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MEDIA RELEASE

Investing in agriculture to drive Australia's prosperity

Australian Grape & Wine welcomes the Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia's announcement yesterday of over \$300 million in investment in the priority areas of agriculture in this year's Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO).

"Agriculture has been the backbone of Australia's resilience during the Covid-19 pandemic and will be an important driver of the recovery" said Tony Battaglione, Chief Executive of Australian Grape & Wine.

"The Grape & Wine sector took a massive hit with the closure of the China market this year and we are particularly pleased to see the announcement of an additional \$13.2 million investment to extend the Agri-Business Expansion Initiative (ABEI). This initiative is delivering for our sector and the additional funding will be enormously important to drive market diversification" said Tony Battaglione.

Australian Grape & Wine is working on a range of exciting activities to help businesses find and grow export opportunities. This work is being funded by the Australian Government through the Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation (ATMAC) grants program, which sits under the ABEI framework.

"The ATMAC grant we've received is providing opportunities for the Australian grape and wine sector to pivot its focus after a very tough 12-18 months, and to build our profile in key markets such as Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United States" said Mr Battaglione.

"We're working closely with Wine Australia, Austrade and the Australian Government to coordinate our efforts and, in consultation with grape and wine businesses, foster growth and new opportunities in our export markets. Without the ATMAC grant, we simply wouldn't have been able to do this much, this quickly."

"Grape growers and winemakers will play an integral part in Australia's economic recovery as we emerge from Covid-19. Our 65 wine regions span across every state in Australia, and it's great to work in partnership with the Australian Government to help drive our economic contribution and, ultimately, our future prosperity,"

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About Australian Grape and Wine Inc

Australian Grape and Wine Inc is the national association of grape and wine producers. We address issues across the supply-chain that impact on the profitability and sustainability of the sector. We lead and advocate public policy that enhances the ability to responsibly produce, promote and enjoy Australian wine in moderation.

Australian Grape & Wine is recognised as a representative organisation for winegrape and wine producers under the Wine Australia Act 2013, and is incorporated under the SA Associations Incorporation Act 1985. We work in partnership with the Australian Government to develop and implement policy that is in the best interests of winegrape growers and winemakers across Australia.