

Reference: OBPR22-01875 Telephone: 6271 6270 e-mail: helpdesk-oia@pmc.gov.au

Mr George Mina
Deputy Secretary
Trade and Investment Group
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Dear Mr Mina

Impact Analysis – Second Pass Final Assessment – Australia – United Arab Emirates Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (UAE CEPA)

Thank you for your letter of 16 September 2024 submitting an Impact Analysis (IA) for formal Second Pass Final Assessment. I note the IA has been formally certified at the Deputy Secretary level consistent with the *Australian Government Guide to Policy Impact Analysis* (the Guide).

I appreciate the Department's engagement on the IA. The Office of Impact Analysis' (OIA) assessment is that the quality of the analysis in the IA is adequate. While the IA provides useful details on the Australia – UAE CEPA, to be considered good practice as per the Guide the IA would have benefited from further analysis of the distributional impacts. The IA also would have also benefited from elaborating on the implementation and evaluation planning.

The IA may now be provided to the decision-maker to inform their decision.

Next steps

After a final decision has been announced, I ask that your agency work with the OIA to finalise this material for release on the OIA's website at oia.pmc.gov.au. This includes providing a copy of the IA in Word and PDF format for web accessibility purposes. The IA must also be included in any Explanatory Memorandum or Statement giving effect to the proposal in the IA.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Abhayaratna Executive Director

Office of Impact Analysis

Joanna Abhayaratna

23 September 2024