

## ADIA Policy Statement –

<b>Policy</b>	<b>B4 – International Trade (Free Trade Agreements)</b>
<b>Statement</b>	Bilateral or multilateral Free Trade Agreements that reduce tariffs on dental products, eliminate import quotas and eliminate technical barriers to trade are supported.
<b>Principle/s</b>	Free trade agreements are good for manufacturers and suppliers of dental products as such agreements reduce the barriers associated with the international trade of dental products.
<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries tariffs and import quotas were used to raise government revenue and protect domestic manufacturing capacity. Contemporary economic theory establishes the principle that tariffs and import quotas retard long-term economic growth by supporting inefficient manufacturing industries.</li> <li>▪ Technical barriers to trade include technical regulations, standards, testing and certification procedures that create unnecessary obstacles to trade when the requirements of one country / jurisdiction vary from another. The World Trade Organisation's <i>Technical Barriers To Trade Agreement</i> seeks to eliminate these.</li> <li>▪ A key feature of free trade agreements is to eliminate tariffs, import quotas and technical barriers to trade between parties to the agreement.</li> <li>▪ Australia has nine free trade agreements currently in force with New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, US, Chile, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) (with New Zealand), Malaysia, Korea and Japan. The countries covered by these FTAs account for 42 per cent of Australia's total trade. Australia concluded free trade agreement negotiations with China in November 2014 which will enter into force when domestic processes have been completed. China accounts for 23 per cent of Australia's total trade.</li> <li>▪ Australia is currently engaged in six other free trade agreement negotiations - two bilateral negotiations: India and Indonesia; and four plurilateral negotiations: the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP), the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the Pacific Trade and Economic Agreement (PACER Plus), and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP). The additional countries covered by these negotiations account for a further six per cent of Australia's total trade.</li> </ul>
<b>Framework Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ADIA Advocacy Agenda</li> <li>▪ ADIA Stakeholder Engagement Strategy</li> </ul>
<b>Engagement &amp; Advocacy Partner/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Internal:</u> ADIA—BAC Business Affairs Committee</li> <li>▪ <u>External:</u> ACCI Australian Chamber of Commerce &amp; Industry</li> </ul>
<b>Currency</b>	ADIA-BAC Endorsement: 9/2/2015      ADIA Board Approval: 18/2/2015 (Reference 1.9.1)



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