Official Visit to China and South Korea
Wednesday 8 November to Tuesday 14 November 2017

Overview

The Hon Bill Johnston MLA accompanied the Premier and Ministers Ellery and Papalia on their inaugural official delegation to China with 37 senior education and tourism representatives, as Minister for Asian Engagement. The Minister then travelled to Seoul, South Korea to meet with key business executives and the Deputy Minister for Trade, Industry and Energy.

The Minister was accompanied by;
- Ms Jennifer Ma, Interpreter and Business Development Manager, Government of Western Australia (GoWA), China
- Mr Jean Ough, Commissioner, (GoWA), Korea
- Ms Penny Bond, Senior Policy Adviser to Minister Johnston

Wednesday 8 November – Thursday 9 November 2017

Minister’s Travel – Perth to China via Hong Kong

Thursday 9 November – Sunday 12 November 2017

Accompanied the Premier at official meetings:

Hangzhou (9-11 November 2017)
- Opening of the 7th Western Australia-Zhejiang Exchange Committee followed by MoU signing between Western Australia and Zhejiang organisations with Vice Governor Liang Liming.
- Western Australian Chinese Chamber of Commerce’s 30th anniversary and 25th anniversary sister chamber dinner with Zhejiang Federation of Industry and Commerce.
- Western Australian-Zhejiang Alumni Event attended by the five Western Australian universities, Zhejiang alumni representatives and Zhejiang students.

Shanghai (11-12 November 2017)
- Visit to Dongfang Hospital and tour of the China International Emergency Medical operations.
- Visit to Huawei Group’s Research and Development Centre and briefing on its technologies.

Sunday 12 November 2017

Minister’s Travel – Shanghai to Seoul
Monday 13 November – Tuesday 14 November 2017

Meetings in Seoul:

- Meeting with Charge d’Affaires of Australia to the Republic of Korea (Australian Embassy), to gain an understanding of the South Korean economy and North Korea’s effect on economic issues.

- Meeting with Pohang Iron and Steel Company (POSCO) to seek an update on POSCO’s overseas resource development strategy and current iron ore investments in Western Australia.

- Meeting with Hyundai Steel to enquire about the company’s strategy in securing resources overseas and its future plans to invest in iron ore mines in Western Australia.

- Market briefing from Meat and Livestock Australia’s South Korean representative.

- Tour of KT Olleh Square, located at the KT- Korea Telecom building and is a cultural space showcasing new concepts in telecommunications technology.

- Meeting with the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy to seek advice on the South Korean Government’s strategy to secure mineral resources, particularly the “five core minerals” (lithium; cobalt; nickel; manganese; and tungsten) required for developing new industries for the fourth industrial revolution.

- Meeting with OCI Company Ltd to encourage OCI to participate in resource development projects and discussion of their current project with Perth-based, Arafura Resources Ltd.

- Meeting with the Korean Tennis Association to discuss exchange through off-season training for national, pro and youth teams, youth and coaching education, and friendly game exchanges.

- Meeting with the Korea Foundation to seek opportunities for cultural and people-to-people exchange between South Korea and Western Australia.

- Discussion with the Energy and Mineral Resources Development Association of Korea (EMRD) regarding EMRD’s directive to lead member companies toward overseas resources investment activity.

- Field trip to the Research and Development Centre at the Hyundai Motor Company to gain an understanding of Hyundai/Kia’s application of power materials.

- Round table discussion on further development of the cooperative relationship with South Korea in relation to resources, LNG, tourism and education with Woodside, Tourism Western Australia and the Government of Western Australia Korea Office.

Tuesday 14 November 2017

Minister’s Travel – Seoul to Perth