

# Media Release

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12 September 2017

## **Federal and State Forestry Ministers back Australia's sustainable forest industries**

In an historic cross-jurisdictional, bipartisan statement, Australia's forestry Ministers have released a position statement which calls for Australia to value and grow our forest industries.

The Statement released today by the Commonwealth Government and the governments of NSW, Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia, Northern Territory and South Australia states that all governments "strongly support Australia's forest industries". The statement confirms that all these governments will "commit to working together to ensure the ongoing future of Australia's forest industries".

Chair of the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) Mr Greg McCormack said: "I welcome this joint position statement on behalf of the 120,000 Australians who work in our renewable forest industries right across the whole value chain."

"Workers, in the bush harvesting and replanting native and plantation trees through to truss and frame producers, will take heart that our Federal and State leaders see a big sustainable future in all we do."

"Australia's forest industries not only pour \$23 billion into Australia's economy each year, we are the truly sustainable, environmentally friendly industry. In this country, every tree we harvest is replaced. AFPA looks forward to working with all governments to ensure the right policy settings open the way for further growth of our industries," said Mr McCormack.

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AFPA represents forest growers, harvesters, and manufacturers of timber and paper products.

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