



TRADE TALK

Released: May 30, 2013

Trade In Services Agreement – Public consultations in Canberra

Australia is participating in negotiations in Geneva on a plurilateral Trade in Services Agreement (TISA). Consultations will be held in Canberra on Monday 17 June at DFAT from 3 – 4:30pm. Further information is available on the [DFAT website](#).

Value of exports up, exporter numbers steady

Australian exports increased in value over 2011-12 even as the number of exporters remained steady according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publication, Characteristics of Australian Exporters 2011-2012. Released this week, it analyses the characteristics and international trading activities of Australian exporters.

Publication: [Characteristics of Australian Exporters, 2011-12](#)

Indonesia relaxes import restrictions on Aussie beef

Imports of premium Australian beef to Indonesia will no longer be subject to quotas, paving the way for increased beef exports to the archipelago. These and other measures are aimed at stabilising the supply and cost of beef in Indonesia ahead of Ramadan and the upcoming Eid Fitri.

Press Release: [Indonesia to increase Australian beef imports](#)

Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations progress

The Lima Round of TPP negotiations concluded on May 24. Negotiators advanced work on areas such as services, trade remedies and dispute settlement and discussed plans for integrating Japan into negotiations.

Press Release: [TPP negotiations maintain strong momentum](#)

Lamy: Africa is the growth continent for the 21st century

WTO Director-General, Pascal Lamy, has hailed Africa's economic growth in the wake of the GFC, saying that Africa will undergo strong growth over the rest of the century. In a speech at the University of Nairobi, Lamy said factors such as human capital, trade agreements and trade facilitation will help to ensure that economic growth continues.

Speech: [Africa: the growth continent for the 21st century](#)

Former Kenyan minister nominated as next UNCTAD chief

Former Kenyan trade minister, Mukhisa Kituyi, has been nominated as the head of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Kituyi will start his term on September 1, if approved by the UN General Assembly.

Bridges Weekly: [Kituyi nominated as next UNCTAD head](#)

Will the Pacific Alliance succeed in Latin America after other trade pacts have failed?

This Peterson Institute for International Economics (PIIE) piece examines the Pacific Alliance (a trade grouping of Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, of which Australia holds official "observer" status) as it holds its seventh summit today. The piece examines the great potential for the Alliance and the potential barriers to its success.

PIIE: [The Pacific Alliance and Latin America](#)

Congratulations!

Our former director and creator of Trade Talk, Nancy Gordon, has been appointed as the first Consul-General to Chengdu, the capital of China's Sichuan Province. The Consulate-General will provide Australian business a direct link to a region of 190 million people. From all of the team here congratulations and hǎo yùn (good luck)!

Press Release: [First Australian Consul General in Chengdu](#)

Did you know?

Australia out-smiles the competition. Australia has taken out the title of the world's happiest industrialised nation according to the OECD's Better Life Index. This year marks the third year in a row Australia has taken out top spot in the Index which ranks happiness according to 24 indicators in 11 categories including environmental quality and civic engagement. [OECD Your Better Life Index](#)