

# CFMEU

## SPEAKING NOTES

# The China FTA and Australian jobs

- The Abbott Government has signed a new trade deal with China – the China Free Trade Agreement (FTA)
- This agreement will be bad for jobs, and bad for local communities
- Unemployment is already too high: youth unemployment is at 13.5% nationally, and in parts of Queensland, Victoria and NSW is as high as 20%
- Under the China FTA, Chinese companies will be able to bring in workers from overseas and NOT have to offer these jobs to locals first
- Overseas workers who come to Australia are already being exploited
- Under the China FTA this will only get worse – a Chinese company and the government will be able to decide:
  - ✗ what workers will be paid
  - ✗ decide how much of that they will return to the employer for accommodation
  - ✗ what level of English is required, if any.
- These arrangements exploit overseas workers, and potentially put their lives and the lives of others at risk. Good safety demands good communication.

### IT GETS WORSE

The Abbott government has agreed that many tradies who come into Australia will not need to be qualified. These include:

- ✗ Automotive electricians
- ✗ Carpenters
- ✗ Cabinetmakers
- ✗ Carpenters and joiners
- ✗ Diesel motor mechanics
- ✗ Motorcycle mechanics
- ✗ Joiners
- ✗ Motor mechanics
- ✗ Electricians

- The China FTA will kill local jobs and put lives at risk
- Everyone needs to unite to fight the China FTA:
  - ✓ Local workers whose jobs will be lost
  - ✓ Overseas workers who are being exploited
  - ✓ Local communities who are under threat from the loss of local jobs
- Say NO to Exploitation
- Say YES to local jobs.

### UNITE AND FIGHT BACK!

### HASN'T THE AGREEMENT BEEN SIGNED?

- Yes, but it will NOT become operational until the government passes certain legislation
- This legislation MUST go through both houses of parliament
- Unless this legislation is passed, the agreement CANNOT operate effectively.

### WHAT CAN WE DO?

- ✓ Contact your local Member of Parliament, and tell them you do not support the China FTA
- ✓ Contact the Prime Minister's Office, and tell him you do not support the China FTA
- ✓ Attend the rally that is coming to your city:

Melbourne	24 July, 28 August
Brisbane	27 July
Sydney	31 July
Canberra	10 August
Perth	25 August
Devonport	27 August

For further information including time and locations, please visit:  
[www.cfmeu.net.au](http://www.cfmeu.net.au)

# Stand up. Speak out. Fight back!