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Australia strengthens grape and wine sector with management expansion

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The Australian Government has appointed five new directors to the non-executive board representing the interests of the Australian wine industry. Wine Australia invests in research, development and extension, covering issues of national importance for the local wine industry. Directors work to ensure compliance with Wine Australiaâ??s regulatory functions by investing in research and development, building markets and disseminating market information and knowledge.

New directors are serving a three-year term effective from 1 October 2024.

- Dr Angeline Achariya, Victoria
- Ms Roslyn Baker, Queensland
- Mr Andrew Kay, South Australia
- Ms Elizabeth Riley, New South Wales
- Ms Peta Slack-Smith, Victoria.

Australiaâ??s grape and wine sector thrive and is delivering a multimillion-dollar package to boost the sectorâ??s long-term viability. The Governmentâ??s $3.5 million Grape and Wine Sector Long-Term Viability Package includes an independent impact analysis led by Dr Craig Emerson concerning fair trading, competitive relationships, contracting practices and risk allocation in the sector. Public consultation for the analysis is now open.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Julie Collins MP said, â??The new Wine Australia directors are suitably qualified and together possess a wealth of skills, expertise and board experience.They will help foster and encourage profitable, resilient and sustainable Australian wine grape and wine businesses. Wine Australia is well positioned to continue supporting a competitive wine sector, growing domestic and international markets and protecting the reputation of Australian

wine, thanks in great measure to the contributions of the outgoing board members.â?

Government is encouraging stakeholders from across Australiaâ??s grape and wine industry to share their views as part of a multimillion-dollar package to boost the sectorâ??s long-term viability. Feedback on existing regulation in the sector is being sought through the independent impact analysis of the grape and wine sectorâ??s current rules concerning fair trading, competitive relationships, contracting practices and risk allocation.

In August the Government announced the appointment of Dr Craig Emerson to undertake this analysis, as part of the Governmentâ??s $3.5 million Grape and Wine Sector Long-Term Viability Package. Feedback collected from the consultation will inform advice about whether existing regulation could be made more effective, or if additional regulatory or other interventions are warranted to improve the grape and wine market. The analysis will provide recommendations to the Government to support the industryâ??s long-term sustainability.