



THE HON STEVEN CIOBO MP
Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment

Mr Philip Litton
Director
Export Solutions
PO Box 1002
OSBORNE PARK WA 6017

Dear Mr Litton

Thank you for your recent letters to the Prime Minister, myself and a number of my Ministerial colleagues regarding funding for the Export Market Development Grants (EMDG) scheme. I appreciate hearing from people who are directly involved with Australian exporters and with the scheme. I understand you met with officers from Austrade while you were in Canberra in March 2018 to discuss the matters raised in your correspondence to me.

The EMDG scheme has assisted more than 45,000 Australian small and medium-sized exporters to access international markets for over 40 years. EMDG is one of Australia's most effective and enduring assistance schemes and demand for EMDG continues to grow. The popularity of the scheme is an encouraging sign of the willingness of Australian businesses to expand into new markets and leverage free trade agreement opportunities.

The Turnbull Coalition Government is committed to progressively restoring funding for the EMDG scheme. We have already provided an initial \$50 million boost and will look to further increases as the budget improves.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. Ciobo', written over a blue horizontal line.

Steven Ciobo
17 APR 2018