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MEDIA RELEASE

Export growth the future for the Australian wine Sector

Australian Grape & Wine congratulates the Australian Government on the ratification of the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) and the entry into force of the Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement (PAFTA).

Australian Grape & Wine Chief Executive, Tony Battaglione said "The Australian wine sector relies on export opportunities to provide strong, sustained growth and a profitable future for regional Australia. Even where trade agreements do not provide immediate benefits to our sector, the improved trading relationship provides a boost to our economy."

"Australia requires a strong and diversified export wine sector to provide lasting economic benefits and these two agreements are important pieces in strengthening our networks with major trading partners."

"PAFTA provides a strategic foothold in the growth regions of South America, and Australian wine businesses will also benefit from the inclusion of a specific wine Annex, which helps to streamline technical requirements, including labelling and certification."

Australian wine exports to Indonesia are currently small in volume, but value is still significant at around \$7.2million during 2018-2019. While Australian wine exports to Peru are also small, it has seen an average value of *price per litre* grow to over \$15 per litre over the same period.

"There has never been a better time for the Australian Government to invest in growing our exports to build resilience and profitability into our agriculture sector and underpinning future economic growth. The ambitious free trade agenda is vital in achieving this objective".

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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.