



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

MEDIA RELEASE

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Increasing Tasmania's Exports to Indonesia

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources Richard Colbeck has welcomed the signing of the historic Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA).

Assistant Minister Colbeck: "This free trade agreement with Indonesia will open up a major new market for Tasmania and create job opportunities in our State.

"The reach of the IA-CEPA is staggering, with 99 per cent of goods exported to Indonesia to be duty free or with significantly improved preferential arrangements.

"IA-CEPA has been supported by National Farmers Federation, AUSVEG, Australian Dairy Industry Council, Meat & Livestock Australia and many other representatives of the agriculture industry.

"As an export State, this will give Tasmania access to a market of 270 million consumers who are increasingly seeing value in our high-quality, safe produce.

"We are in a particularly strong position to expand with our cool-climate horticulture exports such as cherries, berries and apples as well as vegetables such as potatoes, broccoli and carrots.

"Our seafood and aquaculture industries will also be competitive, not just with our produce but also with our supply chain services which are world-class.

"The elimination or reduction of tariffs across many dairy lines will also increase demand for the industry and give our farmers more options when it comes to where they sell their product.

"It is disturbing to see reports that the unions which run the Labor Party are already lobbying Bill Shorten to rip up this agreement, which is so vital to the future prosperity of Tasmania."

For more information on the IA-CEPA can be found here:

<https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/Pages/indonesia-australia-comprehensive-economic-partnership-agreement.aspx>

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Media Contact: Felix Ellis 0457 517 734