

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Question Number: 1-20

Output Number: Opening Statement

Date: 7/12/2020

From: Ms Lia Finocchiaro

To: Hon Michael Gunner

Portfolio: Chief Minister

Agency: Chief Minister and Cabinet

Subject: Tabled copy of the document signed during the October 2019 visit to Shenzhen, China

QUESTION:

Chief Minister, will you table a copy of the document you signed during the October 2019 visit to Shenzhen with the Chinese official on behalf of Territorians?

ANSWER:

A copy of the document is provided at **Attachment A**.



FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION

BETWEEN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AUSTRALIA, AND SHENZHEN EDUCATION BUREAU, CHINA

BACKGROUND

The Northern Territory Department of Education, Australia, and Shenzhen Education Bureau, China, held discussions in late 2018 and early 2019 regarding opportunities to grow the relationship between the Northern Territory and Shenzhen through mutually beneficial education activities, exchange and programs.

PURPOSE

The Framework for Cooperation formalises the wishes of the Northern Territory Department of Education and Shenzhen Education Bureau, to work together to promote closer relations between the Northern Territory and China, and the Northern Territory and Shenzhen. Through the Framework for Cooperation both parties will cooperate, consistent with laws and existing treaties of their respective countries, to:

- strengthen cooperation and mutual understanding between our education systems
- identify and participate in mutually beneficial educational activities and programs.

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

Activities and programs under the Framework for Cooperation might include:

- **teacher and student exchange** through which one or more teachers or students spends an agreed length of time at the overseas school
- **educational tours** that enable students and/or teachers to visit the partner country for short stays to engage in activities that build, for example, language, cultural, and historical knowledge and understanding
- **school partnerships (sister schools)** that contribute to exchange and understanding, acknowledge the importance of learning with and from others, and benefit students and/or staff at both schools. School partnerships might focus on:
 - online communications and learning activities for students and/or teachers
 - Chinese/English language teaching and learning
 - online or face-to-face teacher professional learning
 - excursions to the partner school.

Activities and programs under the framework will be formalised in separate agreements.

GOVERNANCE

Activities and programs under this framework will be coordinated through the Northern Territory Department of Education, and Shenzhen Education Bureau.

Representatives of both parties will oversee the Framework for Cooperation.



REPORTING

Representatives of both parties will contribute to an annual report of activities conducted under the Framework for Cooperation, which will be provided to the Northern Territory Department of Education and Shenzhen Education Bureau.

REVIEW

Representatives will endeavour to meet at least annually, either face to face or by teleconference, to assess progress under this framework.

RENEWAL

The framework may be revised at any time by mutual consent. If either party proposes to terminate the Framework for Cooperation, three months written notice of intent to terminate must be provided to the other party.

In case of conflict between Chinese and English versions, both parties will negotiate a mutually agreeable resolution.

SIGNATORIES

For the Northern Territory Department of Education:



Vicki Baylis

Chief Executive

Date: 11/10/2019

For Shenzhen Bureau of Education:



Su Guan

2019.10.24.

Counselor

Date: _/_/2019

Witnessed by



The Hon Michael Gunner MLA

Chief Minister of the Northern Territory,
Australia

Date: _/_/2019