

## Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement

### 【Basic Information】

#### Moderator:

Han Yong

Director General of Department of WTO Affairs, Ministry of Commerce of China

#### Opening Remark:

Han Yong

Director General of Department of WTO Affairs, Ministry of Commerce of China

#### Keynote Speech:

Paul Grimes

CEO, Australian Trade and Investment Commission

Yi Xiaozhun

Former Vice Minister of Commerce of China, Former Deputy Director-General of the WTO, Former China's Ambassador to the WTO

Andrew Robb

Former Minister for Trade, Investment and Tourism of Australia

Wang Xinkui

Chairman of the Shanghai WTO Affairs Consultation Center

Vaughn Barber

Chair of the China-Australia Chamber of Commerce, AustCham China

#### Thematic Discussion:

Chen Mingliang

Deputy Secretary-General of the China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemicals Importers & Exporters, CCCMC

Ragnar Udd

Chief Commercial Officer of BHP

Wu Kai

Goldwind VP & Chairman of Goldwind International

Meggie Zhang

China Country Chair & Chief Representative of Woodside Energy

Zhang Ping

Chairman of the Board of Beijing Jingneng International Power Co., Ltd.

Kitty Liu

Greater China Managing Director of Blackmores

James Laurenceson	Professor and Director of the Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney
Benny Wang	Senior Vice President of Trip.com Group
Michael Ruggiero	Global Senior VP, Head of Government Affairs of CSL
Bonnie Zhao	Country Manager for the Commonwealth of Nations, Head of User Product at AliExpress
Yu Lu	Vice President of China Chamber of Commerce of I/E of Foodstuffs, Native Produce and Animal By-Products, CFNA
Anna Fedeles	General Manager of International Operations of the Trade and Investment Queensland
Luo Xiaoli	General Manager, CSFA Holdings Shanghai Co., Ltd.
Tom King	Treasury Wine Estates' Managing Director of Penfolds
David Jiang	General Manager of Strategic Brands & Category Business Group/ General Manager of international Logistics Center of Joy Wing Mau Fruit Technologies Co., Ltd.

## [Brief Introduction]

The Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement was held on the afternoon of November 5, 2025, in Hall A1, Pavilion 4.2, National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai). Hosted by the Ministry of Commerce of China, the event consisted of three sessions, namely Opening Remarks, Keynote Speech, and Thematic Discussion.



## **[Opening Remarks]**

In the Opening Remarks, Han Yong, Director General of the Department of WTO Affairs, Ministry of Commerce of China, stated that the signing of the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA) was an important milestone in the development of bilateral relations. Over the past decade, ChAFTA has fully served as an important engine in delivering fruitful outcomes in economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. The scale of China-Australia trade has expanded significantly, with China becoming Australia's largest trading partner and the top export destination for Australia's tourism and education services. Bilateral investment cooperation has yielded remarkable results, covering numerous fields such as infrastructure, scientific research, and finance. The cooperation of supply chain has been increasingly close. Australia's energy and mineral products provide a steady stream of impetus for China's industrial development, and its high-quality agricultural and food products are widely popular among Chinese consumers. China's electric vehicles and green technologies are gaining growing recognition from Australian consumers.

China and Australia should earnestly implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, continuously enhance strategic mutual trust, deepen and expand mutually beneficial cooperation, advocate universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization, and promote the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. China is willing to work with Australia to uphold multilateralism and free trade, firmly support the multilateral trading system, resist all forms of unilateralism and protectionism, and advance the building of an open world economy. China stands ready to further unleash the dividends of its mega-market, promote alignment with high-standard international economic and trade rules, and create a better business environment. China will also steadily advance the review on the ChAFTA with Australia, tap into the ChAFTA's potential, further raise the level of trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, and deliver greater benefits to the people of both countries.



Han Yong, Director General of Department of WTO Affairs, Ministry of Commerce of China, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and delivered the opening remarks.

## **[Keynote Speech]**

During the Keynote Speech session, guests included Paul Grimes, CEO of the Australian Trade and Investment Commission; Yi Xiaozhun, Former Vice Minister of Commerce of China, Former Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and Former Ambassador of China to the WTO; Andrew Robb, Former Minister for Trade, Investment and Tourism of Australia; Wang Xinkui, Chairman of the Shanghai WTO Affairs Consultation Center; and Vaughn Barber, Chair of the China-Australia Chamber of Commerce, AustCham China.

The guests shared their insights on the historical process, implementation, and future development of the ChAFTA. As the first high-standard free trade agreement signed between China and a major developed country, the ChAFTA is of groundbreaking significance. Since its entry into force, the ChAFTA has effectively promoted the growth of bilateral goods and services trade through certain rounds of tariff reductions. Australian products such as beef, wine, dairy products, and health supplements have gained increasing recognition in the Chinese market, while China's industrial products and green technologies have been increasingly integrated into Australia's economy. Despite short-term challenges brought by changes in the international environment, both sides have properly addressed trade concerns through continuous communication and consultation. The bilateral trade has significantly increased, exceeding 30 billion Australian dollars. The ChAFTA has also greatly promoted cooperation between the two countries at the regional and multilateral levels. Together, China and Australia have led and promoted the conclusion of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and made close cooperation on issues such as e-commerce and investment facilitation in the WTO. Faced with uncertainties such as the rise of global protectionism, China and Australia should maintain opening-up and cooperation, uphold multilateral rules, resist unilateralism and protectionism, and continuously optimize the ChAFTA to adapt to new trends such as the digital economy and green transition, so as to provide stable expectations for trade in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.



Paul Grimes, CEO, Australian Trade and Investment Commission, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and delivered a keynote speech.



Yi Xiaozhun, Former Vice Minister of Commerce of China, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and delivered a keynote speech.



Andrew Robb, Former Minister for Trade, Investment and Tourism of Australia, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and delivered a keynote speech via video.



Wang Xinkui, Chairman of the Shanghai WTO Affairs Consultation Center, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and delivered a keynote speech.



Vaughn Barber, Chair of the China-Australia Chamber of Commerce, AustCham China, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and delivered a keynote speech.

## **[Thematic Discussion]**

During the Thematic Discussion session, a distinguished lineup of guests were invited to share their insights and perspectives, including Chen Mingliang, Deputy Secretary-General of the China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemicals Importers & Exporters (CCCIMC); Ragnar Udd, Chief Commercial Officer of BHP; Wu Kai, Goldwind VP & Chairman of Goldwind International; Meggie Zhang, China Country Chair & Chief Representative of Woodside Energy; Zhang Ping, Chairman of the Board of Beijing Jingneng International Power Co., Ltd.; Kitty Liu, Greater China Managing Director of Blackmores; James Laurenceson, Professor and Director of the Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney; Benny Wang, Senior Vice President of Trip.com Group; Michael Ruggiero, Global Senior VP and Head of Government Affairs of CSL; Bonnie Zhao, Country Manager for the Commonwealth of Nations and Head of User Product at AliExpress; Yu Lu, Vice President of China Chamber of Commerce of I/E of Foodstuffs, Native Produce and Animal By-Products (CFNA); Anna Fedeles, General Manager of International Operations of Trade and Investment Queensland; Luo Xiaoli, General Manager of CSFA Holdings Shanghai Co., Ltd.; Tom King, Managing Director of Penfolds at Treasury Wine Estates; David Jiang, General Manager of Strategic Brands & Category Business Group and General Manager of International Logistics Center of Joy Wing Mau Fruit Technologies Co., Ltd.

The guests had in-depth discussions on the sustainable development of energy and mineral trade, as well as cooperation opportunities and practical pathways in key areas such as green technology, trade in services, digital economy and agri-food trade.

In terms of energy and mineral, China and Australia have laid a solid foundation for traditional energy trade, including iron ore and LNG, through progressive tariff reductions and trade facilitation arrangements under the ChAFTA. Both sides expressed the aspiration to explore new cooperation space in green mining, clean technology and emission reduction initiatives. In the fields of equipment manufacturing, engineering technology and battery energy storage, China and Australia are jointly promoting the industrial transformation from normal trade to the collaboration of value chain through joint innovation. The two sides are joining hands to build secure, resilient and sustainable supply chain systems, which not only enhance mutual economic resilience but also contribute to the stability of the global industrial chain. Meanwhile, in the areas of trade in services and digital economy, industries such as tourism, education, healthcare and e-commerce have emerged as new growth drivers. Visa facilitation have boosted personnel exchanges between the two countries, which recovered rapidly and reached new record.

Digital platforms have further promoted the integrated development of cross-border retail and services. Positive progress has also been achieved in medical cooperation, covering drug market access, clinical research and health service collaboration, delivering tangible benefits to the people of both countries. In the areas of agri-food trade, significant tariff reductions and improved customs clearance efficiency have substantially expanded the scale of bilateral trade. Agri-food products such as beef, dairy products, wine, nuts and fruits have witnessed rapid growth in trade volume. Chinese enterprises have deeply participated in Australia's agricultural industry chain by investment cooperation, technical exchanges and joint brand building, fostering closer ties between the two countries' agricultural sectors. Looking ahead, China and Australia can strengthen cooperation in sustainable agriculture, food safety, cold chain logistics and carbon footprint certification, promoting an upgrade from normal trade to collaboration of the whole industrial chains. The transition will not only enhance the welfare of consumers of both countries but also improve the resilience of related industries amid global uncertainties. Overall, China-Australia economic and trade relations should evolve from traditional complementary cooperation to an innovation-driven and joint-capability new stage. Both sides are encouraged to further unleash the institutional dividends of the ChAFTA through policy coordination, business interactions and people-to-people exchanges, tap into cooperation potential, and make joint efforts to address global challenges, with a view to achieving common development at an elevated level.



Chen Mingliang, Deputy Secretary-General of the China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemicals Importers & Exporters, CCCMC, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and participated in the thematic discussion.



Ragnar Udd, Chief Commercial Office of BHP, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and participated in the thematic discussion.



Wu Kai, Goldwind VP & Chairman of Goldwind International, attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and participated in the thematic discussion.



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David Jiang, General Manager of Strategic Brands & Category Business Group / General Manager of International Logistics Center of Joy Wing Mau Fruit Technologies Co., Ltd., attended the Parallel Session on the 10th Anniversary of the Implementation of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and participated in the thematic discussion.