The NT’s primary and fishing industries generated $466 million in the Territory last year, Minister for Primary Industries Paul Henderson told Parliament today.

Mr Henderson outlined the initiatives that the Government was putting in place to grow the Primary Industries sector.

Mr Henderson said Industry Development Plans will be developed to establish a framework for the future direction of primary industries in the Territory.

"My department is busy working with the industry sectors in developing these Industry Development Plans.

"A key strategy is to encourage all stakeholders to work in partnership to create a framework of investment certainty for developing the Territory’s primary industry potential."

"By doing this we are forming Partnership Groups with the industry peak bodies to formalise communication between Government and industry, and I have been delighted by the response from industry to this approach."

Mr Henderson said the International Trade Strategy to be released in the next month was also an integral part of growth plans for primary industry sector.

He said: "While there are numerous opportunities for increases in production and increases in quality there is little point unless there is a market to absorb such an increase."

"The International Trade Strategy is a whole of Government approach to developing existing and new markets. Primary Industry is at the core of this strategy"

"Primary Industry is our third largest industry sector." Mr Henderson said "Government will develop new partnerships with industry complemented by a targeted and comprehensive Trade Strategy to continue to develop Primary Industry in the Territory."