



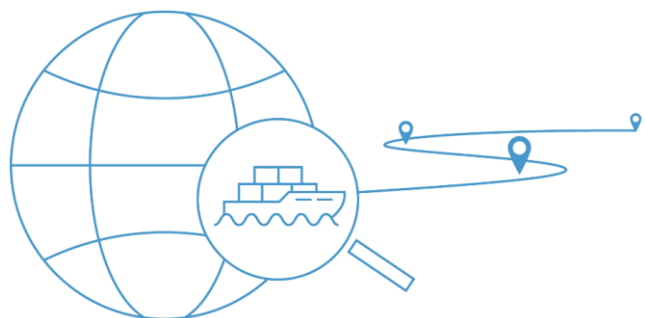
Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

**Anti-Dumping
Commission**

International Trade Remedies Forum Meeting Minutes

Friday 21 February 2025

Anti-Dumping Commission website:
adcommission.gov.au



Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Commissioner Introduction

Meeting commenced 10.30am.

The Anti-Dumping Commissioner, David Latina opened the virtual meeting, thanked the International Trade Remedy Forum (ITRF) members for attending, and made an Acknowledgement of Country. The Commissioner passed on Minister Husic's apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. He noted the Minister's support for the work of the Anti-Dumping Commission (the commission), and that he would meet with the Minister regularly on a range of matters including the work of the ITRF.

The Commissioner welcomed new representatives from the Australian Border Force, and acknowledged apologies from the Australian Council of Trade Unions and the Australian Forest Products Association (see *Attachment A* for an attendee list).

The Commissioner provided members with an overview of his experience and how he plans to engage across industry during his tenure. He noted the importance of the commission taking a balanced and evidence-based approach within the legislative framework.

Agenda Item 2 – Member Introductions and Roundtable

The Commissioner expressed his interest in understanding the current global trade policy environment and local industry developments. He noted how important members' market intelligence is to the commission. He invited members to introduce themselves and their organisation and share their views on the following questions:

- What is the role of the ITRF, given the global trade policy and local industry environments?
- What areas of work should the ITRF prioritise in the next 6 to 12 months?

All present non-government members provided their views. Common themes of member issues included:

- **Trade Diversion** – Members raised concern that products affected by US trade policies will be redirected to Australia, potentially harming local industries.
- **Downstream goods** – Members expressed concern that trade diversion impacts will extend across supply chains including to manufactured and finished goods made from steel, aluminium and iron.
- **Trade Defence** – Members voiced concern that Australia's trade defence framework is not equipped for responding to the new trading environment. The commission will need to be prepared for a likely increase in caseloads in 2025 onwards (including anti-circumvention activities).
- **Timely investigations** – Members noted the importance of timely investigations to address the rapidly changing trade environment. This includes reducing the duration of investigations and case decisions, and ensuring the commission is adequately resourced. One member noted that it can take 2 to 3 years from when a case is initiated through to a final decision and outcome for industry.

Other matters raised by members included:

- **Monitoring Imports** – A member expressed the importance of closely monitoring aluminium imports, especially from China, which produces 60% of global aluminium, to detect any changes in market behaviour.
- **Border Security** – A member stated that Australia's borders need to be secure to prevent the influx of dumped aluminium products that could harm the local industry.

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- **Defending Local Industries** – A member recommended that the commission take strong action to defend local industries and jobs from the negative effects of dumped steel imports.
- **Exploitation Concerns** – A member encouraged the commission to investigate and address issues related to exploitative labour practices, including child labour and modern slavery, and environmental exploitation in countries exporting steel to Australia.
- **Sub-Committee Report** – A member expressed the need for the implementation of the reform package that was developed by the Strengthening the Anti-Dumping System Sub-Committee, noting that the ITRF had not progressed any other work in recent times.
- **Downstream Industries' Access to the Anti-Dumping System** – A member noted that changes to trade flows, and potential dumping of downstream, or finished products, will undercut the domestic market and will result in challenges for businesses to access the anti-dumping system, due to the fragmented nature of downstream industries.
- **TRINDEX** - During a previous time of global trade uncertainty, the commission established TRINDEX to assist in providing transparency of imports. The commission should place an emphasis on ensuring TRINDEX is fit for purpose in the current uncertain environment.
- **Safeguards and trade diversions** – A member expressed the need for a trade defence approach and the application of safeguards, where necessary, and highlighted the role of the commission in addressing trade diversion.
- **Rulings and advice** – Several members recommended that a government advisory service should be made available for importers and customs brokers to help them determine if their goods are subject to dumping duties, particularly where there are new rulings.
- **Compliance Activity** – A member stated that trade measures require strong compliance action and a strong relationship between the Anti-Dumping Commission and the Australian Border Force.

The Commissioner thanked members for their contributions and noted that he would brief Minister Husic on the issues raised by members.

Agenda Item 3 – Commission Update

The Commissioner noted that there was a strong interest in the ITRF across government. He acknowledged government members from the Department of Industry, Science and Resources, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Australian Border Force.

The Commissioner updated members on the status of the Strengthening the Anti-Dumping System Sub-Committee Co-Chairs' Report, noting that the brief containing the report, along with members' voting statements, have been provided to Minister Husic for his consideration. He acknowledged work by members to progress the report and that the ITRF will need to continue to work on key issues.

The Commissioner emphasized engaging with stakeholders has been a key focus for him since starting in the role in January. He acknowledged that he had already met with some ITRF members individually and welcomed the opportunity to meet with other members, and receive feedback on how to best engage. He said he would attend several site visits, including verifications in Shepparton, Sydney and Port Kembla.

The Commissioner acknowledged that while the ITRF generally meets twice per year around May and November, there is a lot of work that will need to occur between meetings, particularly considering the global trade environment and the issues raised by members.

Agenda Item 4 – Next meeting and Closing Remarks

The Commissioner thanked ITRF members for attending and emphasised the importance of ongoing work and engagement between meetings. The Commissioner advised attendees that the Secretariat will schedule the next meeting for late May 2025 and called the meeting to a close.

Meeting closed at 12.00pm.

Attachment A – Meeting attendance summary

Anti-Dumping Commission

- David Latina, Commissioner, Presiding Member
- Isolde Lueckenhausen, Deputy Commissioner, Investigations
- Esther Harvey, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Operations
- Katrina Gunn, Executive Director, Legal
- Jason Fitts, Director, Outreach and Engagement
- Tom Keary, Assistant Director, Outreach and Engagement
- Cameron Just, Assistant Director, Outreach and Engagement
- Isabel Leaver, Policy Officer, Outreach and Engagement

Non-Government Members

- Ross Becroft, Principal, Law Council of Australia
- Mark Cain, Chief Executive, Australian Steel Institute
- Marc Cousins, Manager, International Trade Affairs, BlueScope Limited
- Matt Condon, Manager Trade Development, InfraBuild Steel
- Thomas Mortimer, National Policy Director, Australian Workers' Union
- Travis Wacey, National Policy Research Officer, Construction, Forestry, and Maritime Employees Union
- Dr Jeffrey Wilson, Head – Research & Economics, Australian Industry Group
- Chris Barnes, Head of Business Development and International Affairs, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- David Buchanan, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Steel Association
- Luke Hawkins, Divisional General Manager, Capral
- Marghanita Johnson, CEO, Australian Aluminium Council
- Corné Kritzingner, CEO, Oceania Glass
- Mel Cheesman, Head of Government & Regulation, Orica
- Andrew Hudson, Partner, Rigby Cooke Lawyers (on behalf of the Food and Beverage Importers Association)
- Bernard Lee, Director, Policy and Regulation, Chemistry Australia
- Brad Leonard, Manager Border and Biosecurity, International Forwarders and Customs Brokers Association of Australia
- Steve Murphy, National Secretary, Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union
- Russell Weise, Director CGT Law (on behalf of the Freight & Trade Alliance)
- Guy Nicol, Policy Officer – Economics, National Farmers Federation

Non-Government Observers

- Rebecca Mohr, General Counsel, Capral
- Sal Milici, General Manager – Trade Policy & Operations, Freight & Trade Alliance
- Peter Story, Chief Financial Officer, Oceania Glass
- Faisal Mian, Senior Manager Commercial, Orica

Department of Industry Science and Resources

- Louise Talbot, A/g Head of Division, Industry and Manufacturing Division - on behalf of Troy Sloan A/g Deputy Secretary
- David Crawford, A/g General Manager, Industry Policy
- Karl Brennan, Manager, Anti-Dumping Policy Section
- Lachlan Kelly, Assistant Manager, Anti-Dumping Policy Section
- Maria Themistocleous, Assistant Manager, Anti-Dumping Policy Section
- Chris Webster, Policy Officer, Anti-Dumping Policy Section
- Sanjay Sharma, Assistant Manager, International Trade Remedies Advisory Service

Australian Border Force

- Fiona Malone, A/g Superintendent, Trade Compliance, Customs and Trade Compliance Branch
- Sondra Gagliardi, Inspector, Trade Risk and Enforcement, Customs Enforcement Branch
- George Binos, Inspector, Trade Compliance Targeted Response, Customs and Trade Compliance Branch

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

- Andrew Jacenko, Assistant Secretary, Goods and Market Access Branch
- Alan McGuinness, Director, Market Access and Trade Remedies Section
- Sarah Grant, Assistant Director, Market Access and Trade Remedies Section
- Samuel Alexander, Director, Legal, Subsidies and Trade Remedies Law
- Jacinta Evans, Policy Officer, Market Access and Trade Remedies Section

Apologies

- Clare Middlemas, Senior International and Civil Society Officer, Australian Council of Trade Unions
- Richard Hyett, Director of Policy, Australian Forest Products Association
- Dillan Amin, Director Global Trade, Rio Tinto