

Joint Framework on Expanding Cooperation
Between
The Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
and the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China
China-Australia Joint Agricultural Commission

Recognising the unique opportunities presented by the conclusion of the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA) to support enhanced economic integration and cooperation between China and Australia in agriculture, Ministers from the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China (MoA) and the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) (hereinafter referred to as the Ministers) have agreed to pursue specific cooperation initiatives in the areas of scientific and economic research aimed at promoting enhanced trade and investment opportunities.

While reaffirming the continuing importance of the Australia-China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement (ACACA), Ministers from both countries agreed to further collaboration between MoA and DAWR over the next two years. Ministers recognise cooperation through jointly funded initiatives and close collaboration in international forums would be additional to the cooperation arrangements between MoA and DAWR established under the ACACA program. Ministers also acknowledge these new initiatives fit within the strategic framework of the existing Australia-China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement between MoA and DAWR.

Areas of collaboration agreed by Ministers include:

Cooperation on prevention and control technical research and regulatory systems to manage fruit fly and locusts for the purpose of promoting mutual trade outcomes in horticulture and safety of agricultural production, including:

- joint research on fruit fly monitoring and prevention and control technologies on pests of mutual concern to both China and Australia.
- promoting short-term visits of plant protection and management staff to visit each other's laboratories and field test areas.
- joint research on international standards of fruit fly monitoring, prevention and control and quarantine supervision to support advancement and adoption of fruit fly measures in international forums.
- technical exchanges and cooperation on locust monitoring and sustainable management to protect the safety of agricultural production and food security.

Cooperation on strengthening commodity production and market research to support agricultural production, trade and investment, through the research agencies of DAWR and MoA and agricultural research institutions and agricultural economic research institutions on:

- joint research initiatives to expand bilateral understanding of domestic agricultural production developments, enhanced crop forecasting and trends.
- promoting short-term visits and placements of economic research staff within our respective agricultural economic research agencies to support agreed production, trade and investment research.

- a joint study on bilateral investment in agriculture and agricultural market and regulatory pathways influencing effective utilisation of ChAFTA.
- promoting cooperation on beef (meat and livestock) research and training.

Ongoing dialogue about agricultural policy and food security to share experiences of reforms to improve agricultural innovation and productivity including:

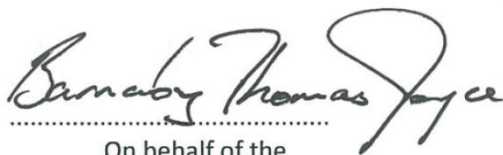
- Discuss and share experiences on domestic agriculture changes and how they have contributed to improving agricultural productivity.

Cooperation on Sustainable Fisheries Management and research on fishery strategies for key stocks in the region.

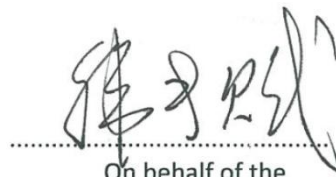
- Acknowledging the importance China and Australia place on sustainable management of migratory stocks in the region, Ministers recognised a shared goal of ensuring sustainable management of Pacific tuna fisheries and agreed to collaborate on the fisheries strategies for key stocks in the region.

Reaffirmed the importance of the Australia-China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement and the revised arrangements to be put in place for the 2016-17 funding year, and the key strategic areas of focus for the program during this time, including:

eCommerce innovation	Animal husbandry
Science and technology cooperation	Food safety
Sustainable agricultural technology	Trade and investment cooperation
Post-harvest storage and waste	Commodity production research
Sanitary and phytosanitary training	Exploration of niche markets
Agricultural products processing	



On behalf of the
Australian Government Department
of Agriculture and Water Resources



On behalf of the
Ministry of Agriculture of the
People's Republic of China