Advancing Rural Queensland

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Suspension reversal a return to common sense

AgForce welcomes the Federal Government's decision to lift the Indonesia live export suspension, although it will be some time before northern Australia's cattle producers can truly get back to business.

AgForce Cattle president Grant Maudsley said AgForce, in partnership with the National Farmers' Federation (NFF), Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) and the wider livestock industry welcomed the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Senator Joe Ludwig's announcement that the Australian Government has lifted the suspension on the live cattle trade to Indonesia, under strict new conditions that will ensure the welfare of Australian cattle throughout the supply chain.

"Queensland cattle producers, supporting businesses and the communities in which they operate have all been bearing the brunt of the suspension and although there is some way to go yet, it is very positive to see the reopening of this key market," Mr Maudsley said.

"This is an important first step for cattle producers impacted by the live export suspension; however recommencement of the trade will be gradual to those abattoirs that meet accepted animal welfare standards.

"AgForce fully supports the export requirements set down by the Cattle Council of Australia which were essential in getting the trade reinstated."

AgForce will work with the NFF, MLA, wider industry, government and Indonesia to bring additional abattoirs to World Animal Health (OIE) guidelines as quickly as possible, so this vital trade can be reopened while protecting the welfare of Australian cattle throughout the supply chain.

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