



AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

MEDIA RELEASE

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ACCI SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH CHINA TRADE COUNCIL

Statement by Peter Anderson, Chief Executive

The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI), Australia's largest and most representative business organisation, last night completed an agreement of co-operation with the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) at a ceremony in Canberra.

The accord was signed by ACCI Chief Executive Peter Anderson, and CCPIT Deputy Director General Du Zetian.

The agreement promotes the development of mutually beneficial trade, economic, scientific and technological opportunities between Australia and China, and between ACCI and the CCPIT. It was signed on the day that the People's Republic of China celebrated its 60th Anniversary.

China is Australia's second largest merchandise trading partner. In 2008 total two-way trade was worth over \$67 billion. China is Australia's second largest export destination and its largest source of imports. Trade with China and north Asia has been central to maintaining a stable Australian economy during the current global recession.

ACCI looks forward to working with the CCPIT over coming years to further build on this important trade and investment relationship. The relationships also provide an opportunity to pursue support for completion of a comprehensive free trade agreement between China and Australia.

ACCI represents Australian business on trade and international matters at the International Chamber of Commerce, the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD, the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the International Labour Organisation, the International Organisation of Employers, and the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Employers.

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