Joint Media Statement

NEW NORTHERN AUSTRALIA CAPITAL CITY CHARTER

30 June 2014

The Giles Government and the City of Darwin have today signed a new Northern Australia Capital City Charter.

“"The Council and the Territory Government have had a Charter of cooperation since 2004 but the Lord Mayor and I have agreed that it is time for this working document to be updated so that it reflects our new focus on Northern Australia Development," Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“Both levels of government are united in their desire to build a capital that can drive the development of Northern Australia and is a significant player in our region.

“We want to build a capital city that can support the Territory’s economic growth into future without sacrificing any of the lifestyle benefits that make Darwin such a fantastic place to live.

“For Darwin to reach its full potential it must attract business, investment and development opportunities and we are working with the Council to achieve this through careful planning.

“It was great to see representatives from the City of Darwin at the Northern Development Summit in Townsville on Friday where I addressed attendees about the Territory’s investment and lifestyle opportunities.”

The new Charter commits the Territory Government and the City of Darwin to work together to enhance the attraction, productivity, liveability and resilience of Darwin with a focus on the central business area.

“Darwin is a great destination for people to live, work, visit, shop and play and the new Charter outlines ways we can enhance our great lifestyle, at the same time as attracting investment," Lord Mayor of Darwin Katrina Fong Lim said.

“We want Darwin to be a tropical capital that is visually attractive, liveable and safe whilst harnessing opportunities for investment on Asia’s doorstep.”

The Northern Australian Capital City Committee overseeing this process and meets today to consider issues such as future plans for the harbour foreshore, opportunities for international education in Darwin, and the Darwin City Centre Master Plan.

A copy of the new Charter is attached.

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