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TPP Trade Ministers Meeting over the weekend

Media release

24 October 2014

Trade and Investment Minister Andrew Robb is hosting his counterparts from the 12 countries negotiating the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement (TPP) for a three-day meeting starting tomorrow in Sydney. This meeting follows a week-long meeting of Chief Negotiator officials in Canberra.

"Australia is focused on ensuring the TPP will be a high-quality, comprehensive trade agreement, which will deliver strong economic outcomes for Australia and Australians. The TPP will forge close links between Australia and strong and growing markets in our region enhance competitiveness, benefit Australian consumers and create Australian jobs," Mr Robb said.

Apart from the Ministerial meetings scheduled across the three days, Ministers are expected to meet on a bilateral basis as well to try resolve remaining issues, including in their market access offers.

Australia is pursuing a comprehensive outcome in the TPP that includes better market access for our exporters of agricultural products, particularly in our key markets, and commercially meaningful outcomes for Australian service providers and investors.

"With the negotiations in their final stages, I am expecting that Ministers will be working hard with an eye to concluding the basic elements of the agreement," Mr Robb said.

The countries negotiating the TPP are Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, New Zealand, Singapore, the United States and Vietnam. The TPP countries jointly account for almost 40 per cent of the global economy. Currently, about a third of Australia's exports are headed for TPP countries.

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