

AANZFTA Business Engagement Strategy (2018-2023)

Adopted by the AANZFTA Joint Committee on 27 August 2018.

At the 22nd ASEAN Economic Ministers – Closer Economic Relations Consultations on 9 September 2017, Ministers ‘affirmed the importance of AANZFTA remaining relevant to business and of Parties continuing to engage with business on ASEAN-CER trade and investment issues’ (Joint Media Statement, paragraph 10). They also welcomed a report on the review of non-tariff measures and ‘emphasised the importance of enhanced engagement with business in working to address NTMs’ (Joint Media Statement, paragraph 7).

Furthermore, Ministers welcomed the General Review Stage One Report (the Report) at their Meeting. The Report suggested that as part of the General Review, ‘AANZFTA Parties could develop a business engagement strategy that both taps into ASEAN’s existing business network structures and incorporates elements specific to the AANZFTA implementation agenda’ (Chapter 3, Paragraph 22). The Report outlines four key areas that such a strategy could encompass: raising business awareness; business to government dialogue; engagement in economic cooperation; and collaboration among businesses. This strategy builds on the Report, specifying how AANZFTA Parties will approach business engagement over the next five years (2018-2023).

Raising business awareness of AANZFTA

AANZFTA Parties will take action as individual governments to:

- engage with and consult their respective business sectors to promote awareness of AANZFTA and provide updates on developments under AANZFTA
 - o where possible, partnering with business groups on advocacy initiatives
- maintain and update information on AANZFTA on their respective websites, including a link to the ASEAN Secretariat’s AANZFTA website (aanzfta.asean.org/)
 - o existing web pages:

Australia	dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/aanzfta/Pages/asean-australia-new-zealand-free-trade-agreement.aspx
Brunei Darussalam	http://www.mofat.gov.bn/site/Home.aspx
Cambodia	https://www.cambodiantr.gov.kh/index.php?r=site/display&id=36
Indonesia	http://ftacenter.kemendag.go.id
Lao PDR	https://laotradeportal.gov.la/index.php?r=site/display&id=982
Malaysia	http://fta.miti.gov.my/index.php/pages/view/asean-australia-newzealand
Myanmar	www.myanmartradeportal.gov.mm
New Zealand	mfat.govt.nz/en/trade/free-trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements-in-force/aanzfta-asean-australia-new-zealand-fta/
Philippines	https://www.dti.gov.ph/2016-03-29-02-27-23/dbfta
Singapore	ie.enterprisesg.gov.sg
Thailand	https://goo.gl/RKokbm
Viet Nam	http://wtocenter.vn/other-agreement/asean-australia-new-zealand-free-trade-area

- maintain (or consider establishing) online tools such as tariff finders and information about FTA services commitments, non-tariff measures and other details as relevant to assist business use of AANZFTA and other FTAs

- o existing tariff portals:

ASEAN	tariff-finder.asean.org/
Australia	ftaportal.dfat.gov.au/
Brunei Darussalam	http://www.bdntr.gov.bn/SitePages/PreferentialTariff.aspx
Cambodia	http://www.cambodiantr.gov.kh/
Indonesia	http://intr.insw.go.id/
Lao PDR	https://www.laotradeportal.gov.la/
Malaysia	http://mytraderepository.customs.gov.my
Myanmar	http://www.myanmartradeportal.gov.mm/?r=tradeInfo/index
New Zealand	tariff-finder.fta.govt.nz/
Philippines	http://pntr.gov.ph/index.html
Singapore	https://mendel-online.com/#/?cid=ESG
Thailand	http://www.thailandntr.com/
Viet Nam	https://www.customs.gov.vn/SitePages/Tariff-Search.aspx?language=en-US

- maintain an enquiry email address and/or telephone hotline and respond to business enquiries on AANZFTA in a timely manner

- o existing enquiry email addresses/telephone hotlines:

Australia	asean.fta@dfat.gov.au
Brunei Darussalam	seom.brunei@mfa.gov.bn
Cambodia	aanzfta_kh_supportunit@googlegroups.com
Indonesia	For Jakarta: ftacenter.jkt@kemendag.go.id ; For Bandung: ftacenter.bdg@kemendag.go.id ; For Surabaya: ftacenter.sby@kemendag.go.id ; For Medan: ftacenter.mdn@kemendag.go.id ; For Makassar: ftacenter.mks@kemendag.go.id
Lao PDR	enquiries@laotradeportal.gov.la
Malaysia	allasean@miti.gov.my ; allofficerskpi@miti.gov.my ; violet.tong@customs.gov.my
Myanmar	dotregional@gmail.com ; winmin.phyoe@gmail.com
New Zealand	exports@mfat.govt.nz
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Singapore	enquiry@enterprisesg.gov.sg
Thailand	aanz.dtn@outlook.com
Viet Nam	For custom enquiries: bcd389@customs.gov.vn ; Phone: (+84) 961.389.389 For export enquiries: thutucxuatnhapkhau@moit.gov.vn ; Phone: (+84) 24 2220 2240

Together, AANZFTA Parties will:

- publish (on the ASEAN Secretariat website and relevant websites of individual Parties) information on AANZFTA in a timely manner for the benefit of stakeholders, including:
 - o a summary of main outcomes from each FTA Joint Committee meeting
 - o other business-relevant decisions adopted by the FTA Joint Committee or its subsidiary bodies
 - o relevant reports by the Parties or consultants engaged by the Parties
- implement projects under the AANZFTA Economic Cooperation Support Program (AECSP) focused on improving business utilisation of AANZFTA (one of the AECSP's four objectives).

Business to government dialogue

AANZFTA Parties will take action as individual governments to:

- engage with and consult their respective business sectors to seek feedback on their experience of utilising AANZFTA
 - o including seeking submissions from business organisations or individual businesses to inform Parties' approach to negotiations flowing from AANZFTA General Reviews.

Together, AANZFTA Parties will:

- provide opportunities for business to engage with the FTA Joint Committee at each of its annual meetings, such as through presentations by business groups and networking events
- arrange sessions for business to interact directly with Ministers at each of their annual ASEAN Economic Ministers – Closer Economic Relations Consultations
- provide opportunities for business input on AANZFTA implementation issues under the purview of the FTA Joint Committee's subsidiary bodies, such as direct interaction with these subsidiary bodies to progress and finalise work on the built-in agendas
- where possible, provide opportunities for representatives of MSMEs to convey their views to officials on utilising AANZFTA.

Engagement in economic cooperation

Together, AANZFTA Parties will:

- consider how to address private sector interests through economic cooperation projects (relevant for AANZFTA subsidiary bodies and project proponents)
- review the Project Management Guide and revise as necessary to provide greater flexibility for working with business on economic cooperation projects
- consider ways to enhance business engagement in economic cooperation projects under AANZFTA through the design process for a potential successor program to the AECSP.

Collaboration among businesses

Together, AANZFTA Parties will:

- promote collaboration between the ASEAN Business Advisory Council and its accredited ASEAN Plus One Business Councils from Australia and New Zealand (the Australia-ASEAN Business Council jointly with the Australia-ASEAN Chamber of Commerce and the ASEAN New Zealand Business Council respectively).