

SIDE LETTERS RE RECOGNITION

The Honorable Robert B. Zoellick
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

The Honorable Randal K. Quarles
Assistant Secretary for International Affairs
U.S. Department of the Treasury
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Ambassador Zoellick and Mr. Quarles:

I have the honour to refer to the following understanding reached by Australia and the United States with respect to implementation of Chapter Thirteen (Financial Services) of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (the “Agreement”).

During the course of their negotiations concerning Chapter Thirteen, the Parties discussed Article 15 of that chapter, relating to recognition. Based on these discussions, I have the honor to confirm the Parties’ shared understanding that the scope of measures covered by Article 15 is no less extensive than the scope of measures covered by Article VII of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and paragraph 3 of the GATS Annex on Financial Services.

I would be grateful if you could confirm that your government shares this understanding.

I have the further honour to propose that this understanding be treated as an integral part of the Agreement.

Sincerely,

Mark Vaile
Minister for Trade

The Honourable Mark Vaile
Minister for Trade
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister Vaile:

We have the honor to confirm receipt of your letter, which reads as follows:

“I have the honour to refer to the following understanding reached by Australia and the United States with respect to implementation of Chapter Thirteen (Financial Services) of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (the “Agreement”).

During the course of their negotiations concerning Chapter Thirteen, the Parties discussed Article 15 of that chapter, relating to recognition. Based on these discussions, I have the honor to confirm the Parties’ shared understanding that the scope of measures covered by Article 15 is no less extensive than the scope of measures covered by Article VII of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and paragraph 3 of the GATS Annex on Financial Services.

I would be grateful if you could confirm that your government shares this understanding.

I have the further honour to propose that this understanding be treated as an integral part of the Agreement.”

We have the further honor to confirm that our government shares this understanding and agrees that it be treated as an integral part of the Agreement.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Zoellick
United States Trade Representative

Randal K. Quarles
Assistant Secretary for
International Affairs
U.S. Department of the Treasury