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MEDIA RELEASE

Australia's wine sector disappointed by China's anti-dumping tariffs on Australian wine imports

Australian Grape & Wine is deeply disappointed that the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) has today announced the imposition of preliminary anti-dumping tariffs on Australian bottled wine imports. The tariffs range from 107 per cent to 212 per cent and will apply from Saturday 28 November 2020.

This restriction on Australia's exports to China will adversely impact the wine sectors of both countries. It will also be particularly disappointing for the millions of Chinese consumers who enjoy Australian wine, and the distributors in China who have built relationships with Australian wine businesses. Given the size of the tariff, Australian winemakers will now be forced to consider alternative markets for export sales.

This decision will have a significant impact on Australia's rural and regional economies, particularly in those states most invested in grape growing and winemaking, where the impact on regional employment is likely to be felt most acutely.

"These are preliminary tariffs, and both the anti-dumping and countervailing duties investigations are ongoing" said Tony Battaglene, Chief Executive of Australian Grape &Wine.

"We continue to stand firm that Australian exporters are not dumping wines in the Chinese market, nor have they received subsidies that have had a negative impact on the Chinese wine industry" said Mr Battaglene.

"While we are disappointed with this development, our members will continue to cooperate with MOFCOM as the investigation continues, working towards an outcome that is consistent with the facts of the case, and supports the growth of the wine industry in Australia and China."

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About Australian Grape and Wine Inc

Australian Grape and Wine Inc is the national association of grape and wine producers. We address issues across the supply-chain that impact on the profitability and sustainability of the sector. We lead and advocate public policy that enhances the ability to responsibly produce, promote and enjoy Australian wine in moderation.

Australian Grape & Wine is recognised as a representative organisation for winegrape and wine producers under the Wine Australia Act 2013, and is incorporated under the SA Associations Incorporation Act 1985. We work in partnership with the Australian Government to develop and implement policy that is in the best interests of winegrape growers and winemakers across Australia.