitarian assistance. WFP is Australia's largest humanitarian partner and we have committed AUD75 million to WFP to date this financial year (as at 22 December 2022) to help address hunger and food insecurity. This comprised of funding to the Horn of Africa and Yemen (AUD10 million), core funding to support global operations (AUD40 million), and additional funds to Afghanistan (AUD20 million) and Pakistan (AUD5 million); a spend in 2021-22 of over AUD157 million to WFP, including core funding (AUD38 million) and funding to specific crises such as Ukraine (AUD10 million), Afghanistan (AUD44.5 million) and Sri Lanka (AUD22 million); a further AUD5 million to Australian non-government organisations in the Emergency Action Alliance (EAA), to provide emergency assistance to the Horn of Africa.

Maintaining open, transparent and predictable trade in agricultural products is also important to keep downward pressure on global food prices. The Heads of the World Bank Group, International Monetary Fund, World Food Programme and World Trade Organization released a statement on 13 April 2022 urging all countries to avoid restrictive measures such as export bans on food or fertiliser.

At the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference, Members agreed to a Declaration on the Emergency Response to Food Insecurity, which recognised that trade, along with domestic production, plays a vital role in improving global food security. The Declaration commits to facilitate trade, refrain from export prohibitions and restrictions, and ensures that any emergency measures minimise trade disruptions as far as possible.

On 16-17 September 2022, Australia hosted a Cairns Group Senior Officials Retreat in Montreux (near Geneva) to discuss challenges with current agriculture trade reform efforts. Retreat outcomes including exploring ways to build resilience in food security and engage in a deeper dialogue with interested WTO Members on the policy challenges of food security, the tools available and new options.

### *Australian response to humanitarian crisis*

When it comes to humanitarian assistance and managing a finite budget, donor countries including Australia will always have more worthy requests and people in humanitarian need than we can fund. There are many and increasing humanitarian demands around the world including in our near region. So far, this financial year we have committed to provide ongoing humanitarian assistance to the Myanmar crisis and displaced Rohingya in Bangladesh and have responded to new needs following the Afghanistan earthquake, outbreak of violence in Papua New Guinea, drought in Tuvalu and Kiribati, and most recently the floods in Pakistan. We will continue to consider additional funding allocations from the Humanitarian Emergency Fund throughout the financial year.



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## Biography



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Máximo **TORERO** [TOR-AIR-ROH]  
Chief Economist  
Food and Agriculture Organization



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



**Form of Address:** Mr  
**s47C(1) and s47F(1)**

**Year of Birth:** 1967

**Education:** University of California (MA, PHD)

**Twitter handle:** [@MaximoTorero](#)

**Career:**

2019 Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

2016-2018 The World Bank Group (WBG) Executive Director for Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay

2006-2016 International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) Division Director of the Markets, Trade and Institutions Division

2003-2006 International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) Senior Research Fellow Markets, Trade and Institutions Division

2001-2003 Georg Foster von Humboldt Fellow

1999-2001 Associate Professor, Universidad del Pacífico Economics Department, Postgraduate School.

**s33(a)(iii)**

**Contact:**

This will be your first meeting.

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**MEETING WITH UNDER-SECRETARY OF  
STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, MARIA  
TRIPODI**

- A trade agreement will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, particularly for Italy.
- s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)
- 
- Note Australia's renewed climate ambition and bid to co-host COP31 [2026] with Pacific Island countries.

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## ITALY: MARIA TRIPODI [TREE-PO-DI]

Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

s33(a)(iii)

### Talking points:

- Pleased to meet you [*this is your first meeting*]
  - look forward to working with you and the new Italian government on our shared interests, including upholding the values and norms of the multilateral order.
- Welcome the positive meeting between our Prime Ministers at the G20 in Bali on 16 November.
- Italy is an important partner for Australia bilaterally and in multilateral fora
  - the bilateral relationship is strong with potential for further growth.
- Italian companies are playing key roles in Australia's infrastructure, energy, defence and agrifood sectors [s47G(1)]
  - direct investments by Italian companies support Australian jobs and make a substantial contribution to capacity building in Australia
  - welcome continued investment.
- While Italy and Australia are geographically distant, we have common interests in resisting challenges to the global order in our respective regions and at the global level.

s47F(1)

### Russia-Ukraine War

- Australia condemns Russia's illegal, immoral and unilateral invasion of Ukraine.
- Welcome Italy's significant support for Ukraine and the people of Ukraine

- Italy's actions in concert with NATO, the United States and Europe to support Ukraine and measures in opposition to Russia's invasion are important.
- Australia is proud to have provided Ukraine with important defence *[AUD475 million]*, economic and humanitarian assistance *[AUD65 million]* to Ukraine.
- We will maintain pressure on Russia, including through targeted sanctions and trade measures *[ban on import of Russian oil, refined petroleum products, coal, gas and gold; ban on the export of alumina, bauxite and luxury goods; 35 per cent tariff]*
  - these have reduced our already limited trade with Russia to negligible levels.
- Australia is deeply concerned at the rising levels of food insecurity globally
  - food prices, energy and fertiliser costs which were high before, have been further exacerbated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine
  - Italy's hosting of the UN Rome-based food agencies (World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)) and their work is critical to effectively address these unprecedented global challenges
  - what are Italy's priorities on global food insecurity?
- It is important we maintain open, transparent, and predictable agricultural trade and avoid export restrictions on food and fertilisers
  - Australia is committed to contributing to this objective as a reliable, open supplier of food products to the world.

#### Australia-EU FTA

- **s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)**
  - Australia's Prime Minister and the EU Presidents have said it is a priority
  - we are like-minded on Ukraine, climate change, and diversifying our trade.
- A trade agreement will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy
  - Australia has the critical minerals the EU needs for the green transition
  - we are a high-income market of 26 million people – if we were an EU member state, we'd be the fourth-largest economy (after Italy).
- Italy will benefit from increased opportunities in investment, exports and government procurement. The agreement will
  - build on our existing trade relationship
    - » for example, Australia provides Italy with durum wheat, which Italy uses to process into pasta, and then exports to the world, including Australia
  - grow two-way trade and enable more Italian investment in Australia

**s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)**



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s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

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## Climate Change and Green Economy (including net zero transitions; EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM))

- The Australian Government is delivering **real, credible and comprehensive climate action** at home, and taking an ambitious and constructive role in driving global solutions to climate change
  - we are proud to have taken an active and constructive role at this year's annual climate conference (COP27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.
- Australia has renewed climate ambition
  - a legislated 2030 target of 43 per cent below 2005 levels; and 2050 [*net-zero*] emissions reduction commitments.
- We are backing these commitments with record funding of almost AUD25 billion in clean energy spending
  - including funding for projects that unlock significant opportunities for investors across Australian renewables and the country's growing green economy.
- We are seeking to elevate Pacific climate concerns by bidding to co-host COP 31 (to be held 2026) with Pacific Island countries
  - seek Italy's support for our collective bid and look forward to consulting as we develop our COP agenda [*Italy co-hosted COP26 with the UK in 2021*].
- Australia is well positioned to become a **renewable energy superpower**
  - acknowledge the importance and contribution of Italian businesses to Australia's energy sector and green transition s47G(1)
- Australia is an attractive destination for **international investors** in the renewable energy sector
  - welcome further cooperation on clean energy transformation, including through private sector partnerships.
- The Australian Government aims to become a major exporter of clean hydrogen and to advance the development and commercialisation of other new and emerging low emission technologies.
- Welcome the opportunity to explore how we can contribute to Italy's hydrogen plans.

### Critical Minerals

- Welcome EU-Australia Leaders' agreement [*16 November*] to an early start of discussions with a view to establishing a bilateral partnership on sustainable critical and strategic minerals.

s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)



- Pleased Australia could make a formal submission to inform the EU's development of its proposed Critical Raw Materials Act.
- Australia is encouraged by the EU interest in working with likeminded partners to develop globally diversified critical minerals supply chains and would welcome deeper commercial links.

### World Trade Organization (WTO) Agriculture and Global Food Security

- Italy and Australia share a strong interest in the WTO given its role in underpinning openness in international trade
  - it provides the stability and predictability needed at a time of geostrategic and economic uncertainty.
- The strong package of outcomes achieved at 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference (MC12) provided a boost in confidence to the multilateral trading system
  - we need to ensure outcomes are implemented, particularly the fisheries subsidies agreement and progressing the WTO reform mandate.
- Australia was disappointed that **the WTO failed** to reach an outcome on long-term agricultural reform at MC12
  - this was a **key priority** not only for Australia and the Cairns Group, but most WTO Members
  - all **Members need to step back** from long-entrenched positions and engage creatively and collaboratively if the WTO is to find a path forward on agricultural reform.
- **Food security** is and will continue to be a headline concern, particularly among developing countries.
- Mindful of the impacts on food production of:
  - the increased frequency and intensity of natural disasters and **rising global temperatures**
  - ongoing **disruptions to supply chains** from COVID-19 and Russia's illegal and unjustified invasion of Ukraine and
  - the significant increase in **food and fertiliser prices**.
- To have any chance of progress, work towards agricultural reform needs to be undertaken with the **food security concerns of developing countries squarely in focus**.
- We think agriculture reform [*to reduce market distortions*] is part of the solution to the world's food security challenges
  - **less distortion** of agricultural markets would
    - » improve physical and economic access to food
    - » promote agricultural production, food security and economic development, particularly in developing countries that can't or don't provide government subsidies or other production incentives.
- Agriculture is set to become a **larger proportion of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)** over time as other sectors find their path to net zero
  - the agriculture sector will need to play its part
  - there is increasing evidence (e.g. from the World Bank, OECD and UNEP) that comprehensive reform, including lower tariffs and lower subsidies, would deliver real benefits for the environment.



- **Australia is keen to work with Members to identify pathways** that help improve global food security, that contribute to climate and environment goals, and that help level the playing field for agricultural producers everywhere
  - failure to map a way forward risks *[further]* undermining confidence in the WTO.

s33(a)(iii)

**Sensitivities:**

s33(a)(iii)

On 5 December, Italian Economy Minister Giorgetti publicly called for a common EU response to the US' Inflation Reduction Act. s33(a)(iii)

**If raised:**

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

***EU Carbon Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)***

- Australia appreciates the EU's rationale for developing the CBAM
  - in principle, we think it would be better to tackle carbon leakage through multilateral or plurilateral approaches, which would potentially have the greatest impact on emissions globally.
- Appreciate a multilateral approach will take time, so we want to work closely with the EU to understand CBAM's final form and how it will be implemented, to minimise the impact on Australian business
  - including finding ways to recognise emissions reductions policies that are not based on explicit carbon pricing.

s33(a)(iii)

***EU anti-coercion instrument***

- Australia recognises that current WTO rules do not provide adequate protection for all countries against economic coercion
  - against that backdrop, and as per Australia's public submissions, Australia has publicly welcomed the EU's exploration of ways to respond more effectively to and deter economic coercion
  - Australia is keen to see any such mechanism developed in ways that are consistent with the WTO rules and that sustain confidence in the multilateral trading system.

***Australia's response to global food security***

- Australia is responding to growing global food insecurity by:
  - continuing to provide high levels of humanitarian assistance through trusted organisations such as WFP to deliver lifesaving food assistance to those most in need
  - providing financial and technical assistance to address the root-causes of food insecurity and help build long-term food resilience
  - supporting the development of social protection systems that provide a safety net for those affected by the food price crisis and
  - advocating for open, transparent, and predictable agricultural trade and for avoiding export restrictions on food and fertilisers.
- We are also working closely with multilateral development banks and the IMF to provide finance that is well-targeted to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable countries.



## Background

s47F(1)

### *Bilateral economic relationship*

Australia has a healthy trade and investment relationship with Italy. In 2021, two-way goods and services trade was valued at AUD8.9 billion, making Italy our 17<sup>th</sup> largest trading partner. As with most European countries, the balance of trade is strongly in Italy's favour. Inward investment is relatively modest by European standards. In 2021, the stock of investment from Italy was valued at AUD1 billion. By contrast, the stock of Australian investment in Italy was valued at AUD9 billion.

### *Investment*

In 2022, significant Australian investment in Italy included:

- **IFM Investors** invested AUD1.5 billion, with an option for an additional AUD778 million, in Italian energy company ERG. The partnership aims to consolidate the leading position of ERG in energy transition projects across Europe
- **Breville** completed its acquisition of Italian coffee group LELIT for AUD140 million
- **Fortescue Future Industries** announced plans to jointly develop a green hydrogen value chain with Italian renewable energy giant Enel. The initial focus will be on projects in Latin America and Australia
- **Po Valley Energy** received final approval for its onshore gas field in Emilia Romagna and should start production in April 2023 s33(a)(iii) and s47G(1) and
- **Macquarie** purchased another office block in Milan at a cost of AUD185 million and will soon open a 20-person Milan office to support Italian clients.

Macquarie is a significant Australian investor in Italy. In June 2021, it was part of a consortium, together with US investor Blackstone and led by the Italian-government investment vehicle Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, which took over Autostrade per l'Italia, one of Europe's largest toll road operators. Macquarie's investment is valued at around AUD3.5 billion.

In August 2021, Macquarie finalised its purchase of a 40 per cent stake in Open Fiber, a company that has a key role in ultrafast broadband rollout in Italy. The value of the investment is around AUD3.2 billion, and the majority 60 per cent stake is held by Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CdP). T-Lendlease also has major contracts to re-develop the Milan Expo 2015 site and the Santa Giulia site, which is also in Milan. Each project is worth about AUD4 billion. Both are progressing well, including the creation of an important innovation district on the former Expo site.

Existing Italian investors in Australia find it a positive investment environment and continue to explore growth opportunities, particularly in supporting Australia's energy transition and infrastructure expansion. Major infrastructure companies such as **Webuild** and **Ghella** have secured an impressive portfolio of orders. In November, Ghella was part of the winning

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consortium to deliver the final section of the AUD1.8 billion Sydney Metro West tunnel. Webuild has agreed to buy a AUD12 million stake (assets) in its erstwhile but now bankrupt Australian infrastructure partner Clough, with an option to buy further assets. Italian hearing-aid company Amplifon, made a further investment in 2021 with the acquisition of Audio Bay Pty Ltd for AUD550 million. In December 2022, Webuild was also awarded a contract for the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport valued at AUD3.83 billion.

#### *Australia-European Union Free Trade Agreement*

There is growing high-level political momentum towards concluding the Australia-EU FTA negotiations. During their November meeting in the margins of the G20 Summit, Prime Minister Albanese and EU Presidents von der Leyen and Michel agreed to “prioritise the conclusion of an ambitious and comprehensive trade agreement that generates new, commercially-meaningful market access opportunities across all goods, services, investment and procurement”.

During his recent visit to Europe, Minister Farrell met with the EU’s Trade Commissioner Dombrovskis and Agriculture Commissioner Wojciechowski (7 and 8 December, respectively).

s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

The next round of negotiations will be in Canberra on 6-10 February, with a further round planned for the week of 24 April in Brussels.

#### *Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)*

On 13 December, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU reached a provisional agreement on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) – the EU’s signature initiative to prevent carbon leakage by establishing a border tax on carbon-intensive products entering the EU. Details of the deal are incomplete, and a revised text of the regulation is yet to be released. Media releases suggest that in addition to iron and steel, cement, fertilisers, aluminium and electricity, the scope of CBAM under the deal will be extended to cover hydrogen as well as some precursors, a limited number of downstream products (e.g. screws and bolts), as well indirect emissions under

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## Biography

|                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Maria <u>TRIPODI</u> [Tri-POD-i]</b><br>Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation<br>Italy |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
|                                               | <b>Form of Address:</b> Under-Secretary<br>s47C(1) and s47F(1)                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                | <b>Year of Birth:</b> 1982                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                | <b>Education:</b> Degree in International and European Community Political Studies, La Sapienza University, Rome. Master's Degree in Economic Security, Geopolitics and Intelligence, SIOI, Rome |                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                | <b>Twitter handle:</b> <a href="#">@tripodimaria</a>                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                     |
| <b>Career:</b>                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                     |
| Oct. 2022 - present                                                                                                            | Appointed Under-secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation                                                                                                                      |                                                                                     |
| 2018-2022                                                                                                                      | Elected to Italian Chamber of Deputies for Forza Italia. Sat on Defence Committee                                                                                                                |                                                                                     |
| 2010-2018                                                                                                                      | Various roles in youth politics both in Italy and in the EU                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                     |
| 2005                                                                                                                           | Started political campaigning with Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia party                                                                                                                        |                                                                                     |
| s33(a)(iii)                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                     |
| <b>Contact:</b><br>This will be your first meeting.                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                     |

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certain conditions. Under the provisional agreement, CBAM will begin to operate from October 2023 (rather than 1 January 2023 which the EU had been aiming for). Initially only reporting obligations will apply, with CBAM fees not being charged until 2026 or 2027 (still being negotiated).

#### *Critical Minerals*

Australia is working with international partners to attract investment and offtake deals and provide financial support to expand our sector. We have provided AUD1.5 billion in loans through the AUD2 billion Critical Minerals Facility administered by Export Finance Australia (EFA) to support strategically significant projects. The 2022-23 Budget committed AUD50.5 million for a critical minerals Research and Development Hub and AUD50 million for a grants program to de-risk early and mid-stage projects. The AUD1 billion Value adding in Resources fund will deliver investment through loans, equity and guarantees for businesses in value adding and mining science. The Government's new National Critical Minerals Strategy is currently under development with public consultations open until 3 February.

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii) and s33(b)

s33(a)  
(iii)

s33(a)(iii) and s33(b)

s33(a)(iii)

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**MEETING WITH NICOLA BERTINELLI,**  
**DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF COLDIRETTI**

- Welcome the role of Italian companies in Australia's **agri-food sector** [e.g. *PreGel, Ferrero Group*].
- Highlight that a trade agreement would grow **two-way trade** and enable further Italian investment in Australia.
- Note Australia is interested in learning about Italy's approach to sustainable agriculture.
- Welcome views on EU's Farm to Fork Strategy.

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COLDIRETTI: NICOLA BERTINELLI [BER-TI-NEL-I]

Deputy President

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

**Talking points:**

- Pleased to meet you [*this is your first meeting*].
- Italy is an important partner for Australia with a strong relationship and potential for further growth bilaterally.
- Italian companies such as PreGel and Ferrero Group play significant roles in Australia's agrifood sector
  - direct investments by Italian companies support Australian jobs and make a substantial contribution to capacity building in Australia
  - welcome continued investment.

**Australia EU FTA**

- Welcome your support for the swift conclusion of an ambitious and comprehensive trade agreement with the EU
  - a trade agreement will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy.
- Italy will benefit from increased opportunities in investment, exports and government procurement. The agreement will;
  - build on our existing trade relationship
    - » for example, Australia provides Italy with durum wheat, which Italy uses to process into pasta, and then exports to the world, including Australia
  - grow two-way trade and enable more Italian investment in Australia and

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

**Sustainable agriculture and EU Farm to Fork Strategy**

- Interested to learn more about Italy's approach to sustainable agriculture
  - how is industry supported or incorporated in this approach?
- Welcome your views on the EU Farm to Fork Strategy, including
  - impacts you foresee this having on your industries and stakeholders and
  - your response to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in delivering the Green Deal, Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies.

**If raised:*****Sustainability and Traceability in Australian Agriculture***s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

- Australia is a leader in agricultural sustainability. Our farmers constantly improve their practices to adapt to one of the world's most variable climates.
  - Our beef sector, for example, has committed to being carbon neutral by 2030. A world leading target. It has invested \$200 million (and rising) on research, development, and extension towards this goal. You can buy a steak in Australia from a 100 per cent carbon neutral supply chain.
- While Australian and EU environmental conditions and production systems are different, we both have high standards of food safety, traceability, animal welfare and environmental management.
  - There is no one-size-fits-all model for sustainable production.
- Sustainable production systems in Australia can look very different to sustainable production systems in Europe because of the often significant differences in ecologies, climate and other conditions in which our farmers are working.
  - It is important that decisions on 'how' to achieve sustainability outcomes – whether reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, increases in biodiversity or improvements to soil, air or water quality for example – are made taking into account the full production context



s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

***Australia's approach to sustainable agriculture.***

- Australia supports further development of a global sustainable food system, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) which encompass environmental, social and economic sustainability.
- We believe in order to achieve this there is no one-size-fits-all model, and individual geographies, climates and demographics will shape countries approaches to a sustainable food system.
- Australia's approach is technology and market driven
  - we believe in supporting our farmers through research and development and allowing industry to make progressive steps in sustainability. For instance:
    - » all of our major commodities are covered by a sustainability framework.
    - » innovation and on farm management practice changes have led to many sustainable practices becoming the norm, for example
      - over 95 per cent of farms use minimum or no-till farming,
      - tree planting and fencing off riparian areas to protect waterways,
      - de-stocking during dry periods to maintain ground cover during drought
- 94 per cent of farmers are actively undertaking **natural resource management**.
- Recent CSIRO research found that in grains, Australia exhibits lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for each tonne produced than EU, US, Canada, Russia and Ukraine.
- Our rice growers produce the highest volume per hectare globally (10 tonnes) and are using 50 per cent less water than the global average.
- Our cotton farmers have reduced synthetic insecticide use by 97 per cent since 1992 and are focused on water efficiency.
- Of around 4,000 sugar farms, 80 per cent are being farmed in line with the best management practice program.
- Our red meat sector has a world leading ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030 and you can already buy steak and sausages in Australia from a carbon neutral supply chain.

***Australia's response to global food security***

- Australia is responding to growing global food insecurity by:
  - continuing to provide high levels of humanitarian assistance through trusted organisations such as WFP to deliver lifesaving food assistance to those most in need
  - providing financial and technical assistance to address the root-causes of food insecurity and help build long-term food resilience
  - supporting the development of social protection systems that provide a safety net for those affected by the food price crisis
  - advocating for open, transparent, and predictable agricultural trade and for avoiding export restrictions on food and fertilisers.



- We are also working closely with multilateral development banks and the IMF to provide finance that is well-targeted to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable countries.

### Background

With 1.5 million members, **Coldiretti** is the largest association of farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs in Italy. **s33(a)(iii) and s47G(1)**

The **EU Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy**, adopted by the EU Parliament on 20 October 2021, falls under the broader EU Green Deal. It states that the EU will seek to ensure there is an ambitious sustainability chapter in all EU bilateral trade agreements. As part of the Australia-EU FTA negotiations, discussions are underway on a proposed Sustainable Food Systems chapters as a result of the F2F's. Understanding EU domestic industry's approach to F2F will be useful to contribute to these discussions.

Australia has very high standards of food quality, safety, traceability, animal welfare and sustainable production – backed up by a rigorous and comprehensive regulatory framework. Australia's reputation for clean, green and safe agricultural produce has driven strong demand for our products around the world.

Australia has achieved this outcome through production systems and standards which are honed to successfully farm in these challenging conditions. Australian farmers are the second least subsidised in the OECD, operate in an open market and compete with farmers from around the world. To operate productive, profitable and sustainable businesses Australian farmers must constantly improve their farm management practice to look after the natural capital of their land and are focused on lifetime health and welfare of animals.

### *Sustainability and Traceability in Australian Agriculture*

- The Australian agricultural sector understands the production, trade, and environmental risks of inaction on climate change, but also that the transition to a climate-positive economy will create opportunities to build resilience, boost long-term productivity, increase food security and expand market access by establishing strong sustainability credentials.
- Some Australian industry sectors have developed voluntary sustainability frameworks to address the increasing requirements of trading partners to demonstrate the sustainability of production practices.
- Government is also working to support the development of consistent sustainability credentials to help Australian agricultural producers to access and grow export markets. This, combined with effective data-enabled traceability systems, will ensure that Australian producers can be rewarded commercially for their sustainable practices.
  - The evidence-base to support this work will utilise the latest innovative technologies by leveraging the work of research and development corporations, CSIRO and other world-leading research.
- Some current initiatives include:

- The \$5 billion Future Drought Fund which will help farmers and communities become more prepared for, and resilient to, the impacts of drought.
- The \$10 million 'Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool' to enable farmers to assess their resilience to future drought and receive farm-scale insights and adaptation options tailored to their circumstances.
- The \$214.9 million National Soil Package, which will support the implementation of the National Soil Strategy outlining how Australia will value, manage and improve its soil for the next 20 years.
- \$302 million through the Natural Heritage Trust to support sustainable agriculture practices and assist land managers to engage in carbon and biodiversity markets.
- The development of national sustainability and traceability frameworks – to clearly communicate sustainability standards and ensure that sustainably-produced goods are accurately and fairly represented on the international market.



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## Biography

|                                                                                   |                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nicola <u>BERTINELLI</u> [Ber-ti-NEL-i]</b><br>Deputy President<br>Coldiretti  |                                                                                                     |  |
|  | <b>Form of Address:</b> Mr Bertinelli<br>s47C(1) and s47F(1)                                        |                                                                                     |
|                                                                                   | <b>Year of Birth:</b> 1972<br>Agrarian                                                              |                                                                                     |
|                                                                                   | <b>Education:</b> Science degree, Cattolica University, Milan;<br>MBA, Ontario Agricultural College |                                                                                     |
|                                                                                   | <b>Twitter handle:</b>                                                                              |                                                                                     |
| <b>Career:</b>                                                                    |                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
| 2018-present                                                                      | Vice President of Coldiretti and President of Coldiretti for the region of Emilia Romagna           |                                                                                     |
| 2018-present                                                                      | Vice President, AREPO (Association of European Regions for Products of Origin)                      |                                                                                     |
| 2017-present                                                                      | President, Parmigiano Reggiano Consortium (re-elected 2021 )                                        |                                                                                     |
| 2002-present                                                                      | Managing Director of family-run producer of Parmigiano Reggiano, Az.Agr Bertinelli                  |                                                                                     |
| s33(a)(iii)                                                                       |                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
| <b>Contact:</b><br>This will be your first meeting.                               |                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |

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Ministry of Business & Made in Italy  
Deputy Minister Valentino Valentini

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**MEETING WITH DEPUTY MINISTER FOR  
BUSINESS AND MADE IN ITALY,  
VALENTINO VALENTINI**

- A **trade agreement** will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy.
- s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)
- 
- 
- Welcome the role of Italian businesses in helping Australia become a **renewable energy superpower**.
- We seek further cooperation on a **just and clean energy transformation**, including through private sector partnerships.

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## ITALY: VALENTINO VALENTINI [VA-LEN-TI-NI]

Deputy Minister for Business and Made in Italy

s33(a)(iii)

### Talking points:

- Pleased to meet you [*this is your first meeting*]
  - congratulations on your appointment as Deputy Minister for Business and Made in Italy
  - look forward to working with you and the new Italian government on our shared interests.
- Welcome the positive meeting between our Prime Ministers at the G20 in Bali on 16 November.
- Italy is an important partner for Australia bilaterally and in multilateral fora
  - the bilateral relationship is strong with potential for further growth.
- Our economic relationship is healthy
  - Italian companies are playing key roles in Australia's infrastructure, energy, defence and agrifood sectors s47G(1)
  - direct investments by Italian companies support Australian jobs and make a substantial contribution to capacity building in Australia
  - welcome continued investment.
- While Italy and Australia are geographically distant, we have common interests in resisting challenges to the global order in our respective regions and at the global level.
- Australia is deeply concerned at the rising levels of food insecurity globally
  - food prices, energy and fertiliser costs which were high before, have been further exacerbated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine
  - how is Italy responding to the global food insecurity?
- It is important that we maintain open, transparent, and predictable agricultural trade and avoid export restrictions on food and fertilisers
  - Australia is committed to remain a reliable, open supplier of food products to the world.

### Australia-EU FTA

- s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)
  - Australia's Prime Minister and the EU Presidents have said it is a priority
  - we are like-minded on Ukraine, climate change, and diversifying our trade.



- A trade agreement will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy
  - Australia has the critical minerals the EU needs for the green transition
  - we are a high-income market of 26 million people – if we were an EU member state, we'd be the fourth-largest economy (after Italy).
- Italy will benefit from increased opportunities in investment, exports and government procurement. The agreement will:
  - build on our existing trade relationship
    - » for example, Australia provides Italy with durum wheat, which Italy uses to process into pasta, and then exports to the world, including Australia
  - grow two-way trade and enable more Italian investment in Australia

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

### Clean Energy Investment

- s33(a)(iii) Australia's bid for COP31, with Pacific countries *[Italy co-hosted COP26 with the UK in 2021]*.
- Australia is well positioned to become a **renewable energy superpower**
  - acknowledge the importance and contribution of Italian businesses to Australia's ambition of becoming a renewable energy superpower s47G(1)

s47G(1)

- Australia is an attractive destination for **international investors** in the renewable energy sector
  - welcome further cooperation on a just and clean energy transformation, including through private sector partnerships.
- The Australian Government aims to become a major exporter of clean hydrogen and to advance the development and commercialisation of other new and emerging low emission technologies.
- Welcome the opportunity to explore how we can contribute to Italy's hydrogen plans.

**Critical Minerals**

- Welcome EU-Australia Leaders' agreement [16 November] to an early start of discussions with a view to establishing a bilateral partnership on sustainable critical and strategic minerals.

s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

s33(a)(iii)



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s33(a)(iii)

**If raised:**

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

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s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

### ***EU Carbon Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)***

- Australia appreciates the EU's rationale for developing the CBAM
  - in principle, we think it would be better to tackle carbon leakage through multilateral or plurilateral approaches, which would potentially have the greatest impact on emissions globally.
- Appreciate a multilateral approach will take time, so we want to work closely with the EU to understand CBAM's final form and how it will be implemented, to minimise the impact on Australian business
  - including finding ways to recognise emissions reductions policies that are not based on explicit carbon pricing.

s33(a)(iii)

### ***EU anti-coercion instrument***

- Australia recognises that current WTO rules do not provide adequate protection for all countries against the use of economic coercion
  - against that backdrop, and as per Australia's public submissions, Australia has publicly welcomed the EU's exploration of ways to respond more effectively to and deter economic coercion
  - Australia is keen to see any such mechanism developed in ways that are consistent with the WTO rules and that sustain confidence in the multilateral trading system.

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## Biography

**Valentino VALENTINI**Deputy Minister for Business and Made in Italy  
Italy

**Form of Address:** (Deputy) Minister  
s47C(1) and s47F(1)

**Year of Birth:** 1962

**Education:** Degree in Interpreting, Trieste University

**Twitter handle:** [@Adolfo\\_urso](#)

**Career:**

|             |                                                                                                   |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 2022 - | Deputy Minister for Business and Made in Italy                                                    |
| 2018-2022   | Party leader on Foreign Affairs Committee and foreign affairs advisor to President of the Senate  |
| 2013-2018   | Member of European Affairs Committee and of the Italian delegation to NATO Parliamentary Assembly |
| 2008-2013   | Foreign Affairs Advisor to Silvio Berlusconi                                                      |
| 2006-2008   | First elected to Chamber of Deputies (re-elected 2008, 2013, 2018) for Forza Italia               |
| 2001-2006   | Head of Office and Special Foreign Affairs Advisor to Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi            |

s33(a)(iii)

**Contact:**

This will be your first meeting.

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Confagricoltura  
President Massimiliano Giansanti

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**MASSIMILIANO GIANANTI, PRESIDENT**  
**OF CONFAGRICOLTURA**

- Welcome support to conclude **trade agreement** between Australia and the EU.
- Emphasise Italy would benefit from increased opportunities in investment, exports and government procurement.
- Note Australia is interested in learning about Italy's approach to sustainable agriculture.
- s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

- Welcome views on the EU's Farm to Fork Strategy.

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## CONFAGRICOLTURA: MASSIMILIANO GIANSANTI [GIAN-SAN-TI]

President

s33(a)(iii)

### Talking points:

- Pleased to meet you *[this is your first meeting]*.
- Understand you were recently in Australia s47F(1)
  - pleased you had a such a productive visit.
- Italy is an important partner for Australia with a strong relationship and potential for further growth bilaterally.
- Italian companies such as PreGel and Ferrero Group play significant roles in Australia's agrifood sector
  - direct investments by Italian companies support Australian jobs and make a substantial contribution to capacity building in Australia
  - welcome continued investment.
- Very concerned by Russia's illegal, immoral and unilateral invasion of Ukraine
  - interested in your assessment of the conflict, and its economic impact on business in Italy, particularly in food supply.

### Australia EU FTA

- Welcome your support for the swift conclusion of an ambitious and comprehensive trade agreement with the EU
    - a trade agreement will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy.
  - Italy will benefit from increased opportunities in investment, exports and government procurement. The agreement will;
    - build on our existing trade relationship
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- s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)



s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

**Sustainable agriculture and EU Farm to Fork Strategy**

- Interested to learn more about Italy's approach to sustainable agriculture
  - how is industry supported or incorporated in this approach?
- Welcome your views on the EU Farm to Fork Strategy, including:
  - impacts you foresee this having on your industries and stakeholders and
  - your response to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in delivering the Green Deal, Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies.

**If raised:*****Australia's approach to sustainable agriculture.***

- Australia supports further development of a global sustainable food system, in line with the SDGs which encompass environmental, social and economic sustainability.
- We believe in order to achieve this there is no one-size-fits-all model, and individual geographies, climates and demographics will shape countries approaches to a sustainable food system.
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    - » Innovation and on farm management practice changes have led to many sustainable practices becoming the norm, for example
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      - tree planting and fencing off riparian areas to protect waterways
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      - 94 per cent of farmers are actively undertaking **natural resource management**.

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- Our red meat sector has a world leading ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030 and you can already buy steak and sausages in Australia from a carbon neutral supply chain.

#### ***Australia's response to global food security***

- Australia is responding to growing global food insecurity by:
  - continuing to provide high levels of humanitarian assistance through trusted organisations such as WFP to deliver lifesaving food assistance to those most in need
  - providing financial and technical assistance to address the root-causes of food insecurity and help build long-term food resilience
  - supporting the development of social protection systems that provide a safety net for those affected by the food price crisis
  - advocating for open, transparent, and predictable agricultural trade and for avoiding export restrictions on food and fertilisers.
- We are also working closely with multilateral development banks and the IMF to provide finance that is well-targeted to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable countries.

#### **Background**

##### *Massimiliano Giansanti's visit to Australia 20-25 November 2022*

From 20 to 25 November 2022, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry hosted Mr Giansanti in New South Wales and Victoria. s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

**Confagricoltura** is the General Confederation of Italian Agriculture, the Italian equivalent of Australia's National Farmers' Federation. It is a representative body for Italian agricultural businesses and the primary sector – rural communities and economies, and the environment. It supports business innovation, sustainability and competitiveness, both domestic and international.



s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

It represents its members in national as well as European farming groups and organisations e.g. COPA (the Committee of European Farming Organisations), GEOPA (the European Coordination of Employer Organisations) and CES (European Social and Economic Committee).

Confagricoltura represents:

- 24 product sectors, which make up the corresponding regional and provincial sectors
- 165,300 farming businesses with hired labour
- 24,610 farming businesses with direct farming – self-employed workers
- 300,000 contractors, land maintenance, sharecroppers, owners, granters
- 2/3 of the overall sector companies
- 41 million workdays (over 24 million of which via Union proxy)
- 520,000 hired workers
- over 45 per cent of Italy's gross sellable production
- AUD73 billion of agroforestry products
- AUD42 billion of value-added products

s33(a)(iii)

The **EU Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy**, adopted by the EU Parliament on 20 October 2021, falls under the broader EU Green Deal. It states that the EU will seek to ensure there is an ambitious sustainability chapter in all EU bilateral trade agreements. As part of the Australia-EU FTA negotiations, discussions are underway on a proposed Sustainable Food Systems chapters as a result of the F2F. Understanding EU domestic industry approach to F2F will be useful to contribute to these discussions.

Australia has very high standards of food quality, safety, traceability, animal welfare and sustainable production – backed up by a rigorous and comprehensive regulatory framework. Australia's reputation for clean, green and safe agricultural produce has driven strong demand for our products around the world.

Australia has achieved this outcome through production systems and standards which are honed to successfully farm in these challenging conditions. Australian farmers are the second least subsidised in the OECD, operate in an open market and compete with farmers from around the world. To operate productive, profitable and sustainable businesses Australian farmers must constantly improve their farm management practice to look after the natural capital of their land and are focused on lifetime health and welfare of animals.



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## Biography

|                                                                                   |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Massimiliano <u>GIASANTI</u> [GIAN-SAN-TI]</b><br>President<br>Italy           |                                                                                                                           |  Confagricoltura |
|  | <b>Form of Address:</b> Mr<br>s47C(1) and s47F(1)                                                                         |                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                   | <b>Year of Birth:</b> 1974<br>s47C(1)                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                   | <b>Twitter handle:</b> <a href="#">@masgiansanti</a>                                                                      |                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                   | <b>Career:</b>                                                                                                            |                                                                                                     |
| 2017-present                                                                      | President of Confagricoltura                                                                                              |                                                                                                     |
| 2001-present                                                                      | President, Agricola Giansanti Ltd.-Parma (agri-business operating in the production and marketing of Parmigiano Reggiano) |                                                                                                     |
| s47C(1)                                                                           |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                     |
| 1996-present                                                                      | CEO, Gruppo Aziende Agricole Di Muzio, Rome – family-run farming business with land around Rome and Parma                 |                                                                                                     |
| s33(a)(iii)                                                                       |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                     |
| <b>Contact:</b><br>This will be your first meeting.                               |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                     |

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Drinks with members of Italian Parliament  
and Italian members of European Parliament

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**APERITIVO WITH MEMBERS OF THE  
ITALIAN PARLIAMENT AND ITALIAN  
MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN  
PARLIAMENT**

- Note strength of our bilateral relationship and highlight potential for future growth.
- Reiterate Australia's ambition to conclude the Australia-EU trade agreement, noting Australia and Italy are likeminded partners on Ukraine, climate change and diversifying trade.
- Note Australia's renewed climate ambition and bid to co-host COP31 [2026] with Pacific Island countries.
- Welcome the role of Italian businesses in helping Australia become a **renewable energy superpower**.

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## APERITIVO WITH MEMBERS OF ITALIAN PARLIAMENT AND ITALIAN MEMBERS OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Time and Place</b><br><br>Monday, 23 January<br>2022, 1830 – 2000,<br>Grand Hotel Flora                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Key attendees</b><br><br>Francesco Giacobbe, Member of the Italian Senate<br>representing Italians in Asia and Oceania<br><br>Other attendees to be advised |
| <p><b>s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)</b></p> <p>You are attending an 'aperitivo' (informal drinks) with members of the Italian Parliament and Italian Members of the European Parliament (MEPs).</p> <p>This provides an opportunity to engage with representatives across Italy's political spectrum (members of the governing coalition and opposition parties) elected to parliament following the September 2022 election, <b>s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)</b></p> <p><b>s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)</b></p> |                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Handling note</b><br><br>You are not expected to make a statement. However, a set of talking points has been prepared to support your engagement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                |

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**Talking points:**

- Italy is an important partner for Australia
  - our enduring people-to-people links is testament [*over one million or 4.4 per cent of the Australian population claims Italian ancestry*]
  - and our trade and investment relationship is healthy and growing [*two-way trade in 2021 was worth AUD8.9 billion, and total stock of investment was worth AUD12 billion*].
- Interested in your respective assessments of how best I and my team can work with you to develop the relationship further.
- Also interested in your assessment of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and its economic impact on Italy and the EU.

**Australia-EU FTA**

- s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)
  - Australia's Prime Minister and the EU Presidents have said it is a priority
  - we are like-minded on Ukraine, climate change, and diversifying our trade.
- Australia values its relationships with Members of the European Parliament
  - Minister Farrell has already met members of the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade on two occasions to discuss the trade agreement and our other shared interests.
- A trade agreement will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy
  - Australia has the critical minerals the EU needs for the green transition
  - we are a high-income market of 26 million people – if we were an EU member state, we'd be the fourth-largest economy (after Italy).
- Italy will benefit from increased opportunities in investment, exports and government procurement. The agreement will
  - build on our existing trade relationship
    - » for example, Australia provides Italy with durum wheat, which Italy uses to process into pasta, and then exports to the world, including Australia
  - grow two-way trade and enable more Italian investment in Australia

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

**Climate Change and Critical Minerals**

- Australia has renewed climate ambition
  - a legislated 2030 target of 43 per cent below 2005 levels; and 2050 [*net-zero*] emissions reduction commitments.

- We are backing these commitments with record funding of almost AUD25 billion in clean energy spending,
  - including funding for projects that unlock significant opportunities for investors across Australian renewables and the country's growing green economy.
- Australia is well positioned to become a **renewable energy superpower** and an attractive destination for international investors
  - Italian businesses play significant role in advancing Australia's ambition of becoming a renewable energy superpower s47G(1)
  - welcome further cooperation and investment by Italian businesses.
- The Australian Government aims to become a major exporter of clean hydrogen and to advance the development and commercialisation of other new and emerging low emission technologies
  - welcome the opportunity to explore how we can contribute to Italy's hydrogen plans.
- Australia is a significant producer of mined and processed critical minerals (lithium, cobalt, manganese ore, niobium, tungsten and vanadium)
  - we are investing in processing of critical minerals of high value to Europe
  - our high environmental, social and governance standards and world class mining sector makes us a credible partner for Italy and Europe.

**If raised:**

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

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## Event Biographies

**Francesco GIACOBBE [Jah-koh-beh]****Member of the Italian Senate representing Italians in  
Asia and Oceania****Italy****Form of Address:** Senator  
**s47C(1) and s47F(1)****Year of Birth:** 1958**Twitter handle:** [@sengiacobbe](https://twitter.com/sengiacobbe)

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## Event Biographies



**Francesco GIACOBBE [Jah-ko-BE]**  
**Member of the Italian Senate representing**  
**Italians in Asia and Oceania**  
**Democratic Party**



**Form of Address:** Senator  
**s47C(1) and s47F(1)**

**Year of Birth:** 1958  
**Twitter handle:** [@sengiacobbe](https://twitter.com/sengiacobbe)



**Fulvio MARTUSCIELLO [Mar-tu-SHEL-o]**  
**Member of European Parliament**  
**Forza Italia Party**



**Form of Address:** Mr Martusciello

**Year of Birth:** 1968  
**Twitter handle:** [@fulviomartuscie](https://twitter.com/fulviomartuscie)



**Simona BALDASSARRE [Bal-da-SAR-e]**  
**Member of European Parliament**  
**Lega Party**



**Form of Address:** Ms Baldassarre  
**Year of Birth:** 1970  
**Twitter handle:** [@BaldassarreEU](https://twitter.com/BaldassarreEU)

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**Paola GHIDONI [Ghi-DON-i]**  
**Member of European Parliament**  
**Lega Party**



**Form of Address:** Ms Ghidoni  
**Year of Birth:** 1963  
**Twitter handle:** [@paolaghidoni1](#)



**Paolo FORMENTINI [For-men-TEEN-i]**  
**Deputy in the Italian Chamber of Deputies**  
**and sits on the Foreign Affairs Committee**  
**Lega Party**



**Form of Address:** Mr Formentini  
**s47C(1) and s47F(1)**  
**Year of Birth:** 1980  
**Twitter handle:** [@PaoloFormentin1](#)



**Salvatore CAIATA [Kai-AT-a]**  
**Deputy in the Italian Chamber of Deputies**  
**Fratelli d'Italia Party**



**Form of Address:** Mr Caiata  
**Year of Birth:** 1970  
**Twitter handle:** [@CaiataSalvatore](#)



**Luigi NAVE [NA-ve]**  
**Member of the Italian Senate**  
**Five Star Movement**



**Form of Address:** Senator  
**Year of Birth:** 1970  
**Twitter handle:** [@luinave](#)



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**Gianluca CARAMANNA [Ca-ra-MAN-a]**  
**Deputy in the Italian Chamber of Deputies**  
**Fratelli d'Italia Party**



**Form of Address:** Mr Caramanna  
**Year of Birth:** 1970  
**Twitter handle:** n/a



**Francesca LA MARCA [La MAR-ca]**  
**Member of the Italian Senate**  
**Democratic Party**



**Form of Address:** Senator  
**s47C(1) and s47F(1)**  
**Year of Birth:** 1975  
**Twitter handle:** @FrancescaLaMar



**Nicola CARE [Ca-RAY]**  
**Deputy in the Italian Chamber of Deputies**  
**representing Italians in Asia and Oceania**  
**Democratic Party**



**Form of Address:** Mr Care'  
**s47C(1) and s47F(1)**  
**Year of Birth:** 1960  
**Twitter handle:** @careitaly



**Sabrina LICHERI [Li-KE-ri]**  
**Senator for the Movimento 5 Stelle party**



**Form of Address:** Senator  
**Year of Birth:** 1971  
**Twitter handle:** @sabrinalicheri



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**Naike GRUPPIONI [Gri-PPIO-ni]****Deputy for the Azione – Italia Viva party****Form of Address:** Ms Gruppioni**Year of Birth:** 1979**Twitter handle:** @naike\_gruppioni**Emma PAVANELLI [Pa-va-NE-lli]****Deputy for the Movimento 5 Stelle Party****Form of Address:** Ms Pavanelli**Year of Birth:** 1973**Twitter handle:** @EmmaPavanelli**Lucio MALAN [Ma-LAN]****Senator for the Fratelli d'Italia party****Form of Address:** Senator**Year of Birth:** 1960**Twitter handle:** @LucioMalan

## Attendees at cocktail reception 23 January

*(see separate full biographies for Senator Francesco Giacobbe and Hon Nicola Care' who represent Italians in Australia in the Italian Parliament)*

### Members of the European Parliament (MEPs)

**Fulvio Martusciello, Forza Italia (head of delegation)**



Fulvio Martusciello was born in Naples in 1968 and graduated in Law in 1991.

He was first elected Regional Councillor of Campania in 1995. From 1995 to 1999 he was president of the Regional School of the Municipal Police. From 1995 to 2000 he served as Vice Chairman of the Regional Commission for Tourism, Agriculture and Productive Sectors.

Since 2014 he has been an MEP for Forza Italia and, in October 2022, he was appointed head of the Forza Italia delegation in the European Parliament.

**Simona Baldassarre, Lega s47F(1)**



Simona Baldassarre is an Italian politician born in Giurdignano (Lecce, Puglia) in 1970. She studied medicine and surgery at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Rome. She was elected as a municipal councillor in Rome in 2013.

s47C(1) and s47F(1)

In May 2019, she was elected to the European Parliament for Lega.

s47F(1)

**Paola Ghidoni, Lega**

Paola Ghidoni is an Italian politician and accountant born in Montecchio Maggiore (Veneto) in 1963.

She was a candidate for the European Parliament in 2019 for Lega but narrowly missed out on election.

She was also a Lega candidate in the 2020 regional elections and a candidate in the recent municipal elections in Padua. However, she was not elected.

In November 2022 she joined the European Parliament for Lega when she took over the seat of MEP Mara Bizzotto who resigned following her election to the Italian Senate.

**Italian Parliament representatives****Giangiaco­mo Calovini, Fratelli d'Italia**

Giangiacomo Calovini is a Deputy in the Italian Chamber of Deputies and sits on the Foreign Affairs Committee.

He was a city councillor in Brescia for Giorgia Meloni's Fratelli d'Italia party.

He graduated in political science with a European focus at Parma University. He then obtained two masters' degrees in international relations and political management. He is a lecturer at two Italian universities and writes about foreign policy online and for several newspapers.

**Paolo Formentini, Lega**



Paolo Formentini was born in Desenzano del Garda in 1980. He was first elected to the Chamber of Deputies for Lega in 2018.

He studied political science at LUISS Guido Carli University in Rome without graduating. From 2007 to 2011 he was a Municipal Councillor in Desenzano del Garda and a Provincial Councillor until 2014.

He sits on the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies as Vice President and leads the Lega group in the Committee. He is also Head of the Italy-Israel Cooperation Group and a member of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. He is a councillor of the Italy USA Foundation.

### **Salvatore Caiata, Fratelli d'Italia** s47F(1)



Salvatore Caiata is a member of the Chamber of Deputies.

He was born in Potenza in 1970. He graduated in Economics at the University of Siena. He began his political experience in 2009 in Siena, as a member of the provincial coordination team for Silvio Berlusconi's centre-right Popolo Della Libertà. However, he later switched allegiance to the Movimento 5 Stelle.

In 2018, he was elected to the Chamber of Deputies s47C(1) and s47F(1)

In 2019 he joined Fratelli d'Italia. He was re-elected for Fratelli d'Italia in 2022.

### **Senator Luigi Nave, Movimento 5 Stelle**



Luigi Nave was born in 1970 in Villaricca (Naples) and graduated in engineering.

He was elected as Senator in 2022 for the Movimento 5 Stelle. He is a member of committee for industry, agriculture and agrifood production.

Previously he had been a local councillor in Naples and from 2019 to 2021 he was a European parliamentary assistant.

### **Gianluca Caramanna, Fratelli d'Italia** s47F(1)



Gianluca Caramanna was born in Florsheim (Germany) in 1975. He graduated in economics and tourism at the University of Perugia.

In 2022 he was elected with Fratelli d'Italia to the Chamber of Deputies and sits on the committee for industry, trade and tourism.

#### **Senator Francesca La Marca, Partito Democratico**



Francesca La Marca was born in Toronto in 1975 and graduated in languages at the University of Toronto.

In the 2013 elections, she was elected to the Chamber of Deputies, in the foreign constituency (North and Central America) for the centre-left Democratic Party. It was the first time that a second-generation Italian was elected to the Italian Parliament. She was re-elected in 2018 and then in 2022 elected to the Senate. She currently sits on the committee for industry, agriculture and agri-food production.

**Sabrina Licheri, Senator for the Movimento 5 Stelle party**

Sabrina Licheri is a member of the Italian Senate for the Movimento 5 Stelle party.

She was born in Assemini in 1971. She obtained a diploma in accountancy and by profession is a business consultant.

She began her political career in 2013, when she was elected city councillor in her city and also became president of the city council. In 2018, however, she ran for mayor of Assemini and was elected. In the 2022 elections, she ran for the Senate of the republic in the Sardinia 1 uninominal constituency with the Movimento 5 Stelle, being elected.

Moreover, she is a member of the 9<sup>th</sup> permanent committee (industry, trade, tourism, agriculture and agri-food production).

**Naike Gruppioni, Deputy for the Azione – Italia Viva party s47F(1)**

She was born in Bologna in 1979 and graduated in business administration at the Bocconi University in Milan in 2004. She is vice president of the Italy USA Foundation.



In the 2022 political elections she was a candidate from Azione-Italia Viva party in the Emilia-Romagna 06 uninominal constituency and in the Emilia-Romagna 02 multi chamber constituency of the chamber of deputies, being elected in the latter for the XIX legislature.

From November 2022 she is part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> committee (foreign and community affairs).

**Emma Pavanelli, Deputy for the Movimento 5 Stelle Party**



She was born in Chiavari in 1973. She attended the University of Modern Foreign Languages and Literature at the University of Perugia s47F(1)

First of those non-elected in Umbria in the 2018 general elections, she became a senator on July 21, 2019, following the reassignment of the Movimento 5 Stelle's vacant senatorial seat in Sicily. Since august 2019 she has been a permanent member of the 13<sup>th</sup> Permanent commission (Territory, Environment, Environmental heritage).

In the general election in 2022, she is elected at the chamber of deputies within the Umbria 01 plurinominal constituency.

From November 2022 she is part of the 10<sup>th</sup> committee (Productive Activities, Trade and Tourism).

She is a member of the parliamentary committee on phenomena of intolerance, racism, and incitement to hatred founded by Senator Liliana Segre.

Ministry of Agriculture  
Undersecretary Patrizio Giacomo La Pietra

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**MEETING WITH UNDER-SECRETARY  
GENERAL OF STATE TO THE MINISTRY OF  
AGRICULTURE, FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND  
FORESTRY, PATRIZIO GIACOMO LA PIETRA**

- Welcome the role played by Italian companies in Australia's **agri-food sector** [*e.g. Ferrero Group*].
- A **trade agreement** will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy.
- **s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)**

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## ITALY: PATRIZIO GIACOMO LA PIETRA [LA PI-E-TRA]

Under-Secretary of State to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry

s33(a)(iii)

### Talking points:

- Pleased to meet you [*this is your first meeting*]
  - look forward to working with you and the new Italian government on our shared interests.
- Welcome the positive meeting between our Prime Ministers at the G20 in Bali on 16 November.
- Italy is an important partner for Australia bilaterally and in multilateral fora
  - the bilateral relationship is strong with potential for further growth.
- Italian companies such as Ferrero Group play significant roles in Australia's agrifood sector
  - direct investments by Italian companies support Australian jobs and make a substantial contribution to capacity building in Australia
  - welcome continued investment.

### Australia-EU FTA

- s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)
  - Australia's Prime Minister and the EU Presidents have said it is a priority
  - we are like-minded on Ukraine, climate change, and diversifying our trade.
- A trade agreement will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy
  - Australia has the critical minerals the EU needs for the green transition
  - we are a high-income market of 26 million people – if we were an EU member state, we'd be the fourth-largest economy (after Italy).
- Italy will benefit from increased opportunities in investment, exports and government procurement. The agreement will:
  - build on our existing trade relationship
    - » for example, Australia provides Italy with durum wheat, which Italy uses to process into pasta, and then exports to the world, including Australia
  - grow two-way trade and enable more Italian investment in Australia

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s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

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### Australia's response to global food security

- Australia is deeply concerned at the rising levels of food insecurity globally
  - food prices, energy and fertiliser costs which were high before, have been further exacerbated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine
  - Italy's hosting of the UN Rome-based food agencies and their work - *WFP, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) IFAD* - is critical to effectively address these unprecedented global challenges.
  - What are Italy's priorities on global food insecurity?
- It is important that we maintain open, transparent, and predictable agricultural trade and avoid export restrictions on food and fertilisers
  - Australia is committed to contributing to this objective as a reliable, open supplier of food products to the world.
- Australia is responding to growing global food insecurity by:
  - continuing to provide high levels of humanitarian assistance through trusted organisations such as WFP to deliver lifesaving food assistance to those most in need
  - providing financial and technical assistance to address the root-causes of food insecurity and help build long-term food resilience
  - supporting the development of social protection systems that provide a safety net for those affected by the food price crisis and
  - advocating for open, transparent, and predictable agricultural trade and for avoiding export restrictions on food and fertilisers.
- We are also working closely with multilateral development banks and the IMF to provide finance that is well-targeted to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable countries.

### If raised:

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)



s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

s33(a)(iii)

## Background

*Italy's agricultural sector*

s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

In the 2021-22 financial year, Australian agricultural exports to Italy were valued at over AUD442 million and Australian imports from Italy were valued at over AUD1 billion. The top three export commodities by value to Italy in the same period were wool (AUD226 million), wheat (AUD156 million) and beef and veal (AUD11.68 million). The top 3 import commodities by value from Italy to Australia in the 2021-22 financial year were tomatoes (AUD132.57 million), wine (AUD124.60 million) and cocoa & chocolate (AUD82.79 million).

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## Biography

### Patrizio GIACOMO LA PIETRA

Under-Secretary of State to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food  
Sovereignty and Forestry

Italy



**Form of Address:** Under-Secretary  
s47C(1) and s47F(1)

**Year of Birth:** 1961

**Education:** High school diploma

**Twitter handle:**

#### Career:

|                     |                                                                                                          |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 2022 - present | Under-Secretary of State to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry                   |
| 2018-present        | Member of Senate (re-elected October 2022)                                                               |
| 2014                | Coordinator for Fratelli d'Italia for the Province of Pistoia                                            |
| 2009-2014           | Provincial Councillor for Pistoia for Silvio Berlusconi's centre-right party (Popolo della Libertà)      |
| 2007-2012           | Municipal Councillor for town of Serravalle Pistoia (Tuscany) for Alleanza Nazionale (right-wing party). |

s33(a)(iii)

#### Contact:

This will be your first meeting.

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Federalimentare/Ferrero  
President Paolo Mascarino

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**MEETING WITH PAOLO MASCARINO,**  
**PRESIDENT OF FEDERALIMENTARE AND**  
**VICE-PRESIDENT FERRERO GROUP**

- Welcome support to conclude **trade agreement** between Australia and the EU.
- Emphasise Italy would benefit from increased opportunities in investment and exports.
- Welcome the key role of Italian companies in Australia's **agri-food sector** *[including Ferrero Group]*.
  - Welcome more investment.
- **s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)**

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## FEDERALIMENTARE: PAOLO MASCARINO

President

s33(a)(iii)

### Talking points:

- Pleased to meet you [*this is your first meeting*].
- Italy is an important partner for Australia with strong relationship and potential for further growth bilaterally.
- Our economic relationship is healthy
  - Italian companies, including the Ferrero Group, are playing key roles in Australia's agri-food sectors [Mr Mascarino is also Director of Ferrero Group]
  - direct investments by Italian companies support Australian jobs and make a substantial contribution to capacity building in Australia
  - welcome continued investment.
- Very concerned by Russia's illegal, immoral and unilateral invasion of Ukraine
  - interested in your assessment of the conflict, and its economic impact on business in Italy.

### Australia-EU FTA

- s33(a)(iii) for the swift conclusion of an ambitious and comprehensive trade agreement with the EU
  - a trade agreement will deliver significant opportunities for both sides, and particularly for Italy.
- Italy will benefit from increased opportunities in investment, exports and government procurement. The agreement will;
  - build on our existing trade relationship
  - for example, Australia provides Italy with durum wheat, which Italy uses to process into pasta, and then exports to the world, including Australia
  - grow two-way trade from 5.7 billion euros in 2021
  - enable more Italian investment in Australia (total stocks worth 5.6 billion euros in 2021)

s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)



s33(a)(iii), s47C(1) and s47E(d)

## Background

Federalimentare represents Italian food processors and exporters (including canned tomatoes), and are associated with Confindustria, the main association representing manufacturing and service companies in Italy.

s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

Agrifood is of significant strategic importance to the Italian economy, covering the entire supply chain from farms to food production to retail and catering. Italy is one of the largest food processors in Europe. Quality is paramount and constitutes the key competitive advantage – as a result, several companies' entire manufacturing capability is located domestically to support their 100% Italian made market positioning.

Sustainability is a core part of many companies' business and marketing strategy, including the impact on: the climate, environment and biodiversity.

s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

## *Italy's agricultural sector*

s33(a)(iii) and s47C(1)

In the 2021-22 financial year, Australian agricultural exports to Italy were valued at over AUD442 million and Australian imports from Italy were valued at over AUD1 billion. The top three export commodities by value to Italy in the same period were wool (AUD226 million), wheat (AUD156 million) and beef and veal (AUD11.68 million). The top 3 import commodities by value from Italy to Australia in the 2021-22 financial year were tomatoes (AUD132.57 million), wine (AUD124.60 million) and cocoa & chocolate (AUD82.79 million).

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## Biography

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Paolo MASCARINO</b><br>President<br>Federalimentare                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                     |  |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Form of Address:</b> President<br>s47C(1) and s47F(1)                                                                                            |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Year of Birth:</b> 1961                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Education:</b> Engineering Degree, La Sapienza Rome                                                                                              |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Twitter handle:</b> @FedAlimentare @Ferrero_EU                                                                                                   |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
| <b>Career:</b> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>2023-present</td> <td>President of Federalimentare (2023-2026)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019-2022</td> <td>Vice President, Federalimentare, with responsibility for nutrition, consumer information and food education</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010-present</td> <td>Joined Ferrero, covering corporate social responsibility issues, working directly with Ferrero family. Now Vice President for Institutional Affairs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1999-2009</td> <td>Italian Episcopal Conference, Head of Economic Support for Catholic Church</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1986-1998</td> <td>Procter &amp; Gamble Italy, marketing department</td> </tr> </table> |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                     | 2023-present | President of Federalimentare (2023-2026) | 2019-2022 | Vice President, Federalimentare, with responsibility for nutrition, consumer information and food education | 2010-present | Joined Ferrero, covering corporate social responsibility issues, working directly with Ferrero family. Now Vice President for Institutional Affairs | 1999-2009 | Italian Episcopal Conference, Head of Economic Support for Catholic Church | 1986-1998 | Procter & Gamble Italy, marketing department |
| 2023-present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | President of Federalimentare (2023-2026)                                                                                                            |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
| 2019-2022                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Vice President, Federalimentare, with responsibility for nutrition, consumer information and food education                                         |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
| 2010-present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Joined Ferrero, covering corporate social responsibility issues, working directly with Ferrero family. Now Vice President for Institutional Affairs |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
| 1999-2009                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Italian Episcopal Conference, Head of Economic Support for Catholic Church                                                                          |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
| 1986-1998                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Procter & Gamble Italy, marketing department                                                                                                        |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |
| <b>Contact:</b><br>This will be your first meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |              |                                          |           |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                     |           |                                                                            |           |                                              |

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