

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Member for Goyder, Ms Kezia Purick to Minister for Trade

#### Re: TRADE MISSIONS ATTENDED BY MINISTERS AND OTHERS

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For the year 2008-09, could you advise the following matters:

1. How many trade missions in total were undertaken to Asian countries (including China and India) by NT Government Ministers.
2. What country did which Minister visit and for how long.
3. Why were the visits undertaken.
4. Which government officials attended the Ministers on the trips and why.
5. What industry people attend which trip.
6. Were reports done after each trip and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not.
7. What was the cost of each ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials.
8. How many conferences and events were attended by Ministers, what country and name of the event.
9. Which government officials from what departments attended conferences and events.
10. Were summary reports done following attendance at the events and if so, can a copy be obtained and if not, why not.
11. Does the NT Government have a permanent presence in an Asian country and if so where and at what is the cost of the office.

#### ANSWER

Question 1 - There were twelve trade missions undertaken to Asian countries by NT Government Ministers during the financial period 2008-09. In addition, there was a significant number of business/trade missions, either led or supported by various Government Agencies, to key Asian markets (including China, Japan, Indonesia and Vietnam).

Questions 2 to 10 - A template has been prepared for written questions 2 to 10. Please refer to the following list of attachments for answers relating to these questions:

1. 11-19 October 2008 Malaysia  
Parliamentary Secretary on behalf of Minister for Tourism
2. 12-18 October 2008 China  
Minister for Asian Relations and Trade

3. 4-15 November 2008 China/Vietnam  
Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Resources
4. 29-30 November 2008 Timor-Leste  
MP for Nhulunbuy on behalf of Minister for Sport and Recreation
5. 9-19 January 2009 China/Japan/USA  
Chief Minister
6. 15-25 January 2009 USA  
Minister for Tourism
7. 20-23 February 2009 Macau  
Minister for Sport and Recreation
8. 6-8 May 2009 Indonesia  
Minister for Tourism and Asian Relations and Trade
9. 7-17 May 2009 Indonesia  
Minister for Justice and Attorney General
10. 10-16 May 2009 China  
Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources
11. 12-20 May 2009 Vietnam/Singapore/Japan  
Minister for Asian Relations and Trade
12. 27-28 May 2009 Timor-Leste  
Chief Minister

Question 11 - During the financial period 2008-09, the NT Government had a presence in the following Asian countries.

Country	Presence	Function	Cost
China	Shanghai: Travel trade representative Office	To service industry/stakeholders and distribution partners – part time 2 days pre October 2008 and 3 days per week from November 2008	\$41,000 pa up to Oct 2008 \$55,332 pa from Nov 2008
Singapore	Singapore: Travel trade representative office	To service industry/stakeholders and distribution partners – part time 2/3 days per week	\$30,000 pa
Japan	Tokyo: Travel trade representative office	To service industry/stakeholders and distribution partners – part time 4 days per week – (reduced to 3 days from August 2009)	\$108,349 pa (Yen 7,716,000 reduced from Aug 2009 to Yen 6,240,000)

<b>Country</b>	<b>Presence</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Japan	Tokyo: Public relations	To work with local media partners to increase awareness of the NT part time 2 days per week	\$89,017 pa (Yen 6,600,000)
Timor Leste	Dili: Permanent representative office	To assist with NT Government, Industry and business engagement with Timor-Leste.	\$176,133 for 2008/09

## ATTACHMENT 1

### Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?

Parliamentary Secretary, Michael Gunner

Country: Malaysia

Conference/Event: World Routes Airline Conference and Sabah Expo

Date of Travel: 11 - 19 October 2008

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To attend meeting with Malaysia Airlines and attend the World Routes Airline Conference and workshops in partnership with NT Airports.</li> <li>Representing Minister Vatskalis at the Sabah Expo.</li> <li>Promote the Arafura Games.</li> <li>Visit cattle research properties involved in supporting live cattle trade between the Northern Territory and Sabah.</li> </ul>		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Michael Gunner	Parliamentary Secretary	Attend Malaysia Airlines meeting on behalf of Hon Kon Vatskalis.
Maree Tetlow	Chief Executive	One on one meetings at World Routes Conference with Airlines plus business case presentation to Malaysia Airlines.
Brendan Doran	Director Asian Relations – Department of the Chief Minister	To facilitate the visit and assist Minister Vatskalis.
Mark Hough	Ministerial Advisor	Assist Mr Gunner in strengthening ties between the Northern Territory and Sabah.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	
Ian Kew	NT Airports – Chief Executive	
Jim Parashos	NT Airports – Aviation Development Director	

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials? \$16,248**

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not?** No, but copy of Press Release attached.

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**15 October 2008**

**‘Strengthening Ties with Sabah’**

The Northern Territory’s Parliamentary Secretary for Business & Employment Michael Gunner is in Sabah, Malaysia to represent the Minister for Asian Relations at the Sabah International Expo 2008.

More than 30,000 visitors are expected to attend the four-day Expo which will feature products and services from both local and overseas exhibitors. The Northern Territory International Business Council (IBC) is leading a delegation of Territory businesses at the Expo.

Mr Gunner will attend the opening of the Expo with the IBC, and will also meet Ministers from the Government of Sabah, as well as members of visiting delegations from the region.

“This is a great opportunity to promote the Arafura Games, and visit cattle research properties involved in supporting the live cattle trade between the Northern Territory and Sabah,” Mr Gunner said.

“The Northern Territory Government provides significant support through the Trade Support Scheme for local businesses attending the Sabah International Expo.

“It also provides a valuable opportunity to pursue new markets for Northern Territory exports.”

Mr Gunner will conclude his visit to the Expo by attending a joint networking function organised by the IBC and the Sabah branch of the Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

## ATTACHMENT 2

### Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?

Minister for Asian Relations and Trade, Kon Vatskalis

Country: China

Conference/Event: Hakka Conference

Date of Travel: 12/10/2008 – 18/10/2008

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To attend the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Hakka Conference and make a bid for the Hakka conference in Darwin; and</li> <li>Meet with China mining media and the China Development Bank.</li> </ul>		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Kon Vatskalis	Minister for Asian Relations and Trade	Attend the 22 <sup>nd</sup> World Hakka Conference and make a bid for the Hakka conference in Darwin. Meet with China mining media and the China Development Bank.
Shaun O'Sullivan	Director - Protocol	Accompany the Minister and assist with all protocol related matters.
Charlie Phillips	Senior Ministerial Advisor	Coordinate the delegation and assist Minister Vatskalis.
Kevin Fong	Senior Project Officer – DCM	To facilitate the visit and assist Minister Vatskalis.
Nikola Lekias	Media Advisor	To assist Minister Vatskalis in relation to media management and coordinate the press.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	
Nicholas Calacouras	Reporter – NT News	
Brad Fleet	Photographer – NT News	

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials? \$46,885**

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not? Yes, draft Ministerial Report attached.**

**MINISTERIAL REPORT**  
**The Hon Kon Vatskalis MLA**  
**Minister for Asian Relations and Trade**

*Drafted 22/10/2008*

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure I rise to inform of my 12 to 17 October visit to China on behalf of the Chief Minister.

This was my third visit in 10 months and indicates the importance this Government places on China and advancing our relationships in the region.

The catalyst for the visit was participation at the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Hakka Conference in Xian on 16 October.

However prior to the Conference I visited Beijing where I participated in a range of events, in particular:

- Interviews with Chinese mining media, with industry readerships exceeding 4 million;
- A meeting with the China Development Bank and subsequent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding regarding economic cooperation with the Bank.

The China Development Bank is the financial institution behind almost all significant Chinese investment in Australia, for example the Hunan Nonferrous Corporation's joint venture investments with Compass Resources in the Territory and Chinalco's \$14 billion investment in Rio Tinto. To give Honourable Members some sense of scale of the Bank, at the end of 2007 the Bank's assets were estimated to be in excess of A\$500 billion. Around the same time the National Australia Bank had assets of about \$560 billion and Australia's next three largest banks had assets totalling about \$400 billion each.

We see great potential through this MOU. This Government and particularly my Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources have worked very hard to develop this important relationship. It goes hand in hand with our China Minerals Investment Attraction Strategy and we will work hard to maintain and further develop this relationship. In fact, I will return to Beijing on 4 November to participate in the China Mining Conference, to progress the Strategy and promote opportunities in the Territory.

With my Tourism hat on I met with the China National Tourism Administration to promote tourism opportunities in the Territory and receive first hand details on Chinese tourism.

The Government hosted an Investment Attraction seminar for about 70 targeted investors and industry representatives at the Australian Embassy in conjunction with Austrade's Senior Trade Commissioner (Mr Alan Morrell). I provided a presentation on the many developments and opportunities available in the Northern Territory and received many follow up approaches. We will work to provide further information and develop such relationships, a very important part of doing business not only in China but throughout Asia.

Following the seminar I met with Mr Xu Yousheng, the Vice Minister of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council, essentially the Foreign Affairs section of the Premier's Department. At the meeting I was proud to promote the Territory and our extensive Chinese history. The Vice Minister then hosted a dinner for the Northern Territory Government and Hakka Association of the NT delegations, to further develop relationships and networks.

I arrived in Xian on 15 October and went straight to a meeting with Mr Zhang Baowen, Party Secretary and Director General from the Office of the People's Government of Shaanxi Province. As per other senior Government representatives, Mr Zhang is highly educated and was keen to further advance relationships with the Territory.

I was consistently advised that while there may be a small reduction in China's growth, given current international financial turmoil, it is not expected to be prolonged. That is, China may experience a short spell in high single digit growth in Gross Domestic Product before returning to double digit growth. As such continued demand for our resources is predicted, along with growing tourism in our region.

This makes sense given its growing middle class and the fact that even with only one percent population growth, China's population increases by over 13 million per annum. A population larger than any city in the United States or Australia.

On 16 October I was pleased to speak at the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Hakka Conference on behalf of the Chief Minister, who has been the patron of the Hakka Association of the NT for over 7 years. The Conference was attended by some 3000 delegates and provided fantastic opportunities to develop networks and promote the Northern Territory.

At the Conference I advised of the proud history of our Chinese community and particularly the Hakka people. I also informed of some of our major projects and supported the Hakka Association's bid to host the 2012 World Hakka Conference in Darwin.

At the Conference I was also pleased to announce a \$15,000 grant to document the involvement of the Hakka people in the history and establishment of the Northern Territory.

Madam Speaker, the visit was extremely busy with only 4 days on ground in China. However, I was very pleased with the seniority and diversity of people we met with during this period.

This government will continue to build our relationship with China and along with it our two way trade and investment, tourism and education opportunities.

As stated earlier, in November I will travel to China for my fourth visit this year, focussing on advancing our China Minerals Investment Attraction Strategy and promoting opportunities in the Northern Territory.

I commend the report to the House.



## ATTACHMENT 3

### Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?

Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Resources, Kon Vatskalis

Country: China and Vietnam

Conference/Event: refer Q3 below

Date of Travel: 4 – 15 November 2008

### Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken

#### Vietnam

- To demonstrate the Northern Territory's commitment to cooperation through its willingness to engage with the Governments of the region.
- To witness the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Northern Territory Livestock Exporters Association (NTLEA) and Khanh Hoa Trading & Investment Company (TIC) on "Cattle Feedlot Establishment Project" in Khanh Hoa Province of Vietnam.
- To demonstrate Northern Territory Government support for initiatives already under way between Vietnam and the Northern Territory.

#### China

Component of Cabinet approved China Mineral Investment Attraction Strategy to promote investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects. Activities included:

- Australia-China Mineral Exploration Investment Seminar.
- Minister presented key-note speech China Mining Congress 2008.
- Minister presented opening speech for the Australian session Northern Territory Investment Seminar.
- Minister presented opening address, Department presented over 30 projects.
- Meetings with 30 Chinese companies.

### Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?

Name	Position	Reason for Participation
Kon Vatskalis	Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Resources	As above.
Jeff Stewart (Vietnam only)	Director – Trade and Investment	Promote trade initiatives and strengthen bilateral relations with Vietnam.
Steve Tatzenko (China only)	Director Resource Development	To promote over 20 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Mark Hough	Senior Ministerial Advisor	Coordinate delegation and advise the Minister.

Christine Edgoose (China only)	Senior Geologist	To promote over 20 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Guanhua Gao China only)	Senior China Business Adviser	To promote over 20 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Lisa Mutch (China only)	Business Development Manager	To promote investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Nikola Lekias	Media Advisor	Monitor media and to assist Minister Vatskalis in relation to media management.
Thai Tung (Vietnam only)	International Relations Officer	Assist Minister Vatskalis and promote live cattle trade to Vietnam.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip? China only</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	
Lindsay Dudfield	Executive Director, Energy Metals	
Rob Bills	Managing Director, Emmerson Resources	
Scott Perkins	CE, NT Resource Council	
Rebekah Cavanagh	NT News	
Ian Bamborough	Managing Director, Territory Uranium Co	
Paul Burton	Exploration Director, TNG Limited	
Margaret Michaels	Partner, Clayton Utz	
Barry Irwin	Partner, Clayton Utz	

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials?** \$105,795

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not?** Yes, Ministerial Report (extract from Hansard) and copy of Press Release attached.

## **MINISTERIAL REPORT**

**Mr VATSKALIS**

**Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources**

*Extract from Hansard, 25/11/2008*

Madam Speaker, I report to the Assembly on my recent visit to Vietnam and progress that has been made on developing a new market for our live cattle trade.

The live cattle trade is worth over \$200m to our economy annually and employs thousands of people across the vast pastoral properties of the Northern Territory. As a risk management strategy, considerable effort will be put towards mitigating our reliance on the substantial Indonesian market.

I visited Vietnam recently where I witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Territory's live cattle industry, the Khanh Hoa Trading and Investment Company and the Mid Vietnam Live Cattle Breeding Corporation for the establishment of the cattle feedlot project in the Khanh Hoa province of Vietnam. This MOU provides a solid foundation for the development of a commercial live cattle trade between the Territory and the Khanh Hoa province.

In March 2007, a combined Northern Territory industry and government delegation travelled to Vietnam with a range of purposes, including scoping the possibility of the Territory establishing a good trading foothold in Vietnam with a focus on live cattle exports. The then Chief Minister led another delegation to Vietnam in August 2007, and in March 2008 a joint ministerial/industry delegation presented a series of seminars to potential importers in Vietnam detailing the live export and feedlot processes. A direct outcome of those seminars was a follow up visit to Darwin by Khanh Hoa Trading and Investment Company to study the Territory's cattle industry and export operation.

The delegation then travelled to Indonesia to inspect the feedlot infrastructure to gain a better understanding of how the industry might operate in Vietnam.

Whilst in Australia, the delegation attended a number of briefings on the Northern Territory pastoral industry and live export processes, and inspected export yards and cattle loading facilities in Darwin, as well as a visit to Camfield Station.

In Indonesia, they inspected two feedlots, each with different operational styles and management structures. This enabled a broad picture to be painted for the delegation of the options available when considering what might best work in their environment in Vietnam. A significant component of the feedlot visit was that the delegation saw cattle in one feedlot that had originated from the cattle station they had visited two days prior in the Northern Territory, highlighting the seamless nature of the supply chain and the quality control processes in place to maximise the performance of cattle throughout their transfer from our cattle properties into South-East Asian feedlots.

In July of this year, officers from my department undertook a feasibility study for a proposed cattle feedlotting/slaughter business venture in the Khanh Hoa province in Vietnam. The purpose was to provide an objective appraisal of the economic and other factors required to be considered by the Khanh Hoa Trading and Investment Company

prior to their proposed establishment of a live cattle importing venture.

Following our visit to Vietnam earlier this month, our primary role going forward will be to monitor progress and facilitate resolution of issues where we can. In the first instance, it will be necessary to ensure that, through a mix of commercial arrangements with our industry and Meat and Livestock Australia, technical assistance is provided where needed.

Aside from the MOU signing, whilst in Vietnam, I met with the Vice Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Hon Vu Van Tam, and we discussed issues surrounding the finalisation of a suitable Vietnamese health protocol for live cattle imports, and that protocol is now being fast-tracked. I also met with the Vice Minister for Industry and Trade, Hon Mr Nguyen Thanh Bien, to discuss strengthening links between our economies across a range of areas including international education, tourism and sporting exchanges.

It was a short but valuable trip, and I believe that we have reached a significant milestone for the establishment of a live cattle trade between the Northern Territory and Vietnam, a benefit for both our economies.

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**11 November 2008**

**'Minister Addresses Asia's Premier Mining Conference'**

Australia and the Northern Territory have been represented at Asia's largest gathering of mining stakeholders.

Northern Territory Minister for Resources, Kon Vatskalis, delivered a keynote address on behalf of Australia at the China Mining Congress in Beijing.

It is the third visit by a Northern Territory Resources Minister forming an important part of the Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources (DRDPIFR) *China Minerals Investment Attraction Strategy*.

"China is a very important friend of Australia and the Northern Territory," said Mr Vatskalis.

"In recent years we have seen an increase in Chinese investment in the Northern Territory, particularly in mining and exploration, and we want to see that grow into the future."

In his address Mr Vatskalis outlined the success of those Chinese companies already in joint ventures with Northern Territory mines including the CITIC and Legend International.

As part of his ministerial visit to China, Mr Vatskalis has been joined by representatives from the NT Resources Council, Clayton Utz, Energy Metals, Emmerson Resources, Territory Uranium and TNG Ltd to promote the mineral exploration investment opportunities of the Northern Territory.

Mr Vatskalis said the *China Minerals Investment Attraction Strategy* aims to provide high level exposure of the Northern Territory's investment opportunities in exploration, create confidence in the Northern Territory by showcasing the Government's commitment to attracting Chinese investment and open doors for industry.

## ATTACHMENT 4

### Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?

Minister for Sport and Recreation, represented by MP for Nhulunbuy

Country: Timor-Leste

Conference/Event: Soccer friendly - Casuarina Women's Football Club Vs Timor Leste club side SLB Laulara Football Club.

Date of Travel: 29 - 30 November 2008

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
Attend a Timor-Leste women's football match and advance relations between the Northern Territory Government and Timor-Leste		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Karl Hampton	Minister for Sport and Recreation	Did not attend.
Lynne Walker	MP for Nhulunbuy	To advance relations between Timor-Leste and the Northern Territory, particularly in relation to sport.
Brendan Doran	Director Asian Relations – Department of the Chief Minister	To facilitate the visit and assist the Member for Nhulunbuy.
Natasha Fyles	Media Advisor	To assist the Member for Nhulunbuy in relation to media management.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	
Andrew Aloia	NT News Sportswriter	

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials?** \$5,151

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not?** No, but copy of Press Release attached.

## PRESS RELEASE

**Lynne Walker**  
MEMBER FOR NHULUNBUY

**01 December 2008**

### **'Territory Sporting Ties with Timor Leste Strengthen'**

Sporting relations between Timor Leste and the NT have taken another step forward with Member for Nhulunbuy Lynne Walker representing the Territory Government on a visit to the country over the weekend.

Ms Walker attended a number of meetings with Timor Leste Government and sporting officials, discussing a range of issues including participation in next year's Arafura Games.

"As one of our closest neighbours, the Northern Territory has a strong and proud history with Timor Leste and it is important that we continue to develop this relationship," Ms Walker said.

"The sporting arena offers a fantastic opportunity to build closer ties between the two jurisdictions."

The Timor Leste National Olympic Committee indicated that a team of 30 athletes will attend the Arafura Games in Darwin next May.

"I met with their Olympic Committee President Joao Carrascalao who believes it is extremely important that Timorese athletes participate in the Arafura Games," Ms Walker said.

Ms Walker also met with Timor-Leste Secretary of State for Youth and Sport, the Hon Miguel Manetelu who was interested in the Northern Territory Institute of Sport.

"Timor Leste has a long term plan of developing a sports academy so we discussed ideas and options surrounding this," Ms Walker said.

Ms Walker also cheered on the Casuarina Women's Football club in an International Friendly soccer match against Timor Leste club side SLB Laulara Football Club.

The game which ended in a one all draw was well attended by local soccer fans and also Australian troops serving in East Timor.

The soccer team also experienced a number of cultural excursions whilst in Timor Leste including meeting President Jose Ramos Horta who encouraged further sporting matches.

"This was a once in a lifetime experience that shows the benefits both on and off the sporting field," Ms Walker said.

**ATTACHMENT 5**

**Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?**

Chief Minister, Paul Henderson

Country: China, Japan and USA

Date of Travel: 9 – 19 January 2009

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
Meeting with key representatives in China, Japan and the USA to facilitate future investment and trade in the NT, particularly in the mining, petroleum and tourism sectors.		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Paul Henderson	Chief Minister	Meet with key representatives in China, Japan and the USA to facilitate future investment and trade in the NT, particularly in the mining, petroleum and tourism sectors.
Adele Young	Chief of Staff – Office of the Chief Minister	Coordinate the delegation.
Brian O’Gallagher	Executive Director, Major Projects, Asian Relations and Trade - Department of the Chief Minister	Meet with key representatives in China, Japan and the USA to facilitate future investment and trade in the NT, particularly in the mining, petroleum and tourism sectors.
Geoff Frazer	Media Advisor – Officer of the Chief Minister	Assist the Chief Minister in relation to the media and coordinate all press related issues.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	
Justin Sanson	Journalist – NT News	
Mark Wilton	Photographer – NT News	

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials?** \$204,363

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not?** Yes, Ministerial Report (extract from Hansard) attached.



## **MINISTERIAL REPORT**

**The Hon Paul Henderson MLA**

**Chief Minister**

*Extract from Hansard, 17/02/2009*

**Mr HENDERSON (Chief Minister):** Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure I report today on my 10-day trade and investment mission to meet with key representatives in three of our most important trading partner countries – China, Japan and the United States.

It is vital to keep confidence in the Territory economy high and develop new opportunities for Territory business. As we enter 2009, one of my highest priorities is positioning the Territory as well as I can in the face of the global financial crisis. Our economy is well placed to withstand fallout from the economic downturn. My government will continue to do everything it can to foster investment and increase economic activity. We need to create new investment opportunities and support our existing businesses and industries so they can continue to provide jobs and opportunities for Territorians.

With this in mind, I targeted key sectors in which the Territory has strategic advantages, particularly energy, resources and tourism. The LNG industry is a key advantage we have in the Territory, and I was pleased to be in Tokyo when INPEX announced awarding of the contract for front-end engineering and design for its LNG plant at Blaydin Point. This is a key milestone in the progression of the development of the Ichthys project. The ultimate milestone, the final investment decision, is still on track to be announced by the end of this year.

As honourable members are aware, capital costs for the LNG plant is estimated at \$12bn, whilst the whole Ichthys project is estimated to cost more than \$US20bn. Obviously, this project would drive the economy's growth for decades to come. The project will employ up to 2000 people at the peak of construction and create about 300 new ongoing jobs. The INPEX gas project is the largest single private sector investment project in the energy sector for Australia.

However, we have not put all our eggs in one basket. Accordingly, in China, I met with key executives and representatives in the resource sector, where I was briefed on their projects going forward. I was also pleased to inform them that the Territory remained open for business, and of our determination to further develop the AustralAsia Trade Route that positions Darwin as Australia's northern trade and export gateway. In this regard, my government has committed \$100m to expand Darwin's port facilities, and we are seeking an extra \$290m to \$360m from the Australian government for further strategic expansion of our port.

As fate would have it, I was in Beijing at the same time as the federal minister responsible for the Australian infrastructure fund, Hon Anthony Albanese. I was able to meet with him and further press the Territory's case. Other meetings in China were with Noble Resources, which has a number of investments in the Territory, including the Frances Creek Iron Ore Mine; the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre with a view to boosting convention and business events in the Territory; and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce Metals, Minerals, and Chemicals Importers and Exporters that has been a strategic partner in progressing our China Minerals Investment Attraction Strategy which was launched in 2007.

We are the only jurisdiction in Australia with such a dedicated strategy, and the Chamber has been instrumental in promoting the Northern Territory's mineral exploration investment opportunities in China. Since the launch of the strategy, there have been 50 visits to the Territory by 29 Chinese companies. Another visit by representatives of the Chamber is planned for March. The China Mining Association, a peak body representing Chinese exploration and mining companies, is another strategic partner in promoting the Northern Territory's mineral exploration investment opportunities.

Following my visits and an invitation from the minister for Mines and Energy, my colleague, Kon Vatskalis, the CMA sent its first-ever delegation to the Territory at the end of January 2009 to meet with specific companies, the Northern Territory Resources Council, and the government. The Stone Group, which has visited the Territory on a number of occasions, is pursuing a number of potential investments.

Japan remains the key trade and investment partner for the Territory. My engagements, whilst wide-ranging, were focused on energy resources and tourism. In addition to INPEX, I met with:

- the senior Vice Minister for Energy and Trade;
- Osaka Gas - the company's investments in the Territory include Greater Sunrise and the Evans Shoal gas fields and our gas pipelines;
- Tokyo Electric Power Company which is the principal customer of Darwin LNG and a nuclear power generator;
- Tokyo Gas is also a major customer of Darwin LNG and is Japan's second-largest importer of LNG, a major player internationally;
- Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation is a government organisation responsible for ensuring stable supply of oil, gas, and non-ferrous metals to Japan. JOGMEC is also a strategic partner in promoting Japanese investments in the Territory. Work is under way for a JOGMEC delegation from Japan to visit the Territory in mid-2009.
- Tourism Australia's office in Japan to gain a better understanding of the effect of the global financial crisis on Japanese tourism and strategies to continue encouraging Japanese visitation, such as promotional links to the movie *Australia*, Indigenous culture, national parks, and the cruise ship industries.

In the United States, I went to Houston to meet with ConocoPhillips and Bechtel senior executives regarding work to expand Darwin LNG. These companies have played a huge role in developing the LNG industry in the Territory. They are certainly looking to expand Darwin LNG even further.

It was appropriate for me to go overseas, visit and meet with our key and potential investors to the Northern Territory, and I believe the trip was a great success, Madam Speaker.

**ATTACHMENT 6**

**Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?**

Minister for Tourism, Kon Vatskalis

Country: USA

Conference/Event: G'day USA

Date of Travel: 15 – 25 January 2009 (note: M.Tetlow departed 16/01/09)

**Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken**

Official visit to G'day USA week to promote the Northern Territory as a tourist destination to the United States.

**Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Kon Vatskalis	Minister for Tourism	Promote Northern Territory tourism at the G'day USA conferences.
Maree Tetlow	Chief Executive, Tourism NT	Meetings with government representatives, diplomats and senior industry figures and key travel trade partners who promote the work of the NT Government in the tourism sector – included the “Australia” Movie launch to the USA market. Meeting held with National Geographic documentary-maker and other media plus eco-tourism credentials for event with Australian Wildlife Conservation Function. Met up with Tourism Australia’s Indigenous Road Show also in the Americas at this time.
Pompea Sweet	Senior Ministerial Advisor	Facilitate the visit and assist Minister Vatskalis.
Nikola Lekias	Media Advisor	Coordinate and inform the Minister on all media related issues.

**Q5: What industry people attend which trip? - Nil**

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials?** \$55,188

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not?** Yes, Ministerial Report (extract from Hansard) attached.

## **MINISTERIAL REPORT**

**Dr BURNS**

**Minister for Tourism**

*Extract from Hansard, 18/02/2009*

Madam Speaker, I report on the Northern Territory government and Tourism NT's support of G'Day USA Australia Week, held between 13 and 23 January 2009.

Now in its fifth year, this is the largest single annual foreign country promotion in the United States. The objective of our attendance, for the first time, was to raise the Northern Territory's profile within North America; Australia's vitality as a place to visit, to do business, showcasing trade and investment, food and wine, film, arts, fashion, lifestyle, and Indigenous culture in tourism was highlighted.

A significant \$80 000 commitment was made by the Northern Territory government this year to capitalise on the increased awareness of the Northern Territory through *Australia* the movie and a focus on Indigenous Australia. Tourism NT used these themes to highlight the spectacular natural landscapes, Indigenous culture and Australia's outback experiences.

Running parallel to the main events, for the first time, was G'Day USA Australia Week and Toronto 2009 in cities across the USA and Canada. A total of eight Indigenous operators attended the successful roadshow, with the Northern Territory supported by Rob Mills from Batji Tours and Kakadu Culture Camp's Andy Ralph, his wife, Jenny Hunter, and their young daughter, Catherine, who was a hit with the Americans.

Five other operators, with strong Northern Territory product offerings, attended the G'Day USA events, including The Ghan, Voyages, AAT Kings, the Orion and Discovery Eco Tours. Meetings were held with two high profile art collectors in New York to investigate new opportunities for NT art to be profiled, along with an emphasis on promoting the wonders of Indigenous cultures in locations around the Territory.

A partnership with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, the AWC, focusing on Pungalina and Seven Emu Stations on the Northern Territory border of the Gulf of Carpentaria, culminated with a dinner in New York, with over 300 wealthy wildlife enthusiasts interested in helping the AWC convert this remote area into a conservation reserve, with the support of the traditional owners of the area. The key message at the philanthropic dinner was that the Northern Territory is one of the last untouched wildernesses in the world and assisting the AWC to buy these stations is a worthwhile project. We believe around \$600 000 was raised on that night. Importantly, Tourism NT hosted some very high profile media and travel guide guests, including a *National Geographic* TV producer and a *Time* magazine journalist.

The Northern Territory government also supported Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu to perform during many of the events at G'Day USA, including Carnegie Hall, with other highly acclaimed musicians, including Jimmy Barnes, with a one-off show *Australia Plays Broadway*. I understand that Geoffrey was an outstanding success, as Americans appreciate his tremendous musical talent. Listening to the reaction of the crowd made the Northern Territory delegation feel very proud of the high calibre of our Indigenous culture and Geoffrey's amazing talent.

Strategic meetings were held with Qantas, the Australian key North American wholesalers and Aussie specialist travel agents to discuss predictions of future demand and pricing for the Northern Territory. Perhaps a highlight of the discussions was the outcome of the Tourism NT initiated Outback Airpass Campaign - Fly Free to the Outback. When tourists arrive in Australia, they can fly into Alice Springs, Yulara and Darwin at no extra cost. In six weeks, the promotion produced 2815 leads, 230 passengers booked to the Territory to date, and many more bookings to be confirmed. The campaign has been such a success that a second wave will occur later this month.

In summary, attendance at G'Day USA by my predecessor, the member for Casuarina, was important and timely. The USA is the fourth biggest market for the Northern Territory, delivering approximately 33 000 visitors last year. Despite decreasing visitation levels since the heyday of 2001, in other words, prior to September 11, the forecasts are now indicating a potential 1% increase compared to the decreases in many of our other source markets.

Madam Speaker, the North American market has been amazingly resilient in this current global economic climate, and I look forward to keeping the House informed of how this and other markets develop over the next few months.

## ATTACHMENT 7

**Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?**

Minister for Sport and Recreation, Karl Hampton

Country: Macau

Conference/Event: Arafura Heads of Delegation Meeting

Date of Travel: 20 – 23 February 2009

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
Attend Arafura Games heads of delegation meeting		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Karl Hampton	Minister for Sport and Recreation	Attend the Arafura heads of delegation meeting.
Natasha Fyles	Media Advisor	Coordinate press releases and all media related information for the trip.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip? - Nil</b>		

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials?** \$24,074

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not?** No, but copy of Press Release attached.

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**22 February 2009**

**'Arafura Games on Track'**

Minister for Sport and Recreation Karl Hampton is confident the 2009 Arafura Games will be a great success after chairing the annual Games Heads of Delegation meeting.

Delegates from 13 countries met in Macau, China yesterday to discuss the event as the Games move from the planning stage into the operational phase.

"The planning process and engagement with member countries is vital at this point with the Games less than three months away, Mr Hampton said.

"There are a number of sporting competitions on the calendar and we continue to receive great support from these countries that send their best developing athletes to the Games.

"The Arafura Games are well recognised on the international sporting calendar and it is important that the event continues to meet the international sport requirements of the region."

The Australian Paralympic Committee was also represented at the meeting to ensure the success of the Paralympic sports in the Games.

"The Arafura Games are the only multi sports event in the world that incorporates Paralympic sports into the schedule of competition.

"That is one of the remarkable features of the Arafura Games and shows the world how we can integrate and mainstream these sports.

"Many countries here today see the Games as an important event of their sporting calendar and use them as a vehicle for their sporting development.

"The Arafura Games have a long history and are about countries coming together as friends and participating in sport which is very important to our young and developing athletes.

"Member countries expressed their enjoyment at participating in the Arafura Games and believe the event is going from strength to strength which is a compliment to all involved especially our volunteers from the sports."

Senior officials representing the following countries attended the meeting: Macau, China, Philippines, PNG, Singapore, Indonesia, New Caledonia, Fiji, Timor Leste, Malaysia, Japan, Brunei, Chinese Taipei and Vietnam.

## ATTACHMENT 8

**Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?**

Minister for Tourism and Asian Relations and Trade, Dr Chris Burns

Country: Indonesia

Date of Travel: 6 – 8 May 2009

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
To advocate for the restoration of Garuda Flights in the Northern Territory.		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Dr Chris Burns	Minister for Tourism and Asian Relations and Trade	Meet with Garuda representatives to advocate restoration of Garuda Flights.
Brendan Doran	Director Asian Relations – Department of the Chief Minister	Facilitate the visit and assist Minister Burns.
Pompea Sweet	Ministerial Advisor	Assist Minister Burns.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip? - Nil</b>		

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials? \$9,728**

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not? No, but copy of Press Release attached.**



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**09 May 2009**

**'Positive Way Forward With Garuda Indonesia'**

Minister for Tourism and Asian Relations and Trade, Dr Chris Burns said today he is committed to working with Garuda Indonesia and the Indonesian Government to reinstate the Garuda service to Darwin.

Dr Burns was in Indonesia yesterday for a series of meetings to discuss the temporary suspension of the Garuda service with Indonesian Government Ministers and the President and CEO of Garuda.

"I held very productive formal discussions with both the State Minister for State-Owned Enterprises Prof. Dr. Djalil and the President of Garuda Indonesia, Mr Satar which were very candid," Dr Burns said.

"They have both given me their assurance that this suspension is only temporary and are committed to working with the NT Government to ensure a return on the Darwin to Denpasar route as early as possible.

"In the meeting both Minister Djalil and Mr Satar said that the current worldwide economic situation is difficult for the aviation industry as a whole, and as with many airlines, Garuda has had to review their routes and marketing.

"Positively, they both acknowledged that the Northern Territory is in a growth phase, particularly with Inpex, and would like to see a return to the Darwin route when possible."

It was agreed at the meeting that there will be a high level working group between Garuda and the Northern Territory Government to facilitate a return to the Darwin-Denpasar route.

"The Territory's new Aviation Director, Justin Vaughan joined me in these discussions, and will continue to work and engage with Indonesian Government representatives and Garuda Indonesia."

Dr Burns also met with representatives from the Indonesian Ministry of Transport to gain further support for a return of this important service.

"It is this Government's absolute priority to have the service continue - particularly given the important link this service has with our close Asian neighbour.

"Furthermore I was pleased to have Opposition Leader Terry Mills attend an official function I hosted last night following my discussions with the Indonesian Government.

As I have already stated this is too important an issue and it should be worked in a bi-partisan way in the interests of all Territorians."

**ATTACHMENT 9**

**Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?**

Minister for Justice and Attorney General, Delia Lawrie

Country: Indonesia

Conference/Event: Criminal Lawyers Association Northern Territory Conference

Date of Travel: 7 - 17 May 2009

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
Attend and open the Criminal Lawyers Association Northern Territory Conference.		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Delia Lawrie	Minister for Justice and Attorney General	Attend and open the Criminal Lawyers Association Northern Territory Conference.
Hannah Clee	Justice Advisor	Support and advise the Minister.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip? - Nil</b>		

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials? \$5,688**

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not? No, but copy of Press Release attached.**

**Delia Lawrie**

MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL

**26 June 2009**

**Attorney-General Opens Criminal Law Conference**

Attorney-General Delia Lawrie will attend the Criminal Lawyers Association of the Northern Territory conference in Bali which kicks off with registration and the official function tomorrow.

Ms Lawrie today said over 150 legal professionals and commentators from the Territory and around Australia were expected to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> biennial conference with presentations and workshops covering a range of legal issues.

“The Territory conference has evolved over more than two decades to be the most significant national gathering of criminal lawyers,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The conferences have consistently provided a strong critique of the law and its administration, as well as performing a powerful advocacy role in law reform.

“Delivering an effective and fair criminal justice system has always been one of the touchstone issues in democratic society, and reflects a desire to live in safe communities balanced with the ability for an accused to have a fair trial.

“Above all – and most importantly – we need to have a criminal justice system in which the public has confidence.

“My opening address at the CLANT conference on Monday morning will be from the perspective of a legislator and first law officer who is determined to deliver an effective criminal justice system in the Territory.

“This year’s theme *Criminal Justice – Diagnosis Terminal?* is particularly relevant to the Northern Territory as our criminal law has undergone major reform in the past eight years.

“The Territory Labor Government has implemented significant change to improve the Territory’s criminal justice system with a particular focus on sentencing, domestic violence, legal process, criminal procedure, juvenile justice and treatment in custody.

“Budget 09 delivers \$21 million for headworks for the new 1000-bed Doug Owston Correctional Facility and \$3.3 million for more magistrates, more prosecutors and court staff and security.”

CLANT President John B. Lawrence said it was very important for the Attorney-General to attend and hear directly about the issues facing the Territory justice system.

“The legal profession appreciates the Territory’s first law officer being available to hear our views and explain the direction of the Government,” Mr Lawrence said.

Ms Lawrie will open the conference on Monday morning before returning to Darwin that night.

**Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?**

Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources, Kon Vatskalis

Country: China

Conference/Event: NT Investment Seminar's

Date of Travel: 10 - 16 May 2009

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
<p>Component of Cabinet approved China Mineral Investment Attraction Strategy to promote investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects. Activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with Jiangsu Provincial Government.</li> <li>• NT Investment Seminar with Shanghai Liangxi Chamber of Commerce.</li> <li>• NT Investment Seminar with Shanghai Wenzhou Chamber of Commerce.</li> <li>• Meetings with 17 Chinese companies.</li> </ul>		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Kon Vatskalis	Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources	To promote investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Richard Galton	Chief Executive, Department of Resources	To promote over 30 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
David Money	Senior Ministerial Adviser	To advise Minister Vatskalis.
Steve Tatzenko	Director Resource Development	To promote over 30 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Dorothy Close	Senior Geologist	To promote over 30 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Guanhua Gao	Senior China Business Adviser	To promote over 30 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Lisa Mutch	Business Development Manager	To promote investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.

<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip? ie. NT Business delegation (delegation's itinerary included Japan with Minister Burns)</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Simon Mitchell	Business Development Manager, Toro Energy
John Heugh	Managing Director, Central Petroleum
Dr Henry Jan Askin	Chairman, Central Petroleum
Barbara McInnes	Austwide Mining Services
Karl Lindsay Parks	CSA Global
Alan Cao	SRA - translator
Margaret Michaels	Partner, Clayton Utz
Barry Irwin	Partner, Clayton Utz
Michael Parshall	Clayton Utz
Julia Zhu	Clayton Utz
William Zhang	Clayton Utz
Nigel Adlam	NT News reporter

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials? \$67,778**

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not? Yes, Ministerial Report (extract from Hansard) attached.**

## **MINISTERIAL REPORT**

**Mr VATSKALIS MLA**

**Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources**

*Extract from Hansard, 11/06/2009*

Madam Speaker, I report on my recent trip to China, leading a delegation as part of the government's China Minerals Investment Attraction Strategy.

I led the delegation to China, accompanied by five departmental and 10 industry representatives from Toro Energy, Central Petroleum, Austwide Mining, CSA Global, SRA Corporation, and Clayton Utz. Between 10 and 16 May 2009, we visited Nanjing and Shanghai. After the Chinese leg of the visit, a delegation led by my ministerial colleague, Dr Chris Burns, with five departmental advisors and eight industry representatives, travelled to Tokyo between 18 and 20 May.

The Northern Territory government's China Minerals Investment Attraction Strategy is the envy of other Australian jurisdictions and is delivering real results and jobs for Territorians. The visit has made it clear that the Northern Territory maintains its competitive advantage in the Chinese market over other Australian jurisdictions, as we are the only jurisdiction that actively collates and promotes local exploration projects for investors. This initiative enabled the team to match a number of Chinese companies to specific commodity interests.

Last November, when the team visited China, a special book was developed that provided one- to two-page outlines of over 20 projects. For this visit to China and Japan, over 30 exploration projects were collated.

We travelled by train from Shanghai to Nanjing, which is a trip of 300 km. The view from the train was of one big construction site. China has been affected by the global downturn, but it still has economic growth of around 6%. In Nanjing I met with Li Xiaomin, the Vice Governor of the Jiangsu provincial government. Jiangsu Province has around 74 million people and is one of the richest provinces in China. Its capital, Nanjing, is home to some of China's biggest private and public investment companies.

In Nanjing, I also met with the East China Exploration and Development Bureau which recently signed a joint venture agreement with Arafura Resources to invest \$24m to obtain 25% shareholding. The city of Nanjing in China and the community of Ti Tree in Central Australia could not be more different, but now they have a connection. Investment from the East China Exploration and Development Bureau will create real jobs in Ti Tree.

In Shanghai, the delegation presented to a large group of investors. The Territory ran the first-ever Northern Territory investment seminar in Shanghai, attracting over 40 people. The seminars were hosted by Shanghai, Jiangxi Chamber of Commerce and the Shanghai Wenzhou Chamber of Commerce. The Territory currently has a cooperation agreement with the China Chamber of Commerce Metals and Minerals and China Mining Association, and a memorandum of understanding with the China Development Bank. The new relationship established with the Shanghai, Jiangxi and Wenzhou Chambers of Commerce expands our presence into east China and increases the Territory's network significantly.

The trips to both China and Japan were very successful. Several agreements between Territory mining operations and Chinese investors are on the brink of being formalised, and there will be delegations from both countries in the Territory in the near future to follow up on contracts made during this visit. I can positively say that there will be new explorers and mining operations in the Territory as a direct result of this visit, something that in these difficult financial times will be very good for the Territory.

Last week, we had the Chinese Ambassador to Australia, Mr Zhang Junsai, in town. I met with him five times at various events, meetings and functions. He reiterated the great potential for China and the Territory to cooperate on resources. We talked about investments made to date, and also the enormous opportunities.

Under the Henderson government, the Territory is open for business and our relationship with China is stronger than ever.

**Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?**

Minister for Asian Relations and Trade, Dr Chris Burns

Country: Vietnam, Singapore, and Japan

Date of Travel: 12 - 20 May 2009

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
<p>Northern Territory Government official visit to Singapore, Vietnam and Japan to maximise new trade opportunities, promote local industry capability directly to potential major investors and continue to strengthen bilateral relations with governments in our region.</p> <p>Component of approved Japan Mineral Investment Attraction Strategy to promote investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects. Activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> NT Investment Seminar at Australian Embassy run in conjunction with Australian Embassy, Austrade &amp; JOGMEC - Minister Burns presented opening speech. Department staff presented over 30 projects. Industry presented their projects.</li> <li>• Meetings with 17 Japanese companies (Departmental representatives only).</li> </ul>		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Dr Chris Burns	Minister for Asian Relations and Trade	Maximise new trade opportunities; promote local industry capability directly to potential major investors; continue to strengthen bilateral relations with governments in our region; promote investment opportunities; and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Brian O’Gallagher (Japan only)	Executive Director, Major Projects, Asian Relations and Trade – Department of the Chief Minister	Maximise new trade opportunities, promote local industry capability directly to potential major investors (in particular INPEX) and continue to strengthen bilateral relations with Japan.
Richard Galton (Japan only)	Chief Executive, Department of Resources	To promote over 30 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Jeff Stewart	Director – Trade and Investment	Maximise new trade opportunities, promote local industry capability directly to potential major investors and continue to strengthen bilateral relations with governments in Vietnam, Singapore and Japan.



Charlie Phillips	Senior Policy Advisor to the Chief Minister	Accompany the Minister and advise on policy related matters.
Steve Tatzenko (Japan only)	Director Resource Development	To promote over 30 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Dr Ian Scrimgeour (Japan only)	Director Geological Survey	To promote over 30 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Dorothy Close (Japan only)	Senior Geologist	To promote over 30 investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Cindy McIntyre (Japan only)	Business Development Officer	To promote investment opportunities and attract investment in Northern Territory exploration and mining development projects.
Thai Thanh Tung (Vietnam only)	International Relations Officer	Strengthen bilateral ties with Vietnam and assist the Minister and delegation.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip? Japan only</b> ie. NT Business delegation (delegation's itinerary included China with Minister Vatskalis)		
<b>Name</b>		<b>Position</b>
Simon Mitchell		Business Development Manager, Toro Energy
John Heugh		Managing Director, Central Petroleum
Dr Henry Jan Askin		Chairman, Central Petroleum
Paul Burton		Exploration Director, TNG Limited
Lindsay Dudfield		Executive Director, Energy Metals
Karl Lindsay Parks		GSA Global
Barry Irwin		Partner, Clayton Utz
Hiroyuki Kano		Clayton Utz
Elizabeth Burns		Minister's wife

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials? \$104,378**

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not? Yes, Ministerial Report (extract from Hansard) attached.**

**MINISTERIAL REPORT**  
**Dr BURNS MLA**  
**Minister for Asian Relations and Trade**  
*Extract from Hansard, 09/06/2009*

Madam Speaker, today I inform members of the outcome of my trade mission to Singapore, Vietnam and Japan over the period 12 to 20 May 2009.

As the Minister for Trade, Asian Relations, Tourism and Business, this mission was strategically developed to maximise new trade opportunities, promote local industry capability directly to potential major investors, and to continue to strengthen bilateral relations with governments in our region.

In Singapore, I met with Australia's High Commissioner and discussed a range of potential investment and trade opportunities. An immediate opportunity which will be vigorously pursued is to stage a Northern Territory Oil and Gas Seminar in Singapore to attract investment and partnerships with local businesses involved in this sector. The High Commissioner stated that, despite the global financial crisis, there remained many 'cashed-up' Singaporean companies looking to expand, and Australia is seen positively and as a favoured country. Evidence of this opportunity is Singaporean companies like Keppel Offshore and Marine, one of the world's largest offshore and marine groups, visited Darwin earlier this month and met with the Chief Minister. Discussions with the Chief Minister centered on establishing an oil and gas service point in Darwin, and directly working with existing Territory-based businesses to do so. This is a real opportunity and we will be progressing with the full support of the Australian High Commission in Singapore.

My next destination was Vietnam. Vietnam is an exciting country that continues to grow. We see Vietnam as an emerging market of great potential for the Territory; in particular, live cattle exports, tourism, international education and sporting links were directly progressed. I am pleased to state live cattle exports direct to Vietnam are expected to commence around September this year. This has been the culmination of extensive collaboration between the Territory government and private industry to open this new market. I congratulate all concerned, and look forward to hearing how this trade progresses. I commend the minister for Primary Industry and his department.

International education was another positive outcome. During my meeting with the Phuong Nam Company, it was announced it would send more of its senior staff to Charles Darwin University in 2009 to undertake hospitality and English language training. Again, this was the culmination of work initiated between the government and the university, and whilst a small start, it continues to grow well.

In terms of tourism, Vice Minister Ai and I have agreed to investigate opportunities to expand two way visitations between our jurisdictions, building on the aviation links between Darwin and Ho Chi Minh City.

In Japan, the mission was twofold. First, to promote local industry capability directly to INPEX to ensure Territory based businesses benefit from the potential \$12bn onshore development, and promote mineral investment opportunities in the Territory to major Japanese investment and trading companies. During my meeting with INPEX I spoke

directly with President Kuroda and the Managing Director of INPEX Browse Limited, Mr Jiro Okada, and presented the case for Territory business, which was well received. I stressed by using the Northern Territory Industry Capability Network, INPEX would have extensive experience and proven Territory industry capability at their fingertips. I also stressed this organisation has been successful in delivering other major projects in the Territory, such as the AustralAsia Railway and the ConocoPhillips Darwin LPG plant.

In Japan, I had the opportunity to view the impressive gas to liquid demonstration plant and receive briefings from senior JOGMEC officials.

In Tokyo, I was very pleased to open the Northern Territory Investment Seminar, the second one to be held, at the Australian Embassy, promoting over 40 Northern Territory exploration projects ready for investments. I was also pleased to directly support Northern Territory companies and others which had travelled to Tokyo for this seminar, such as Toro Energy, Central Petroleum, TNG Limited, Energy Metals, CSA Global and Clayton Utz. I look forward to hearing of future successful investment, and there are some follow-ups occurring due to that seminar.

Despite the uncertain economic conditions globally, there remains many opportunities for new trade, and these Asian countries are taking a longer term perspective on their relationship with the Northern Territory. It is my priority, as the responsible minister, to work hard to exploit these opportunities and turn them into real and tangible economic outcomes for Territorians.

**ATTACHMENT 12**

**Q2/8: What country/conference/event did which Minister visit and for how long?**

Chief Minister, Paul Henderson

Country: Timor-Leste

Conference/Event: Timor-Leste / Northern Territory Ministerial Forum

Date of Travel: 27 - 28 May 2009

<b>Q3.: Why were the visits undertaken</b>		
Participate in the inaugural Timor-Leste / Northern Territory Ministerial Forum.		
<b>Q4/9: Which government officials attended the Ministers on trips/conferences/events and why?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason for Participation</b>
Paul Henderson	Chief Minister	Participate and co-chair Timor-Leste / Northern Territory Ministerial Forum and strengthen bilateral relations between the nations.
Chris Burns	Minister for Asian Relations and Trade	Participate in the inaugural Timor-Leste / Northern Territory Ministerial Forum.
Rob Knight	Minister for Public Employment	Participate in the inaugural Timor-Leste / Northern Territory Ministerial Forum.
Brendan Doran	Director Asian Relations – Department of the Chief Minister	Facilitate the visit and assist the Ministers.
Charlie Phillips	Senior Ministerial Advisor	Coordinating and assisting the official delegation.
Geoff Fraser	Media Advisor	Monitored and coordinated the media.
Dennis Schulz	Editor – Territory Quarterly	Research for the Territory Quarterly.
Margarida de Araujo	Senior Policy Officer – Asian Relations	Coordinating community, business and education delegations.
Sally McDonald	Senior Policy Officer – Asian Relations	Coordinating community, business and education delegations.
<b>Q5: What industry people attend which trip?</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	
Nicholas Calacouras	Reporter – NT News	
Clive Hyde	Cameraman - NT News	

**Q7: What was the cost of each Ministerial trip for the Minister and accompanying government officials?** \$31,910

**Q6/10: Were reports done after each trip/attendance at events and if so, can a copy be obtained; if no reports were compiled, why not?** Yes, Ministerial Report (extract from Hansard) attached.

## **MINISTERIAL REPORT**

**The Hon Paul Henderson MLA**

**Chief Minister**

*Extract from Hansard, 09/06/2009*

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure I report on my recent visit Timor-Leste on 27 and 28 May this year. I was accompanied by the Minister for Asian Relations and Trade, and the Minister for Public Employment, and led a 60-strong delegation. The delegation comprising government, community, education and business representatives was the largest delegation to visit Timor-Leste since the country's independence in 2002. It included the Lord Mayor of Darwin, the Vice Chancellor of Charles Darwin University, the Director of the Menzies School of Health, the President of the Chamber of Commerce Northern Territory, and the CEO of the Northern Territory Football Federation.

The size of the group demonstrates the depth of our existing relationship with Timor-Leste and the potential for further growth. Timor-Leste is a small but fast growing economy and the Territory is well positioned to take advantage of trade and investment opportunities to the benefit of both jurisdictions.

The principal reason for my visit was to participate in the inaugural Timor-Leste/Northern Territory Ministerial Forum which I co-chaired with the Acting Prime Minister, Mr Jose Luis Guterres. The ministerial forum, established to promote and monitor government, community and business interaction, was attended by the two ministers accompanying me and a number of Timorese ministers. We reviewed cooperation on many fronts with particular focus on the internship scheme to build capacity within the Timorese civil service.

Later in the visit I had the opportunity to meet the first four officials who will commence their assignments in Darwin next month. At the conclusion of the forum I hosted a lunch to enable the accompanying delegation to meet and discuss their interests with the Acting Prime Minister and other ministers and senior officials who participated in the forum. The next ministerial forum is tentatively scheduled for November this year in Dili.

With the Acting Prime Minister Guterres, I had the pleasure of opening the Northern Territory Business Seminar in Timor-Leste which was co-chaired by the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr George Roussos, and the Vice President of the Business Forum of Timor-Leste, Mr Vincente Ximenes.

The aim of the seminar was to promote and strengthen business interaction across a range of sectors. The seminar, attended by up to 120 people, provided a good venue for the business communities of Timor-Leste, including Australians operating in the country, and the Northern Territory, to come together to develop new contacts, or renew existing ones, and discuss opportunities.

Time prevents me from discussing in detail each appointment and event in my program, so I will only mention a few. I met with the Minister of Health, the Minister of Education and Culture, and the Secretary of State for Vocational Training and Employment to discuss the education and training opportunities the Territory has to

offer to a nation with a high percentage of the population under the age of 25. During the visit, Charles Darwin University and the Menzies School of Health Research jointly offered two PhD scholarships for Timorese students in the health field, fully funded with a significant stipend as well. I presented competency certificates awarded by Darwin-based training provider ICAE to PDL Toll hospitality employees.

I also had a productive discussion with the President of Timor-Leste, Dr Jose Ramos-Horta whom I presented with a signed shirt from the Casuarina Football Club – it has been a bit of a football day today – which has close ties with the country, and of which I am patron.

The Northern Territory and Timor-Leste are developing a rich sporting friendship which was demonstrated by the large Timorese contingent of 120 players and officials attending the Arafura Games last month. Timor-Leste won gold in the Under 18 men's football competition, repeating their success in the Timor Sea Cup in September 2008. With football such a passion in Timor-Leste and an ideal way to develop community relations, it gave me great satisfaction to offer two football scholarships as part of the inaugural Northern Territory Institute of Sport football program to commence in 2010. I thank my colleague, the Sports minister, for assisting me in that effort.

During my visit, I also had the honour to meet with Darwin-based troops serving in Dili and Baucau, as well as a young volunteer with the Belun NGO and was able to pass on our appreciation to these Territorians who are doing a magnificent job in Timor-Leste. The visit to the troops in Dili and Baucau was very special. To meet with those young soldiers, have lunch with them, and talk to them about the great contribution they have made over the last eight months, away from family and friends in Darwin and elsewhere in Australia, was an enormously rewarding experience for all of us. Our soldiers are doing a wonderful job in Timor-Leste and they are committed to working with the people to build peace in that country and to share their expertise - they are a fine body of young men and women, and very fine Australians.

My thanks to the Australian Ambassador and his staff, and to officials from my department for the support provided to make this visit such a success.

The Timorese community is a significant community group in the Northern Territory. They form an important component in what is a unique and long-enduring relationship with Timor-Leste. Our friendship will continue to grow as government, community, education, and business interactions strengthen and expand. I commend the report to the Assembly.