

# **AGENDA**

# International Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, 27 March 2024

I hereby give notice that an International Relations Advisory Committee

Meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, 27 March 2024

Time: 11:00 AM

**Location: Council Chambers (Darrandirra)** 

Level 1, Civic Centre

Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin

Webcasting:

Simone Saunders
Chief Executive Officer

#### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Right Worshipful, the Chairperson Kon Vatskalis

Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Austrade, Territory Liaison Advisor Daniel Hall

Chamber of Commerce NT, Chief Executive Officer Greg Ireland

Charles Darwin University, Vice-President Global and External Shannon Holborn

City of Darwin, General Manager Innovation Alice Percy

Darwin International Airport, Chief Executive Officer Tony Edmondstone

Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Drew Boekel

Department of Tourism, Industry and Trade, General Manager Luis Da Rocha

Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

Port of Darwin, Chief Executive Officer Peter Dummett

Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden

Alternate Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

#### **OFFICERS**

Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development, Emma Struys

Manager of Economic Development and International Relations, Cherry Cai

# **Order Of Business**

1	Meeting Declared Open			
2	Acknowledgement of Country			
3	Apologies and Leave of Absence			
4	Electronic Attendance			
5	Declaration of Interest			
6	Confirmation of Previous Minutes			
7	Actions Arising From Previous Minutes			
8	Presentations			
9	Officer Reports			
	9.1	Update on Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou	6	
	9.2	Lord Mayor China Trip update	7	
	9.3	Update on Friendship City proposal with the City of Ho Chi Minh	10	
	9.4	2023/24 Sister Cities Action Plan and budget update	11	
10	Member Reports			
	10.1	Joetsu Japan Trip Update	13	
11	<b>Gene</b> i Nil	ral Business	16	
12	Next I	Meeting	16	
13	Closure of Meeting			

1	MEETING DECLARED OPEN
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2	ACKNOWI	EDCEMENT	<b>OF COUNTRY</b>
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- 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
- 3.1 Apologies
- 3.2 Leave of Absence
- 3.3 Leave of Absence Notified
- 4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE
- 4.1 Electronic Attendance
- 4.2 Electronic Attendance Notified
- 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST
- 6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

International Relations Advisory Committee - 29 November 2023

7

**ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES** 

8

**PRESENTATIONS** 

#### 9 OFFICER REPORTS

#### 9.1 UPDATE ON FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL WITH THE CITY OF QUANZHOU

Author: Manager International Business Relations

Authoriser: Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development

Attachments: Nil

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Update on Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou be received and noted.

#### **PURPOSE**

This report is to provide an update on Council's resolution following their consideration of the Friendship City proposal with City of Quanzhou from the Sister City Advisory Committee.

Council resolved at the ordinary meeting on 6 February 2024 not to support the Friendship City proposal with the City of Quanzhou.

This decision gave consideration to limited resources and City of Darwin already has Sister and Friendship City relationships with multiple cities in China, including Guangzhou, Haikou, Shenzhen and Qingdao.

City of Darwin is looking for a diverse Sister/Friendship City network that will complement the existing links to Darwin's multicultural communities.

The International Relations Advisory Committee can view the Report and Resolution for details by accessing the Ordinary Council Meeting's <u>Agendas and Minutes | City of Darwin | Darwin Council</u>, Northern Territory on 6 February 2024.

Item 9.1 Page 6

#### 9.2 LORD MAYOR CHINA TRIP UPDATE

Author: Manager International Business Relations

Authoriser: Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development

Attachments: Nil

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled Lord Mayor China Trip Update be received and noted.

#### **Exciting developments in Darwin-China relations**

Since 1982, City of Darwin has been fostering global relationships, welcoming delegations, and enhancing economic opportunities.

Late last year, Lord Mayor the Hon. Kon Vatskalis visited Southern China to attend a conference and while he was there, took the opportunity to meet with different parties and continue discussions, strengthening opportunities for economic, trade, cultural education, and tourism.

#### A few trip highlights include:

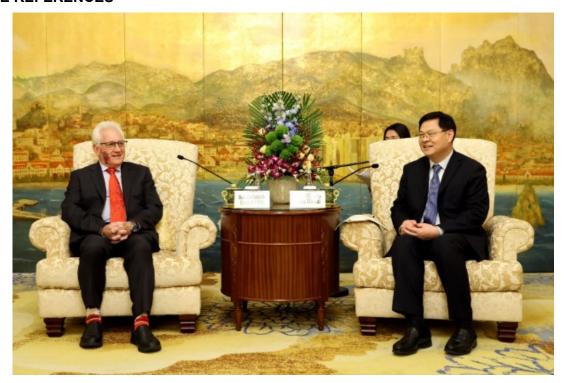
- Meeting with Guangzhou Municipal Cultural, Radio, Television, and Tourism Bureau to discuss tourism promotion.
- Conversations towards resuming direct flights and trade links between Shenzhen and Darwin.
- Promoting Darwin as a prime destination to Hainan Airlines (a top airline in China).
- Discussions of free trade opportunities for Darwin businesses from the Haikou Free Trade Zone with Sister City Haikou Municipal Government.
- Renewal of Friendship City Agreement with Qingdao Municipal Government.
- Appearance on Talk with Claire TV in Shenzhen, promoting Darwin to an audience of one billion people.
- Lord Mayor's trip to China received substantial positive coverage from more than 10 national and city-level media. The positive message contributes to developing a closer relationship with China and promoting Darwin as a destination to visit and do business.

The visit will potentially result in a few upcoming delegations to Darwin from China, including:

- the Director General and the Tourism Promotion team from Guangzhou Municipal Cultural, Radio, Television, and Tourism Bureau in late April
- Qingdao Municipal Government delegation, and
- performance group exchange program between Guangzhou and Darwin to be developed.

Item 9.2 Page 7

# **IMAGE REFERENCES**





Item 9.2 Page 8





Item 9.2 Page 9

#### 9.3 UPDATE ON FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL WITH THE CITY OF HO CHI MINH

Author: Manager International Business Relations

Authoriser: Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development

Attachments: Nil

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled Update on Friendship City proposal with the City of Ho Chi Minh be received and noted.

THAT International Relations Advisory Committee recommends City of Darwin officers to include the cooperation areas in the Memorandum of Understanding of Friendship City relationship between Darwin and Ho Chi Minh, as detailed in this report.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Friendship City proposal with City of Ho Chi Minh.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Council resolved on 15 August 2023 for City of Darwin officers to pursue a Friendship City relationship with Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam.

#### **UPDATE**

Ho Chin Minh City responded on 4 December 2023 outlining their interest in establishing a Friendship City relationship with City of Darwin. Mr Phan Van Mai, Chairman of Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee is delighted to see the strategic partnership between Vietnam and Australia continue to grow. Ho Chi Minh City enjoys good relations with several Australian states and cities such as New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and the Gold Coast.

Ho Chi Minh City believes that the Friendship City relationship between Ho Chi Minh and Darwin will facilitate cooperation and generate mutual benefits for the Vietnamese and Australian communities in the following areas:

- Investment and Trade
- Cultural exchange
- Education and training
- Tourism
- Innovation

The City of Ho Chi Minh is seeking feedback from City of Darwin to establish the areas for cooperation to work together in the future. These areas for cooperation will form the basis of the Memorandum of Understanding of Friendship City relationship between Darwin and Ho Chi Minh.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

To formalise the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Ho Chi Minh with a signing program to be developed in due course.

Item 9.3 Page 10

#### 9.4 2023/24 SISTER CITIES ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET UPDATE

Author: Manager International Business Relations

Authoriser: Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development

Attachments: Nil

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled 2023/24 Sister Cities Action Plan and budget update be received and noted.

Council endorsed the first Sister Cities Action Plan 2023/24 at the Ordinary Meeting on 26 April 2023.

New project proposals were discussed at the last Sister City Advisory Committee meeting on 29 November 2023 and will be considered to be part of the 2024/25 Sister Cities Action Plan.

#### **Actions updates**

Tasks/ Projects Scope/Deliverables	Status	Cost	Completed date
Darwin International Dragon Boat Festival and Darwin International Trade Show	Completed	\$12,000	3-5 June 2023
International Women's Day Walk 2023	Completed	\$1,428	4 March 2023
Sister City performances at Darwin Festival 2023	Completed	\$2,200	12-27 August 2023
Sponsor the Darwin to Ambon Yacht	Completed	\$8,000	5-12 August 2023
International Women's Day Walk 2024	Completed	\$1016.31	2 March 2024
Supports the schools in Dili	Completed	N/A	2024
Provision of \$9,000 for a potential project to Milikapiti	Ongoing/on hold	\$9,000	2024
Sponsor the Dili to Darwin Yacht Rally	Not go ahead	\$8,000	N/A
Kalymnos Scholarship program	ongoing	\$12,000	30 June 2024
Darwin Sister City Award – Visual Storytelling Photography Competition	ongoing	\$7,000	30 June 2024

Item 9.4 Page 11

The total budget for July 2022 to June 2024 is \$84,000 for the Sister City Program. The current expenditure is \$24,644 of the \$84,000. There is \$28,000 of existing project costs to be spent this financial year. The amount remaining is \$39,356. City of Darwin officers are planning projects including the Sister Cities signage update at the Mall, a Darwin Virtual Reality project and a welcome or farewell function for Sister City guests from the Australia China Friendship Society National Conference. The estimated cost of these projects equates to the remaining budget.

Item 9.4 Page 12

#### 10 MEMBER REPORTS

#### 10.1 JOETSU JAPAN TRIP UPDATE

Author: Manager International Business Relations

Authoriser: Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development

Attachments: Nil

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Joetsu Japan Trip Update be received and noted.

This report is to be presented by the General Manager Innovation, City of Darwin

#### **BACKGROUND**

At the Ordinary Meeting on 16 November 2021, the Council resolved to connect with the Mayor of Joetsu to commence negotiations on forming a Friendship City relationship with Joetsu, Japan.

General Manager Innovation, City of Darwin Dr Alice Percy, paid a return visit to Joetsu Japan and had a meeting with the Mayor of Joetsu and the team on 12 March 2024.

#### **UPDATE**

The visit focused on further discussing the proposed Friendship City relationship, areas for cooperation, and information on Darwin in Joetsu.

As part of the trip, Alice promoted Darwin to the Mayor of Joetsu and the management team as a destination to visit, live, work, and invest.

Item 10.1 Page 13

## **IMAGE REFERENCES**





Item 10.1 Page 14



Item 10.1 Page 15

# 11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

## 12 **NEXT MEETING**

27 May 2024 11:00 am

## 13 CLOSURE OF MEETING



# **MINUTES**

International Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, 29 November 2023

# MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN ON WEDNESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 11:00 AM

**PRESENT:** Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Chamber of Commerce NT, Chief Executive Officer Greg Ireland

Charles Darwin University, Vice President Shannon Holborn

City of Darwin, General Manager Innovation Alice Percy

Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Drew Boekel

Port of Darwin, Chief Executive Officer Peter Dummett

Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden

**OFFICERS:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development Emma Struys

Manager Economic Development & International Relations Cherry Cai

**APOLOGY:** Darwin International Airport, Chief Executive Officer Tony Edmondstone

Department of Tourism, Industry and Trade, General Manager Luis Da Rocha

Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

Austrade, Territory Liaison Advisor Daniel Hall

GUESTS: Nil

# **Order Of Business**

1	Meetii	ng Declared Open	4	
2	Acknowledgement of Country			
3	Apologies & Leave Of Absence			
4	Electronic Attendance			
5	Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff			
6	Confirmation of Previous Minutes			
7	Action	ns Arising from Previous Minutes	5	
8		ntations		
9	Officer Reports			
	9.1	Friendship City Proposal from Vyas Municipality, Gandaki, Nepal	5	
	9.2	City of Joetsu friendship city proposal update	5	
	9.3	Sister City Agreement Update with Tiwi Islands Regional Council		
	9.4	Discover Darwin Linkedin Marketing Plan		
	9.5	Mayor's Forum Travel Update	6	
	9.6	City of Darwin International Relations Update	6	
	9.7	Youth Group visit from Kampala Capital City Council, Uganda	6	
10	Member Reports			
	10.1	Friendship City proposal with the City of Quanzhou	7	
	10.2	Members Verbal Updates		
11	Gener	ral Business	8	
	Nil			
12	Next I	Meeting	8	

#### 1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

Councillor Brian O'Gallagher declared the meeting open at 11:08 am.

#### 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

#### 3 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### 3.1 Apologies

Darwin International Airport, Chief Executive Officer Tony Edmondstone
Department of Tourism, Industry and Trade, General Manager Luis Da Rocha
Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah
Austrade, Territory Liaison Advisor Daniel Hall

- 3.2 Leave of Absence
- 3.3 Leave of Absence Notified

Nil

#### 4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

Nil

#### 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

- 5.1 Declaration of Interest by Members
- 5.2 Declaration of Interest by Staff

#### 6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC023/23**

Moved: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan Seconded: Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff

That the minutes of the International Relations Advisory Committee held on 16 August 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED 10/0

#### 7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

#### 8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

#### 9 OFFICER REPORTS

#### 9.1 FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL FROM VYAS MUNICIPALITY, GANDAKI, NEPAL

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC024/23**

Moved: Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden

Seconded: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

THAT the report entitled Friendship City Proposal from Vyas Municipality, Gandaki, Nepal be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee provides support and recommends City of Darwin to proceed the research process to consider the Friendship city proposal from Vyas Municipality, Gandaki Nepal.

**CARRIED 10/0** 

#### 9.2 CITY OF JOETSU FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL UPDATE

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC025/23**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

THAT the report entitled City of Joetsu Friendship City Proposal Update be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee provide feedback and comments on the information to be included in the meeting with the Mayor of Joetsu in March 2024.

**CARRIED 10/0** 

The Lord Mayor arrived at 11:15 am and chaired the meeting. Councillor Brian O'Gallagher finished the chairing.

#### 9.3 SISTER CITY AGREEMENT UPDATE WITH TIWI ISLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC026/23**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

THAT the report entitled Sister City Agreement Update with Tiwi Islands Regional Council be received and noted.

CARRIED 10/0

#### 9.4 DISCOVER DARWIN LINKEDIN MARKETING PLAN

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC027/23

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden

THAT the report entitled Discover Darwin LinkedIn Marketing Plan be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee members leverage Discover Darwin

LinkedIn to connect to businesses and the community from our Sister and Friendship cities and promote Darwin to international markets by providing information focusing on live, study, work and invest in Darwin.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee provided the following comments:

- Our town video is great. Video script can be translated into multiple language, and
- Charles Darwin University will support the promotion

**CARRIED 10/0** 

#### 9.5 MAYOR'S FORUM TRAVEL UPDATE

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC028/23**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff

THAT the report entitled Mayor's Forum Travel Update be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee to explore the option to record Lord Mayor's presentation.

**CARRIED 10/0** 

#### 9.6 CITY OF DARWIN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS UPDATE

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC029/23**

Moved: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Seconded: Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden

THAT the report entitled City of Darwin International Relations Update be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee members provide City of Darwin officers with any content they consider appropriate for the next March/April update before 29 February 2024.

CARRIED 10/0

#### 9.7 YOUTH GROUP VISIT FROM KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY COUNCIL, UGANDA

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden

THAT the report entitled Youth Group Visit from Kampala Capital City Council, Uganda be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee to provide the feedback and comments on the visit request from Kampala Capital City Council to Darwin.

**LOST 3/7** 

#### 10 MEMBER REPORTS

#### 10.1 FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL WITH THE CITY OF QUANZHOU

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC030/23**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

That the report be received and noted.

That the International Relations Advisory Committee support the Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou.

**CARRIED 10/0** 

#### 10.2 MEMBERS VERBAL UPDATES

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC031/23**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden

THAT the report entitled Members Verbal Updates be received and noted.

- Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff
  - Conferences and events hosted at DCC over the last three (3) months:
    - 17<sup>th</sup> Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair (August 2023) over 16,000 visitors
    - Puliiima 2023 Conference (August 2023) 1,000 delegates
    - 10<sup>th</sup> SNAICC National Conference (September 2023) 1,850 delegates
    - NT Resources Week (September 2023) 550 delegates
    - 2023 Bridgestone World Solar Challenge (October 2023) 1,000 delegates and visitors
    - 2023 Chief Minister's Awards for Excellence in the Public Sector (October 2023)
       450 pax
    - The 11<sup>th</sup> Aboriginal Economic Development Forum 2023 (November 2023) 450 delegates
    - 2023 NT Brolga Tourism Awards (November 2023) 450 pax

- Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden
  - Darwin Waterfront Corporation won the Major Tourist Attractions award from the 2023 Brolga NT Tourism Awards
  - Northern Territory will be showcased for next year's National Tourism Awards which will be held in Darwin
- City of Darwin, General Manager Innovation Alice Percy
  - City of Darwin 2022 Darwin International Virtual Trade Show won the national award from the Sister Cities Australia for the tourism and trade category
  - The 2023 Darwin International Dragon Boat Festival was nominated for the 2023 Chief Minister's Export Awards
  - City of Darwin won the Chambers Excellence in events/international trade delegation in supporting NT export activities and businesses
  - Lord Mayor The Hon Kon Vatskalis is the Chair of the CCCLM next year
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Drew Boekel
  - Recognised the importance of Southeast Asia, particularly Darwin, which considers itself a city within Southeast Asia
  - The 'Invested: Australia's Southeast Asis Economic Strategy to 2040' provides a practical roadmap to increase Australia's two-way trade and investment in Southeast Asia
    - This report seeks to ensure we are jointly positioned to maximise the potential of our economic ties, from now until 2040, and beyond
  - Wants to work closely with the Northern Territory to ensure a coordinated approach
- Charles Darwin University, Vice-President Global and External Shannon Holborn
  - o Exceeded targets and achieved positive outcomes for 2023
  - Will be visiting seven (7) cities in China in 2024
  - o Will be visiting Vietnam in March 2024
  - o Opening CDU Campus in Darwin CBD by July 2024 for international students
  - Working with interested private developers for student accommodations with a possible target of completion by 2026
- Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan
  - AIBCNT delegation visited Jakarta
  - o AIBC signed MOU with Jakarta CEO Business Group
  - AIBCNT delegation will be travelling to Bali in March 2024 as a follow up meeting with Jakarta delegation

CARRIED 10/0

#### 11 GENERAL BUSINESS

The Committee requested a presentation from Darwin International Airport on the update of the runway development.

# 12 NEXT MEETING

11am 13 March 2024

