



Parliament of Australia

**Parliamentary Delegation
to
the People's Republic of China and
the Republic of Indonesia**

26 August – 7 September 2012

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Members of the Delegation

Hon Alan Griffin MP
Leader of the Delegation

Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck
Deputy Leader of the Delegation

Senator the Hon Ursula Stephens

Mr Rowan Ramsey MP

Mr Peter Stephens
Delegation Secretary

Visit to China

The delegation's visit to the People's Republic of China was part of the official parliamentary exchange agreement with the National People's Congress.

It also provided a timely opportunity to acknowledge the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and China, to reaffirm the importance of the relationship and to canvass areas for future cooperation. Discussions covered a broad range of areas including food security, agricultural cooperation, energy, demographic change, economic development, the two way trade relationship and Chinese investment in Australia.

The bilateral relationship

On 22 December 1972, the newly elected Australian Government reversed the policy of previous years and announced that it recognised 'the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China...'

Thus began a 40 year relationship which has been reaffirmed and strengthened by governments of both political complexions in Australia. Trade and investment, international cooperation, people to people relations through two way tourism, migration, educational and scientific exchanges, and even defence cooperation are part of the fabric of the contemporary relationship between Australia and China.

At the parliamentary level, a Memorandum of Understanding is now in place between the Australian Parliament and the National People's Congress.

Chinese officials consistently emphasised the positive aspects of the bilateral relationship and several expressed the view that the progress in Australia - China

relations has "gone well beyond the expectations of even those who were most optimistic four decades ago".

Ms Wu Xi, Deputy Director-General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, referred to the success of recent high level visits (such as Deputy Prime Minister Hon Wayne Swan, Leader of the Opposition Hon Tony Abbott and Guangdong Party Secretary Wang Yang). She noted that eight of the nine current members of the Politburo Standing Committee had previously visited Australia.

Ms Wu (and others) stressed the importance of the economic ties but also added that Australia's resilience through the Global Financial Crisis was due considerably to China's robust demand for Australia's resources.

But where to from here?

Setting the international context, Ms Wu noted that Australia's relationship with the USA need not be exclusive, but can be complemented by a relationship with China. Maintaining stable and cooperative relations between China and the US was in the interests of all countries in the region and Australia could play a constructive role encouraging both sides to pursue development in the interests of regional peace and stability.

These remarks were echoed by NPC Foreign Affairs Committee Vice Chair Zha who praised Australia's 'far sighted and rational' Asia focus. He said that both Australia and China should strive towards 'multi-level pragmatic engagement'. Globalisation, he said, means that no country can deal with challenges by itself and allows Australia and China to cooperate across a range of policy areas, despite our cultural and other differences.

Australia and China could also work together to improve the international system. International forums, like the G-20, APEC, EAS and the ARF, provide solid opportunities to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on a broad range of issues.

Ms Wu raised concern about any Australian Government support for 'separatism in Taiwan' and 'parliamentary interference in China's internal affairs'. The delegation reiterated Australia's bipartisan support for the One China Policy.

During official discussions at the NPC and Foreign Ministry, the Chinese side said that the bilateral and economic relationship could be strengthened in a number of areas including:

1. Energy alternatives to fossil fuels (as China seeks to increase its reliance on renewable energy)
2. Environmental cooperation
3. Medical and scientific cooperation
4. Education, and
5. Tourism (currently only 600,000 of the estimated 70 million outward bound Chinese tourists visit Australia).

A changing China is likely to see other opportunities emerge. The growing middle class, for example, will see Australian agricultural products increase in popularity. (China's middle class is expected to double from 100 million to 200 million in the next 10 years). And China has a growing need to import food.

Technological cooperation to increase food security and the development of different forms of agricultural cooperation between China and Australia were both on the agenda. (Ms Wu envisaged the development of the relationship beyond trade into investment or joint venture opportunities as has occurred with New Zealand in the dairy industry).

MOU with the National People's Congress

In October 2011, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Australian Parliament and the National People's Congress to provide a formal framework for expanding relations.

The MOU provides for exchanges between the Australian Parliament and the NPC 'to exchange views on matters relevant to the two parties, including on developments at the regional and broader international level. This could include through regular visits, seminars, meetings at international conferences and the exchange of publications on the development of democracy and legal systems and other issues, and to draw on each other's useful experiences.

Under the MOU, visits are intended to be once a year, alternating between the two countries. Exchanges could include official visits by Presiding Officers and Chairmen, official delegation visits, committee visits and study visits by parliamentarians and staff.

Fourth Bilateral Parliamentary exchange

The 4th Bilateral Parliamentary Exchange was chaired by the Hon Zha Peixin, Chair of the China-Australia Friendship Group and took place in the Taiwan Hall at the Great Hall of the People, Beijing. Mr Chen Changzhi, Vice President of the National People's Congress, stressed the value of the Exchange during his meeting with the delegation.

Six members of the NPC attended and addressed the following subjects agreed for discussion prior to the visit:

1. Bilateral relations and parliamentary exchanges – international and regional cooperation
2. Economic and social development
3. Agricultural cooperation, investment and trade
4. New energy – reducing carbon emissions
5. Food security
6. The ageing population.

These issues emerged a number of times during the delegation's visit.

Parliamentary exchanges

The delegation emphasized the value the Australian Parliament places on the relationship with the NPC and the importance of the MOU.

In addition to the annual bilateral exchange, the Australian Parliament has introduced into its annual delegations program a parliamentary committee visit to the PRC. So far two committees have visited: the House of Representatives Climate Change Committee in 2011, and in 2012 the Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee.

The delegation urged both sides to consider how the MOU can be used to foster deeper relations between the two legislatures and proposed:

1. Greater use of technology and regular video conference meetings between the foreign affairs and other committees or parliamentary groups
2. The holding of regular bilateral meetings between our two delegations at IPU meetings

3. The holding of a regular joint parliamentary seminar or conference where politicians can come together to discuss issues.

These proposals were received favourably by the NPC members present.

Agricultural cooperation & food security

Agriculture and food offer significant potential for Australia and China to improve ties and expand cooperation, NPC member Mr Zhang Xiaoshan told the delegation. He added that China would be looking to even up the trade imbalance in agricultural products that has developed in Australia's favour, and identified the scope for China to export more labour intensive products from this sector to Australia, such as fruit.

Zhang also pointed to the potential for cooperation with the modernization of Chinese primary production. The reality, he said, is that "China has insufficient land and water" and "needs to pay greater attention to environment protection". With the exception of north east China, "agriculture is not technologically advanced". Zhang said that "a new breed of agricultural entrepreneur and professional" is needed in China to modernise production: people who are trained in business, science and land management.

Zhang also raised the issue of food safety – a subject discussed with the delegation in Kunming and Chengdu. The Chinese consumer has little confidence in local products, particularly after a series of recent food scandals, and Australian products are highly thought of. After the contaminated milk scandal, consumers have been prepared to pay a premium to buy Australian milk products and, in particular, baby formula.

Zhang's NPC colleague, Mr Liu Depei, outlined the measures that had been introduced at national and provincial levels to implement and enforce minimum food standards.

The demand for clean, quality products goes beyond food and extends to other areas such as medicines and cosmetics. Ginko Department Store, Kunming, General Manager, Ms Chen Siyin told the delegation that cosmetic brands (such as Jurlique) are held in high regard in the Chinese market because, coming from Australia, they are seen to be "clean".

The lesson for Australia was to use our advantage as a "clean country" to market food and other products in China.

Energy and the environment

China's three priorities in its energy policy, according to NPC Member Yang Genyu, are to:

1. Give greater emphasis to alternative energy resources (by 2020 the target is for non fossil fuels to provide 15 % of total energy needs).
2. Give equal emphasis to energy saving and environmental protection (this is to be achieved by more efficient energy use, reducing consumption per head of GDP and balancing economic growth and environmental protection).
3. Encouraging international cooperation and making joint efforts in the area of renewable energy.

In so doing China aims to play its part in combating climate change, Yang said.

It is clear to the delegation that energy, the environment and climate change are three large conversations Australia can have with China. Scope exists for technical, research

and educational cooperation across these areas. And the dialogue need not be one way. China, for example, has made progress with biomass and also has engaged in leading research on solar power as it seeks to do more in the area of combating climate change.

Chinese investment concerns

Concerns about the current investment environment in Australia towards Chinese firms and Chinese capital were raised in a number of meetings with the delegation.

During the 4th bilateral parliamentary exchange, Vice Chair Zha noted that many Chinese firms wish to invest in Australia across a range of industries and he hoped that Australia maintained "a favourable environment for such investment".

NPC member Mr Xie Jinrong said Chinese businesses continue to have "many worries" about investing in Australia due to lengthy approval times, strict conditions for Chinese firms and the perception that Chinese firms "were not being treated equitably". China hoped Australia would take a "fair, just and non discriminatory attitude" to Chinese investment and not use national security as a reason for denying investment. Xie said if Australia ensured such barriers were removed, more opportunities would exist for developing trade and the commercial relationship which are currently being held back.

Mr Li Bing, Vice President of the State Development and Investment Corporation told the delegation that he was concerned that "broader political factors" influenced Australia's decisions on proposed investments from China. Li referred to a number of specific cases (China Aluminium, Minmetals/Ausminerals, Shenhua Coal Company and Chinalco/Rio Tinto) to highlight his concern.

Mr Li also noted that in some instances Chinese firms decided against seemingly good opportunities because other factors – such as poor infrastructure – made the investment less attractive.

Li acknowledged, however, that the “positive investment factors in Australia outweigh the negatives”.

The delegation emphasized that Australia welcomes investment from all countries, including China. Australia maintains a rules-based transparent investment regime which, on occasion, requires more detailed procedures which could be frustrating (even for Australian companies). Australia welcomed Chinese investment and further cooperation.

The delegation noted, however, that all countries reserve the right to make decisions about potential investments for national security reasons.

It appeared that, in some instances, the Chinese firms involved did not fully understand why certain hurdles had been placed in front of them. The delegation encouraged company representatives to contact the Australian Embassy to discuss their investment concerns in more detail.

Australian business in China

The delegation met with business representatives operating in mining and resources, agriculture, retail, food, construction, manufacturing, banking and finance and the service sector. All were encouraging about the prospects for growth and their long term commitment to the Chinese market.

One of the consistent messages was the key role of the Australian government through Austrade and other areas of the Embassy in supporting many of these businesses. Ambassador Adamson’s initiative to include relevant business

representatives on her official calls was singled out for praise.

Many business representatives spoke of the need to be flexible. For this reason, SMEs were considered more likely to succeed as they are generally more adaptable than larger corporations.

Australian business also needs to be realistic about some of the other challenges in China, such as the high cost and slowness of internal logistics; the highly competitive labour market which makes it difficult to retain qualified staff; and the higher imposts employers now face in terms of salaries and conditions.

Australian business also needs to understand the key policy and decision making points in the Chinese government (both at national and provincial levels).

The agriculture sector identified quarantine issues as one of the major impediments to operating in China. By this they meant that both China and Australia have strict quarantine requirements and regulations. While not challenging them, business urged greater resources be put into engaging with the Chinese quarantine service to streamline and harmonise quarantine and bio security requirements with Australia’s (and vice versa).

The delegation noted that the Australian Government, through the Embassy in Beijing, is committed to doing just this and urged those businesses encountering such difficulties to develop a more strategic relationship with the Embassy on these matters.

Social issues and demographic change

The delegation met with government representatives involved in inter-ethnic and religious affairs; women’s rights and ageing population issues. Information was

provided on how the Chinese government approaches these issues to improve, for example, the socio-economic status of certain ethnic minorities and, on women's rights: the need to strengthen the economic capacity of women – particularly in rural areas.

Despite its economic growth, China does not believe it has enough economic capacity to deal with its ageing society. China is the only country with more than 100 million people over 65 years (8.8% of the population); which is set to increase to 20% by 2024 and 34.5% by 2042.

NPC members suggested that this is an area of social policy that both Australia and China can work together on (looking at models for aged care, home based care and social services for the elderly).

Australia's new Consulate General in Chengdu

The delegation raised with the Sichuan Provincial People's Congress the importance Australia attaches to opening the new Consulate General in Chengdu and sought support to ensure this occurs as expeditiously as possible.

Conclusion

The architects of Australia-China relations in 1972 could little imagine then the changes to take place in China over the coming four decades, or the breadth and significance of the bilateral relationship we have today.

The Australian Parliament has its own role to play in this regard and the parliamentary exchange mechanism is a valued vehicle for engaging with the National People's Congress. Not only in terms of the annual dialogue, but also through the visits of parliamentary committees with specific areas of focus.

The delegation is keen to see the exchange developed further and find other opportunities for the two parliaments to meet: at international conferences and by holding one off discussions on specific topics that allow more free ranging and candid discussions to occur. This would benefit both parliaments.

Visit to Indonesia

The delegation's visit to Jakarta and West Sumatra provided a useful opportunity for the Australian Parliament to connect with Indonesian MPs. It also allowed us to gain insights into some important issues including Indonesia's economic development, security concerns, agriculture, forestry, people smuggling and border issues, disaster management planning and an overview of the impact of the Australian aid program.

The positive feelings towards Australia as a result of people to people contacts – particularly through education – were evident throughout the visit. The delegation met many MPs or other leaders who were either educated in Australia or have family members who were, underscoring the long term benefits and goodwill accruing through such contact.

Parliament to Parliament contact

It is clear to the delegation that there is an appetite – and great benefit – for more frequent exchanges and discussions between the Australian and Indonesian Parliaments. This will allow both countries to discuss common issues, but also to dispel misunderstandings that arise (such as on the issues covered below).

Our meetings with MPs from a cross section of political parties in both the Indonesia-Australia Parliamentary Group and Commission IV were wide ranging, frank and candid. Subjects covered included the Australia-US relationship, the *Anti Logging Bill 2012*, women's political participation, domestic political developments in Australia, West Papua, education, travel advisories, development assistance, the live cattle trade and broader agricultural issues.

Indonesian MPs were keen to understand Australia's views on West Papua and ascertain the degree of support within the Australia Parliament for West Papua's independence. The delegation said that the Australian Government and the major parties supported Indonesia's sovereignty over West Papua.

There was suspicion on the part of several MPs that the basing of US marines in Darwin had something to do with "protecting US interests" in the event of instability in West Papua. The delegation explained the nature of Australia's alliance with the United States and outlined the rationale for the decision to allow to the US to base marines in northern Australia. The delegation also reaffirmed the importance of Australia's defence ties with Indonesia.

The delegation suggests that future briefings of regional partners by the Australian Government about foreign policy initiatives or strategic decisions be extended beyond government to the parliamentary level in the countries concerned. In this case, a regular parliament-to-parliament exchange may well have dispelled such misconceptions earlier.

There was also a lack of understanding about how travel advisories were applied to Indonesia and a request from the Parliamentary Group that advisories be more region-specific than they are at the moment. The general point was that negative travel advice impacts on people-to-people contact by reducing the number of tourists and students in Indonesia.

Commission IV (Agriculture, Farming, Forestry, Fisheries & Food)

Commission Chair Romahurmiziy outlined Indonesia's plans to become self sufficient in five products by 2014, urging Australian companies to explore opportunities in these areas.

1. Rice (self sufficiency now largely achieved)
2. Corn (still a considerable deficit of supply and there is not enough livestock feed)
3. Soy beans (national production accounts for only ¼ of consumption)
4. Sugar
5. Meat

On the question of meat products, Romahurmiziy said that average per capita consumption is only 2kgs per year but this is increasing with economic growth and improvements in living standards. Professors at the Bogor Agricultural Institute noted that Indonesia imported 50,000 tonnes of meat in the first half of 2012, mainly lamb and beef.

Romahurmiziy stated emphatically that "Indonesia never wants to see a repeat" of the live cattle export ban from Australia. He noted that Commission IV is likely to be involved in revising laws on livestock handling and animal health.

Parliamentary Group Members also raised the live cattle export ban and expressed their desire for Australian meat and livestock. They noted that the disruption to supply brought on by the ban was filled by other suppliers, notably Brazil.

Members of Commission IV expressed their concern at the detention of Indonesian fishermen by Australia. They noted that these people were generally poor and not operating with any sophisticated technology.

Sustainable forests

Commission IV and Members of the Parliamentary Group expressed their concern at the potential adverse impact on Indonesia's industry of Australia's proposed Anti Logging Bill. MPs were concerned that the definition of 'illegally logged' timber is too general. Questions were also raised about consistency with WTO obligations.

Logging and deforestation were also discussed at the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) in Bogor. It was pointed out that in Sumatra deforestation occurred less in national forestry concessions than in national parks, because the latter did not have sufficient resources to protect them from illegal intrusion.

Dr Andrew Wardell outlined the conclusions of a research project on the impact of the expansion of biofuel products, with a focus on palm oil, soy and ethanol. The study revealed that, contrary to popular belief, most palm oil ends up being used for food and not for biofuel.

He acknowledged that the palm oil industry adds to pressures on forests, but said that it is harder to make a direct link with deforestation as opposed to land use change. Much of the land involved, the study revealed, was already degraded before palm oil plantations took over.

Palm oil is a multi billion dollar industry which, Wardell noted, "generates considerable social benefits" in places like West Sumatra in terms of higher incomes, access to better health care and education. It would therefore be "difficult to shut down". In West Papua, however, the impact was "more negative" as people were forced to move.

Australia's aid Program – some aspects

Development assistance is a key part of the bilateral relationship. Overall funding is currently \$578.4 m, likely to expand to \$950 by 2014-15. The delegation was impressed with the high impact of the work it saw in West Sumatra, both in terms of disaster relief and the provision of essential services to villages.

Australia is working in poor districts across the archipelago to improve health standards and access to health care. Emphasis is on maternal and neo natal health, and HIV AIDS.

After the 2009 earthquake Australia funded the building of eight new health centres and ambulances in Padang Pariaman. The delegation visited one of these (Pauh Kamar Health Centre) and saw the marked difference it is having on the local area. The clinic provides 24 hour care to approximately 26,000 people and is currently seeing around 2,000 patients per month for general health and dental problems. It also has a newly opened birthing centre.

The Water and Sanitation Hibah (grant program) is another high impact project assisting mainly poorer people. The program provides funds to connect households with piped water or sewerage.

Phase 1 of the program (to June 2011) provided 77,000 households with water and 5,000 with sewerage, benefiting some 410,000 people. The villagers who received water connections told the delegation, without exception, their lives had been transformed by being able to access better quality and cheaper water. The delegation strongly supports the extension of the program over the next four years.

The Parliamentary Group, chaired by Maj Gen (Rtd) Sidarto Danusubroto (whose granddaughter studied at RMIT) raised with

the delegation the importance of increasing educational opportunities in Australia beyond the current number of scholarships, and the need to ensure visas were readily available for Indonesian students who wanted to study in Australia. This view was repeated at a meeting in West Sumatra with Australian Development Scholarships alumni.

Emergency assistance & disaster management

Indonesia is one of the most disaster prone countries in the world, most recently highlighted by the tragic West Sumatra earthquake in September 2009 which destroyed more than 118,000 homes and killed more than 1100 people. Scientists expect that a major earthquake and tsunami is due to hit this region within the next few decades, affecting potentially several hundred thousand people.

Australia's contribution in this area is clearly valued by Indonesia, is having an impact on the ground and represents appropriate expenditure of development assistance funds.

The Australia-Indonesia Facility for Disaster Reduction (AIFDR) is a key part of Australia's development program and represents a \$67m commitment over five years. Managed jointly with the Indonesian National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) it focuses on better science to identify risks for natural disasters, community outreach to prepare for disasters and developing regional partnerships.

The delegation was present in Padang at the West Sumatra release of Indonesia's Master Plan for Disaster Management and met with Mr Syamsul Maarif, head of the National Disaster Management Agency.

Mr Maarif spoke highly of the joint partnership through the AIFDR. He said that the key planks of revised disaster management approach are:

1. Education and communication : “to bring communities along so they understand what to do and why”.
2. Focusing on the vulnerable: women, children and the elderly: he said that one of the lessons of the Merapi volcano eruption was that most people died as a result of their displacement, not the eruption.
3. Building standards: Maarif said his mantra was a saying he heard in Australia after the Newcastle earthquake - “It’s not the earthquake, it’s the buildings!”.

The delegation visited a religious primary school (SDN04 Kajai) in Padang Pariaman which was rebuilt and equipped with Australian and US funds. Teachers spoke with emotion about the impact on the students and community of being able to get the school back up and running. The delegation also witnessed pupils perform an earthquake drill, and sing a ‘what-to-do in an earthquake’ song – both a product of the AIDFR outreach campaign.

The delegation also met with owners and inspected houses that had been rebuilt after the 2009 earthquake under the *Build Back Better* campaign. The significance of this program is twofold: houses are being rebuilt or strengthened to earthquake standards, and capacity building in housing construction is being expanded across West Sumatra at the village level.

Asylum seekers

The UNHCR Indonesia Representative, Manuel Jordão and International Organization for Migration Jakarta chief, Denis Nihill, met with the delegation to discuss asylum seekers and border protection.

Currently, the number of arrivals is outstripping Indonesia’s capacity to deal with them, Jordão said, and there are not enough resettlement places available.

Arrivals are now overwhelmingly Hazaris from Afghanistan, and the proportion of Sri Lankans has dropped considerably recently.

Jordão said that Indonesia “does not want to become the dumping ground” again for refugees and asylum seekers as occurred in the 1970s and 80s with the Indo-Chinese, when over 200,000 people remained in camps for more than a decade because there was no effective regional response to the problem. This time, Indonesia is committed to “moving beyond bilateral measures” and determined to see a workable regional solution, which is why it supports the Bali process because it involves others in the region. The Indonesian Government will “not allow Indonesia to become the solution” which is, he added, one reason why “they will not accept turning boats back.”

Jordão urged Australia to maintain support for the Bali process, noting it “had achieved results in the past 18 months” even though it “has been slow”.

Conclusion

Australia clearly maintains a strong and multi faceted bilateral relationship with Indonesia underpinned by people-to-people links. Yet history has shown us that issues arise that require both sides to draw on trust and understanding of each other.

At the parliamentary level, there is scope to engage more widely and systematically with Indonesian MPs. The most obvious avenue would be through more committee-to-committee contact both in person, and also by using video conferencing technology. Regular meetings of Australian and Indonesian parliamentary delegations at international conferences should also become a standard arrangement.

Such contact would not only dispel misunderstandings, but allow both sides to share views about common policy challenges.

The visit came at an interesting political juncture for Indonesia as President Yudhoyono (a good friend of Australia who supports Australia–Indonesia cooperation) approaches the end of his term.

The outcome of the 2014 presidential elections – and therefore the implications for the relationship with Australia – is unclear at this stage.

At an official level, the delegation found a more confident Indonesia due to its continuing economic growth, trajectory of political openness and growing middle class. It is a substantial country which plays a role in key international fora (eg as Chair of ASEAN, member of the G-20 etc). Indonesia therefore expects its views to be taken seriously and to be treated as an equal partner in international relations.

Hon Alan Griffin MP
Delegation Leader
October 2012

VISIT TO CHINA - PROGRAM

Sunday 26 August (Beijing)

Arrive Beijing

Dinner meeting and embassy briefing hosted by HE Ms Frances Adamson, Australian Ambassador

Monday 27 August (Beijing)

Meeting with Ms Wu Xi, Deputy Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Tour of the Forbidden City

Fourth bilateral parliamentary exchange, National People's Congress (NPC), Great Hall of the People chaired by HE Mr Zha Peixin, Vice Chairman, NPC

Other Attendees:

Mr Xie Jingrong

Mr Zhang Xiaoshan

Mr Yang Gengyu

Mr Liu Depei

Mr Chen Sixi

Mr Peng Fang, Director General of the Office of Foreign Affairs Committee,

Mr Graeme Meehan, Deputy Head of Mission

Official dinner hosted by HE Mr Zha Peixin, Chairman, China-Australia Friendship Group

Tuesday 28 August (Beijing)

Meeting with Mr Chen Changzhi, Vice Chairman, National People's Congress, Great Hall of the People

Meeting with Mr Li Bing, Vice-President, State Development & Investment Corporation

Meeting with Mr Wang Hongqian, President, China Nonferrous Metal Industry's Foreign Engineering and Construction Co Ltd

Meeting with Ms Song Wenyan, Deputy Director-General, International Department, All China Women's Federation

Wednesday 29 August (Kunming, Yunnan Province)

Visit to the Stone Forest

Meeting with Ethnic and Religious Affairs Committee representatives,
Yunnan Provincial People's Congress

Attendees:

Mr Li Xingwang, Deputy Director General, Ethnic Affairs Committee, Yunnan
Provincial People's Congress

Mr Shi Minghui, Deputy Director-General, Foreign Affairs Office, Yunnan Provincial
Government

Mr Peng Fang, Director-General, Office of the Foreign Affairs Committee, NPC

Meeting with HE Ms Cheng Yingxuan, Vice-Chair of the Yunnan Provincial People's Congress

Official dinner hosted by HE Ms Cheng Yingxuan

Thursday 30 August (Kunming, Yunnan Province)

Tour of Yunnan Nationalities Village

Working lunch with agricultural investment and food trade business representatives

Attendees:

Mr Liu Faxian, Chairman, Yunnan Discovery Enterprise Group Macadamia Co. Ltd

Ms Nancy Chen, General Manager, Gingko Group

Mr Liu, Kunming Xuelan Dairy

Mr David Dukes, Trade Commissioner, Austrade

Ms Alice Guo, Commercial Representative, Austrade Kunming Office

Mr Devon Li, Business Development Manager, Austrade Kunming Office

Meeting and inspection, Lynch Trading (Yunnan) Co. Ltd., Jinning County

Depart Kunming for Chengdu

Friday 31 August (Chengdu, Sichuan Province)

Meeting with Australian Business representatives

Attendees:

Mr Benny Yan, Bluescope Steel China (Chengdu)
Mr Ching Lee, Rheem (China) Water Heater Co. (Chengdu)
Ms Lisa Li, Servcorp
Mr Tony Tao, Goodman
Mr Philip Mo, Swann Global
Mr David Dukes, Trade Commissioner, Austrade
Mr James Zhan, Austrade Chengdu Office

Tour of Wu Yue Gong Teahouse, Chengdu Huigan

Meeting and inspection of ANZ Bank (China) Chengdu Operations Centre

Meeting with Mr Luo Linshu, Director-General, Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Committee, Sichuan Provincial People's Congress

Attendees:

Mr Chen Huajiang, Deputy Director-General, Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Committee, Sichuan Provincial People's Congress
Mr Luo Lei, Deputy Director General, Sichuan Provincial Department of Foreign Affairs
Mr Pang Guanglong, Director, Asian, Oceanian and African Affairs, Sichuan Provincial Department of Foreign Affairs
Mr Peng Fang, Director-General, Office of the Foreign Affairs Committee, NPC

Official dinner hosted by Mr Luo Linshu

Saturday 1 September (Chengdu, Sichuan Province)

Visit to Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding Research Base

Visit to Jinsha Museum and archaeological site

Farewell dinner hosted by Sichuan Provincial Government, Shaokun Restaurant, Wide and Narrow Alleys (kuan zhai xiang zi)

Delegation departs China

VISIT TO INDONESIA - PROGRAM

Sunday 2 September (Jakarta)

Delegation arrives in Jakarta

Meeting with HE Mr Greg Moriarty, Ambassador to Indonesia

Monday 3 September (Bogor)

Visit to Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Bogor

Visit to National Agricultural Institute (IPB), Bogor

Tuesday 4 September (Jakarta)

Meeting and briefing with Embassy staff

Meeting with Indonesia – Australia Parliamentary Friendship Group
People's Representative Council/Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat (DPR) of Indonesia

Attendees:

Maj Gen (rtd) Sidarto Danusubroto (Chair of the Group)

Muchtar Amma (Commission V)

Evita Nursanti (Commission I)

Nazarudin Kiemes (Commission VII)

Roestanto Wahidi (Commission V)

Bokiratu Nitabudhi Susanti (Commission II)

Teuku Irawan (Commission VII)

Azam Azman Natawijana (Commission VI)

Linda Megawati (Commission XI)

Atte Sugardi (Commission VI)

H Harbiah Salahuddin (Commission X)

I Wayan Sugiana

Meeting with DPR Commission IV (Agriculture, Farming, Forestry, Maritime, Fisheries and Food)

Attendees:

H M Romahurmiziy (Chair)

Herman Khaeroni (Deputy Chair)

Firman Soebogyo

Ibnu Multazaom

Ali Yakub

Ayup Jelantik

Ian Siagian

Ms Dewi Coryati

Siswono Yudo Hursodo

Working lunch with:
Mr Manuel Jordão,
Representative, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and
Mr Denis Nihill
Chief of Mission, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Wednesday 5 September (Padang & Pariaman, West Sumatra)

Padang to Pariaman

Visit to SDN Kajai Elementary School, including simulation of disaster preparedness and question and answer session with teachers and students

Visit to Puskesmas Pauh Kamar (health clinic), including discussions with local residents visiting the clinic and staff

Meeting with HE Mr Irwan Prayitno, Governor of West Sumatra Province

Visit households connected to water through the Water Hibah program

Dinner meeting and function with Australian Development Scholarships alumni and Australian Volunteers for International Development

Thursday 6 September (Padang, West Sumatra)

Meeting with Mr Syamsul Maarif, Head of the National Disaster Management Agency/Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB)

(Mr Griffin attends the West Sumatra launch of the National Disaster Management Plan)

Visit to Resilient Villages: Safe Earthquake Housing Project sites, Nagari Pasir Laweh

Official visit ends.

Friday 7 September (Jakarta)

Visit to Australia Indonesia Facility for Disaster Reduction
(Senator Stephens only)