



MEDIA RELEASE

COUNCIL SHOWS THE WAY FORWARD ON CASH EQUITIES CLEARING

11 February 2013

AFMA welcomes the release of the report of the Council of Financial Regulators on competition in clearing Australian cash equities.

The report reflects a pragmatic response to industry conditions and views that came through AFMA's submission to the Council.

The report gives clarity on the Government's approach and shows the way forward for a constructive industry dialogue on equities clearing and settlement.

The Council's recommendation that the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) work with industry stakeholders to develop a *Code of Practice for Clearing and Settlement of Cash Equities in Australia* is an important step forward for addressing issues of importance to market users in a structured and transparent way.

AFMA looks forward to starting work with the ASX and other stakeholders on the development of the Code.

Contact details for further information:

David Lynch
Executive Director
+61 2 9776 7990
0411 694 288
dlynch@afma.com.au

Notes for Editors:

The Australian Financial Markets Association (AFMA) is the leading industry association promoting efficiency, integrity and professionalism in Australia's financial markets and provides leadership in advancing the interests of all market participants. These markets are an integral feature of the economy and perform the vital function of facilitating the efficient use of capital and management of risk. Market participants perform a range of important roles within these markets, including financial intermediation and market making.

AFMA represents over 130 members, including Australian and international banks, leading brokers, securities companies, state government treasury corporations, fund managers, traders in electricity and other specialised markets and industry service providers.