

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

7th Assembly

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139.

Ujung Pandung Trade Zone

Ms. HICKEY to MINISTER for ASIAN RELATIONS TRADE and INDUSTRY

QUESTION

1. What action is currently planned to promote the Trade Zone Partnership agreement between Darwin and Ujung Pandung.

ANSWER

Answered on 22/01/97

The Trade Development Zone Authority uses every opportunity to market the benefits of Trade Zone Partnerships and Memoranda of Cooperation and Understandings it has entered into. At present these Agreements are referred to in our brochure material, in briefings given to potential investors and in information passed through general inquiries.

Each of these Agreements is designed for the long term, with relationships being the primary goal, and direct investment, the outcome. In 1997 the Trade Development Zone Authority has planned to re-visit its contacts with each of those organisations with which some agreement has been made.

The initial success of the Trade Zone Partnership with the Makassar Industrial Estate, at Ujung Pandung, was an investment by a Darwin timber/hardware distributor who established an operation in the Export Processing Zone component of the Makassar Industrial Estate. This operation was for the processing of timber product for the Australian and Asia-Pacific markets. It is our understanding that this operation was later sold to a large British corporation.

All parties to the Trade Zone Partnership continue to pursue opportunities which will be beneficial to each respective Trade Zone. Since the commencement of this Trade Zone Partnership several industry types which were considered suitable investments for each of the respective Zones, were pursued without success. Working parties in both Darwin and Indonesia were established to pursue all opportunities under both the Trade Zone Partnership and the Memorandum of Understanding which was established with the Republic of Indonesia.

The Trade Development Zone Authority views these types of Agreements as crucial to the future of the Trade Development Zone and the development of the Northern Territory.