



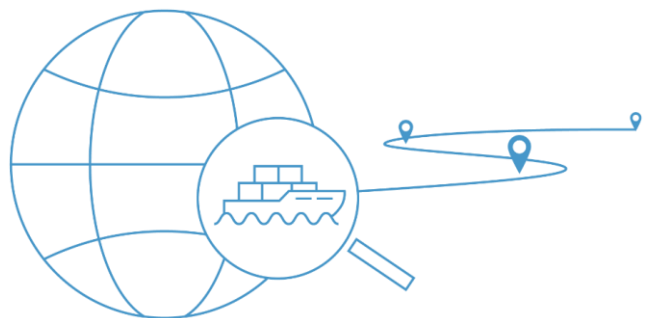
Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

**Anti-Dumping
Commission**

International Trade Remedies Forum Minutes

12 September 2025

Anti-Dumping Commission website:
adcommission.gov.au



Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Introduction

The Commissioner of the Anti-Dumping Commission opened the meeting, thanked the International Trade Remedy Forum (ITRF) members for attending, and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

The Commissioner asked members if there were any conflicts of interest, to which there was a nil response, and noted apologies from members unable to attend the meeting (see Attachment A for an attendee list).

Agenda Item 2 – Review of Previous Action Items

The Director, Outreach and Engagement, reviewed action items from the June 2025 meeting and noted that all items were either completed, or would be completed, by the end of the meeting.

A member expressed interest in obtaining data on melt and pour for steel and smelt and cast for aluminium from DFAT. The DFAT representative confirmed the data is available.

Agenda Item 3 – Anti-Dumping Commission Update

The Commissioner noted that the Commission and Department were actively involved in the Federal Government's recent Economic Reform Roundtables and industry-specific sessions. The Commission's had identified regulatory reform opportunities to reduce administrative burdens.

The Commissioner noted that the Treasurer had requested input from regulators, including the Commission, on potential reforms. The Commission responded with a letter which is available on the Department of Finance's website.

The Commissioner noted that the Government had announced the transfer of the safeguards trade remedies function from the Productivity Commission to the Anti-Dumping Commission. The change was one of the reforms recommended by the ITRF Sub-Committee to the Minister, and aligns Australia's trade remedy system more closely with international practices.

The Commissioner noted that the expression of interest process for ITRF membership for the next ITRF cohort had concluded, with nominations to be sent to the Minister. The Minister will review nominations, with appointments expected to be made by year-end, and the new ITRF cohort to be in place for the next ITRF meeting anticipated in February 2026.

The Deputy Commissioner, Investigations noted that the Case Information Report had been circulated to ITRF members with updated information. The Deputy Commissioner reported that there were 39 cases on hand, an increase of approximately 10 compared to the same time last year.

The Deputy Commissioner, Investigations, provided updates on:

- Pre-Application Service – The Commission has implemented a pre-application service to assist stakeholders to prepare accurate goods descriptions and understand investigation requirements before formal lodgement.
- Stakeholder Engagement – The Commission is actively engaging with stakeholders to explore how industry associations can support smaller parties to navigate the anti-dumping system.

The Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Operations highlighted:

- Recent engagement activities, had included site visits, sector events, and meetings with industry associations across sectors such as steel, caravans, food, and fashion.
- Workshops on data access and SME engagement highlighted issues around transparency and accessibility, reinforcing the Commission's commitment to practical, cross-agency solutions.
- International collaboration included recent discussions held with the UKTRA, New Zealand, and the EU to learn from their approaches to data sharing and safeguards.

Agenda Item 4 – Trade Insights and Data Access

The Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Operations provided an update on a recent industry and government workshop focused on data sharing and the development of a market surveillance system. Key points included:

- **Workshop Overview:** The workshop brought together government and industry representatives to explore how improved data sharing could enhance access to the anti-dumping system for large enterprises and SMEs. The workshop also considered the development of a market surveillance system tailored to Australia's context.
- **Industry Feedback:** Participants identified several common challenges. Large enterprises emphasised the difficulty in accessing adequate import data to initiate investigations, while SMEs were concerned about the complexity of the system and a lack of awareness among SMEs about dumping and subsidies.
- **Identified Priorities:** Priorities emerging from the workshop included reducing confidentiality restrictions on data, improving transparency, and increasing access to import data from the ABS. These changes were seen as essential to lowering the cost and time required to engage with the system and improving access for all stakeholders.
- **Agency Contributions:** Representatives from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) outlined its legal obligations under the Census and Statistics Act and the frameworks that prioritise confidentiality and privacy. Representatives of the Australian Border Force (ABF) said that while it can share data with agencies under MOUs, limits on what it can share directly with industry, present constraints.
- **International Models Explored:** The workshop examined international approaches to market surveillance systems.

Travis Wacey, who had submitted the initial data paper at the previous ITRF meeting, welcomed the revisiting of long-standing confidentiality issues affecting industry access to data. He emphasised the importance of reviewing current legal and operational constraints, including the Census and Statistics Act, to enable privileged data access for the Commission.

Members briefly discussed international import monitoring models and expressed interest in exploring surveillance tools. A member noted that further consideration of these systems is needed to assess their relevance and implementation in the Australian context.

Austrade DataThing

Austrade's representative Tim Howard presented on *DataThing*, an internally- developed analytics platform designed to consolidate and visualise international trade, investment, and education data. The platform enables fast access to insights across sectors, markets, and exporters. It supports self-service for non-technical users and a back-end environment for analysts to conduct deeper analysis.

ITRF members agreed that the Commission would explore both Austrade and the internal OSCR options - and decide on best approach to developing a data capability for market surveillance (both internal and external).

Agenda Item 5 – Proposed Anti-Dumping Reforms Update

DISR representative Tara Oliver spoke about recent and upcoming reforms to the trade remedies system, acknowledging the close collaboration with the Commission. She noted that developments included the Government's \$5 million election commitment to strengthen the anti-dumping regime.

The transfer of the safeguards function to the Anti-Dumping Commission was a significant reform. Members were encouraged to make submissions to the tariff review, which closed on 10 December.

Members welcomed the transfer of the safeguards function, describing it as long overdue and expressing support for progressing broader reforms. A member suggested that any future legislation should reflect the advisory role of the ITRF in relation to safeguards, which was noted as a useful procedural point.

The Department encouraged members to continue to provide feedback and expressed optimism that the current alignment across government and agencies would help drive meaningful reform.

Agenda Item 6 – Improving Access to the Anti-Dumping System for SMEs

The Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Operations provided an update on a workshop held on 29 August 2025 focused on improving access to the anti-dumping system for SMEs. The Deputy Commissioner highlighted practical suggestions that emerged from the workshop, many of which are already being progressed, including:

Awareness and Outreach:

- Developing targeted communication strategies, including plain-language fact sheets, Q&A documents, and case studies.
- Organising roadshows, webinars, and industry-specific forums to reach businesses directly.
- Collaborating with industry associations, unions, and others to disseminate information.

Guidance for Engaged SMEs:

- Producing tools such as checklists, and case studies to help SMEs assess their options.
- Education and clarifying the roles of the Commission, ITRF, and AusIndustry to improve understanding of available support.

Process Improvements:

- Exploring simplified data requirements for SME applications, such as accepting ASIC filings or developing a tailored process for SME.
- Continuing to refine the pre-application service based on user feedback to address needs of SMEs and reduce the burden of preparing applications.

Confidentiality and Legal Standing:

- Considering options to protect SME identities during the application process.
- Exploring the use of industry associations or neutral third parties to coordinate submissions.
- Assessing potential legislative or procedural changes to make standing requirements more achievable, particularly for fragmented industries.

The Commissioner noted that several of these initiatives are already underway, with others being considered as part of broader legislative reform. He thanked members for their contributions to the workshop and reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to improving SME access to the system.

Agenda Item 7 – Vote: Decision Paper – Compliance and Anti-Circumvention Sub-Committee Report

InfraBuild representative, Matt Condon, presented a report of the Compliance and Anti-Circumvention Sub-Committee to ITRF members to consider and vote on during the meeting, with a

view to progressing the proposed reforms to the Minister. Mr Condon thanked Sub-Committee participants and the ITRF Secretariat for their contributions and support in preparing the report.

Members agreed that a formal vote was not required, with consensus supporting the paper's progression to the Minister. The Commissioner confirmed that the paper would be provided to the Minister for consideration.

Agenda Item 8 – Government Updates

Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR)

The DISR representative advised that the International Trade Remedies Advisory Service (ITRAS) is transitioning to their division. The representative noted that the team is reviewing ITRAS's role, and will host a booth at the upcoming ASI Steel Conference to raise the profile of ITRAS, particularly among SMEs. The representative acknowledged a recent decline in proactive client engagement, particularly in new case submissions, and highlighted the importance of increasing the awareness and accessibility of the service. The representative noted that the transition was an opportunity to strengthen the service's alignment with the trade and anti-dumping framework, and encouraged stakeholders to engage with the team to provide input and discuss potential reforms.

Anti-Dumping Review Panel (ADRP Secretariat)

ADRP representatives provided an update on recent and upcoming initiatives to improve the transparency, accessibility, and administration of the merits review system:

- The ADRP Secretariat reaffirmed its commitment to improving the transparency, accessibility, and usability of the merits review system. Recent updates include the publication of new guidance on the ADRP website to assist applicants to navigate the review process. This guidance clarifies application requirements, outlines engagement processes with panel members and stakeholders, and provides examples of accepted and rejected grounds for review.
- At the ADRP's annual meeting, further opportunities for improvement were explored, including the publication of aggregated data on trends relating to rejected applications and grounds of review, and potential collaboration with ITRAS to enhance access for SMEs.
- The Secretariat provided an update on the implementation of a proposed administrative improvement to publish high-level information on the ADRP website regarding the status of pending applications and duty assessment reviews. This follows a consultation period with ITRF members, during which one written submission was received from the Australian Workers Union, expressing broad support for the proposal.
- The Secretariat is working with its digital team to develop accessible and user-friendly web pages and is updating application forms to notify applicants of the new publication practices. Full implementation is expected by October 2025, with notifications to be issued to ensure all stakeholders are informed.

Australian Border Force (ABF)

ABF representatives provided an update on trade enforcement and compliance activities related to anti-dumping and countervailing measures:

- The ABF continues to prioritise trade enforcement to support fair competition and reduce revenue evasion. A risk-based, intelligence-led approach is used to monitor and respond to potential circumvention of anti-dumping measures.
- Risk analysis is being conducted on nine commodities considered vulnerable to dumping evasion.

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- The ABF Trade Compliance team undertakes pre-clearance assessments and post-border audits, with 13 audits finalised in the past year targeting anti-dumping non-compliance.
- The ABF responds to non-compliance with sanctions, including formal warnings, increased targeting, and financial penalties.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

The Director of DFAT's newly established Trade Defence and Government Procurement Section outlined DFAT's role in monitoring and responding to overseas trade remedy cases, including anti-dumping, countervailing, and safeguards investigations. Current matters of interest include investigations in China, the US, the EU, the Philippines, and Thailand. DFAT encouraged members to contact the team at trade.defence@dfat.gov.au.

The Director of the Subsidies and Trade Remedies Law Section in DFAT provided an update on recent legal developments in the US regarding reciprocal tariffs. A Federal Circuit Court decision has challenged the President's authority under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, with the case now under appeal to the US Supreme Court. DFAT noted that alternative legislative tools may still allow the US administration to impose tariffs, even if the current challenge is upheld.

Members raised questions about DFAT's monitoring of US Section 232 investigations and the availability of summaries. DFAT confirmed that Section 232 matters are handled by another area within the department but offered to facilitate contact.

Agenda Item 9 – Other Business

No items were raised.

Agenda Item 10 – Next meeting and closing remarks

The Commissioner noted that this was the final meeting of the current ITRF group, with a new membership anticipated in early 2026. The Commissioner advised that ministerial appointments are expected to be finalised later this year and that the next ITRF meeting is planned for February 2026.

Attachment A – Attendees

Anti-Dumping Commission	
<i>In Person</i>	
- David Latina, Commissioner - Aggie Marek, Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Operations - Isolde Lueckenhausen, Deputy Commissioner, Investigations - Katrina Gunn, Executive Director, Legal - Jason Fitts, Director, Outreach and Engagement (ITRF Secretariat) - Anthea Hung, Senior Engagement Officer, Outreach and Engagement (ITRF Secretariat)	
<i>Virtual</i>	
- Kris Brown, Director of ITRF Projects, Outreach and Engagement (ITRF Secretariat)	
Industry Members	
<i>In Person</i>	
- Matt Condon, Manager Trade Development, InfraBuild Steel - Marc Cousins, International Trade Affairs Manager, BlueScope - Luke Hawkins, Divisional General Manager, Capral Limited - Thomas Mortimer, National Policy Director, Australian Workers Union - Louise McGrath, Head of Industry Development and Policy, Australian Industry Group - Russell Weise, Director CGT Law (representing Freight Trade Alliance) - Travis Wacey, National Policy Research Officer; Construction, Forestry, and Maritime Employees Union - Ross Becroft, Principal, Law Council of Australia - Brad Leonard, Manager, Border and Biosecurity, International Forwarders and Customs Brokers Association of Australia - Mel Cheesman, Head, Government and Regulation, Orica - Richard Hyett, Director of Policy, Australian Forest Products Association - Josh Newton, Australian Manufacturing Workers Union	
<i>Virtual</i>	
- David Buchanan, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Steel Association - Andrew Hudson, Partner, Rigby Cooke Lawyers (representing the Food and Beverage Importers Association) - Bernard Lee, Director, Net Zero Transition and Policy, Chemistry Australia - Chris Barnes, Head of Business Development and International Affairs, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	
Department of Industry, Science and Resources	
<i>In Person</i>	
- Tara Oliver, Head of Division, Industry and Manufacturing Division - Ana Markulev, Acting Head of Division, Heavy Industry Transition Division - Jess Casben, General Counsel, Public Law and Dispute Resolution	
<i>Virtual</i>	
- Elodie De Rover, ADRP Secretariat	
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	
<i>In Person</i>	
- Ben Greig, Director, Trade Defence and Government Procurement Section - Tim Howard, Senior Advisor, Trade Analytics and Strategy, Austrade	
<i>Virtual</i>	
- Sam Alexander, Director, Subsidies and Trade Remedies Law Section	

Australian Border Force

- Sondra Gagliardi, Inspector, Trade Risk and Enforcement, Customs Enforcement Branch
- Josephine Herman, A/g Superintendent, Customs Compliance, Operations Group
- Gabrielle Tramby, Superintendent Trade Compliance

Apologies

- Dillan Amin, Director Global Trade, Rio Tinto
- Corné Kritzinger, CEO, Oceania Glass
- Guy Nicol, Policy Officer, Economic, National Farmers' Federation
- Clare Middlemas, International Manager, Australian Council of Trade Unions
- Marghanita Johnston, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Aluminium Council
- Mark Cain, Chief Executive, Australian Steel Institute

Observers

In Person

- Jeremy Rees, Manager, Global Industrial Competition, Industry Policy, DISR
- Aron Eswaran, Policy Graduate, Market Access and Trade Remedies Section, DFAT

Virtual

- Chad Uphill, Director, Chad Uphill Trade Advisory (representing BlueScope)
- Diana Hallam, CEO, Australian Forest Products Association
- Sanjay Sharma, Case Manager, Investigations, ADC
- Alan McGuinness, Director, Market Access and Trade Remedies Section, DFAT
- Leah Johnston, Director, Data Governance, Austrade
- Lachlan Kelley, Anti-Dumping Policy Section, Industry & Manufacturing, DISR
- Juniper Hind, Business Outreach Support and Communications Officer, AusIndustry
- Maria Themistocleous, Assistant Manager, Anti-Dumping Policy Section, DISR
- Ziyaad Ebrahim, Assistant Manager, Anti-Dumping Policy Section, DISR
- Corin McCarthy, Assistant Director, Trade Remedies Reform, Industry Policy, Industry & Manufacturing, DISR
- Benjamin Evans, Governance, Risk & Strategic Partnerships, ABF
- Daniel Hyde, Manager, Offshore CCS, Industry Policy, DISR
- Dene Yeaman, Assistant Secretary, Trade and Investment Law Branch, DFAT
- Chavi Handa, Assistant Manager, Industry Policy, DISR

Attachment B: Action Items from ITRF meeting

No.	Description	Lead	Status
1	DFAT's Trade Defence and Government Procurement Section to provide contact details for the team monitoring US Section 232 investigations to interested members.	DFAT	Pending
2	ADRP Secretariat to implement new website features by October 2025, including public logs of pending applications and duty assessments.	ADRP	Pending
3	The Commission to review and explore both Austrade and the internal OSCR options - and decide on best approach to developing a data capability for market surveillance (both internal and external).	Secretariat	Pending
4	The Commission to review and act on the paper summarising the Improving Access to the Anti-Dumping System for SMEs workshop outcomes and next steps.	Secretariat	Pending
5	The Commission to continue working with ABS and ABF to explore legal and operational avenues for improving data access, particularly around confidentiality restrictions.	Secretariat	Ongoing
6	The Commission will arrange a follow up out-of-session on the EU's specialised import surveillance task force model for potential adaptation.	Secretariat	Pending
7	The Commission to submit the Anti-Circumvention Report to the Minister accompanied by any voting statements from ITRF members.	Secretariat	Pending