International and national heavy hitters eye Territory deals at key Darwin conferences

2 September 2015

Another two major conferences will put the investment spotlight on the Northern Territory from today hot on the heels of last week’s successful SEAOCG international oil and gas conference.

This afternoon the Business Minister Peter Styles joins delegates at one of Australia’s key cruise industry events the 2015 Cruise Down Under Conference. It is the the first time the peak cruise industry body has held its annual get-together in the Northern Territory.

More than 100 delegates have travelled to Darwin for the two day conference, titled “Uniting Australia’s Cruise Future”, with a record number of five international keynote speakers and some of Australia’s leading cruise industry experts.

Cruise Down Under (CDU) is the co-operative marketing brand for cruise tourism in the Australia and Pacific region and represents a diversity of interests including regional ports, international, national and state tourism agencies, shipping agents, inbound tour operators and companies dedicated to marketing the region as a world class cruise destination.

Tomorrow Mr Styles puts on his Minister for Asian Engagement and Trade hat to host some of Taiwan’s most successful and influential business leaders in Darwin for the 29th Joint Conference of the Australia-Taiwan Business Council and the Republic of China-Australia Business Council.

Mr Styles said that more than 110 delegates from a number of industries including financial services, agribusiness, mining and technology are in Darwin as part of the Joint Conference of the Australia-Taiwan Business Council alongside delegates from the Territory business community.

Also happening in Darwin alongside the Business Council Joint Conference is the bilateral Australia-Taiwan Joint Energy & Minerals Trade & Investment Committee involving more than 60 senior officials from Canberra and Taipei together with industry leaders.

“Attracting such important events and participation from such influential leaders is more good news for the Territory and further reinforces the Country Liberals government’s efforts to attract business investment in the Territory,” Minister Styles said.

“The CLP government’s work on attracting international trade has resulted in Taiwan emerging as a potential trade and investment partner for Territory business.
“Taiwan is Australia’s sixth largest export market, with investment from Taiwan currently on the rise.

“Already the Northern Territory has seen significant investment from Taiwan’s China Petroleum Corporation in our energy sector, and there is plenty of scope for more particularly around energy and resources as well as agribusiness.

“The theme of the Conference; ‘Taiwan and Australia’s North - Natural Partners. Meeting half way’ invites delegates to look to the future and explore business and investment opportunities.”

Minister for Business Peter Styles will also deliver the keynote address on Friday.

The conference program will explore four key industry themes; agribusiness; minerals and energy; infrastructure, investment and financial services; as wells education, tourism and transport services.

The 28th joint conference of the Australia-Taiwan Business Council (ATBC) was held in Taichung, Taiwan and attended by delegates from the Northern Territory. It was during this event that the Northern Territory Government began discussions to host this year’s conference.

CONTACT: Gary Shipway 0447236760