

## Woolworths signs new Enterprise Agreement for 95,000 supermarket employees

**Thursday 20 May 2010:** The new Woolworths Enterprise Agreement has been formally approved by Fair Work Australia. The Agreement is the largest and most comprehensive of its kind in Australia, encompassing approximately 95,000 non-salaried supermarket employees.

Key features of the new Agreement are:

- Phased salary increases over three years
  - 3.5% in year 1
  - 3.5% in year 2
  - 3.2% in year 3
- Inclusion of all non-salaried supermarket employees for the first time
- Application of the full adult wage rate for 20 year olds
- National standardisation of two year unpaid parental leave policy
- National standardisation of under 16s wage rate to 45% of adult rate

The Agreement is the first fully national workplace agreement for Woolworths and Safeway employees and consolidates six separate state and territory agreements and two standalone meat worker agreements. Depending on the expiry date of existing agreements, different states will phase into the new deal at different times.

The Agreement received a very high level of support from staff with a 94% approval rating. It will run until 2012.

Woolworths Director of Supermarkets, Greg Foran said: "Developing such a comprehensive national agreement has been an extremely complex process and I would like to thank all parties involved for their constructive participation, particularly the SDA who took a lead role in the negotiations from a union perspective. It is in the best long term interests of our staff and our business to have a single national Agreement in place, with common and consistent employment conditions."

– Ends –

For further information please contact the **Woolworths Press Office** on (02) 8885 1033.