

Announcement of the MoC between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and the NSW Department of Primary Industries

On 26 November, Mr Keizo Takewaka, Consul-General of Japan in Sydney and The Hon. Niall Blair, Minister for Primary Industries, had a meeting to welcome the official signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF) and the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI). At the meeting, Mr Takewaka and Minister Blair reaffirmed the importance of the MoC.

The MoC was the result of the meeting held between Mr Ryosuke Kouzuki, the then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for MAFF and Minister Blair on 20 August 2018 during Mr Kouzuki's visit to Sydney. After a few months of preparation, on 7 November 2018, the MoC was signed by Mr Tetsuo Ushikusa Deputy Assistant Minister for International Affairs, MAFF and Mr Scott Hansen Director General of NSW Department of Primary Industries.

“The potential for the two countries to boost agricultural exports into international markets through cooperation on bilateral counter-seasonal production” was also recognised in the Joint Press Statement on the occasion of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's visit to Darwin on 16 November 2018. The MoC between NSW and Japan reaffirms the importance of agricultural cooperation between Japan and NSW and covers numerous aspects, including joint research and study in the areas of agriculture and fisheries, as well as information sharing for the redevelopment of the Sydney Fish Market. It also sets out the holding of an annual meeting and the creation of a master plan to progress the collaboration between Japan and NSW.



The Hon. Niall Blair Minister for Primary Industries and Mr Keizo Takewaka Consul-General of Japan in Sydney