

27 March 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

Grape and wine businesses getting on with the job of developing new markets

Australian Grape & Wine is now focusing its attention on driving growth in developing markets following yesterday's announcement that China will apply duties of up to 218.4 per cent on most Australian wine exporters.

China's Ministry of Commerce of Commerce (MOFCOM) yesterday released its final determinations on investigations into allegations of dumping of Australian wines in China and trade distorting subsidies (countervailing duties), applying duties on imports of all bottled, still wines from Australia.

"While it's disappointing, the industry is not surprised by today's decision," said Tony Battaglione, Chief Executive of Australian Grape & Wine. "We continue to reject the allegations levelled against Australian Grape & Wine members and have approached both investigations as collaboratively and transparently as possible."

Mr Battaglione said the industry had been preparing for this outcome.

"Our focus now is two-fold. Firstly, we're working with industry and the Australian Government to assess options available to us within the Chinese system, and internationally. And secondly, we're focusing on growing demand for Australian wine in other markets across Asia, Europe, US, and the UK," he said.

"We have worked closely with the Australian Government throughout this process and I want to thank Ministers for the work they have done in what has been a very challenging period for everyone".

"The Australian Government's \$72.7 million investment to help agribusinesses expand their export markets is a great first step to getting on with the job of finding new markets for Australian wine. It's going to take collaboration, hard work and commitment, but if we work together we're confident that we can drive growth in market access and sales in a range of markets in the coming years."

- Ends -

Media Contact: Lee McLean, 0418 998 749 / lee@agw.org.au

Media Contact: Ali Laslett, 0424 135 381 / ali@agw.org.au

Available for Interview: Tony Battaglione, Chief Executive – 0413 014 807 / tony@agw.org.au

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.