

Agreement on Establishing the Joint Committee for Cooperation and Development between the State of Tasmania, as part of the Commonwealth of Australia and Fujian Province, the People's Republic of China

At the invitation of Mr. Will Hodgman, Premier of the State of Tasmania, as part of the Commonwealth of Australia, a delegation led by Mr You Quan, Secretary of the CPC Fujian Provincial Committee and Chairman of the Standing Committee of Fujian Provincial People's Congress, the People's Republic of China, has been visiting Australia from November 16 to 20, 2014.

During the visit, Secretary You Quan and Premier Will Hodgman held constructive talks, and reviewed what the two state and province had achieved in cooperation on economy, trade, agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, education, etc. since the establishment of sister state relationship over three decades ago.

In order to upgrade this relationship and deepen practical cooperation, both sides have reached an agreement on establishing the Joint Committee for Cooperation and Development between the State of Tasmania, the Commonwealth of Australia and Fujian Province, the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the Joint Committee) as follows:

I. Missions of the Joint Committee

The Joint Committee shall be responsible for making overall plans of and coordinating bilateral exchanges and cooperation on economy, trade, agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, culture, education, tourism, etc., and promoting friendly contacts between cities on both sides.

II. Makeup of the Joint Committee

On the Tasmanian side, the members shall include representatives from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Department of State Growth, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tourism Tasmania, Government Education and Training International, Forestry Tasmania, and the University of Tasmania.

On the Fujian side, the members shall include representatives from the Foreign Affairs Office of Fujian Provincial People's Government, Fujian Provincial Department of Education, Fujian Provincial Department of Agriculture, Fujian Provincial Department of Forestry, Fujian Provincial Administration of Ocean and Fisheries, Fujian Provincial Department of Commerce, Fujian Provincial Department of Culture, and Fujian Provincial Administration of Tourism.

III. Working Mechanism of the Joint Committee

The Joint Committee shall have a meeting every other year, which shall be hosted in turn by Fujian and Tasmania. The Foreign Affairs Office of Fujian Provincial People's Government and Tasmania Department of State Growth shall be responsible for the regular liaison and coordination of the Joint Committee.

IV. Proposals for Future Cooperation

1. Economy and Trade

Each side will encourage local companies to attend the major economic and trade events held by the government of the other and where applicable organize group delegations, and to push for closer industrial cooperation by holding business talks, project matchmaking and tourism promotion activities.

2. Agriculture

Fujian Province will organize agriculture and animal husbandry companies to Tasmania to explore the possibility of cooperation on fine livestock breeding, precision agriculture, irrigation infrastructure, greenhouse vegetable cultivation with water conservation technology, and the introduction of good varieties of crops, animals and birds.

The Agricultural Departments on both sides will establish a channel for information exchanges, hold agricultural produce promotions and exhibitions at an appropriate time, facilitate visits and exchanges between agricultural companies, and expand agricultural trade and cooperation.

3. Forestry

Both sides will continue to cooperate on cold tolerant seedling cultivation, technological exchanges, wood and forest product trade, sustainable forest management, human resources training.

4. Ocean and Fisheries

Both sides will strengthen cooperation on marine environmental protection, comprehensive utilization of seawater, ocean energy development and utilization, sustainable development and utilization of marine biological resources, deep sea fisheries, aquaculture, aquatic products processing and trade, ocean and fisheries technology and human resources exchanges.

5. Education

Both sides will continue to progress existing and new linkages in the areas of education including curriculum and student exchanges.

Both sides promote the establishment of sister relations between universities and middle schools on both sides as appropriate and will consider potential opportunities such as:

- The University of Tasmania establishing appropriate program/s with universities in Fujian Province taking into account research rankings, areas of strength and mutual interests.
- A cooperative arrangement with the Ocean Engineering College (affiliated under Jimei University) by Jimei University and the University of Tasmania's Australian Maritime College.
- The development of a 2+1 Children's services Diploma between Minjiang Teachers College and TasTAFE.
- The establishment of a Confucius classroom by Fuzhou No. 8 Middle School and Hobart College.

- A Sino-Australia High School Program (Experimental Class) between Xianyou No. 1 Middle School and Rosny College.
- Fujian Province and Tasmania State will explore the possibility of setting up governmental scholarships and accept officials from each other to work in the provincial/state government departments or study at the local universities.

6. Sister State Relationship

In a bid to enhance mutual understanding and consensus, and strengthen cooperation in all fields, both sides will promote friendly relations and build new platforms for collaboration. Within the next two years, the events of “the Fujian Week in Tasmania” and “the Tasmania Week in Fujian” will be held respectively in Hobart and Fuzhou, along with SME matchmaking, and tourism promotion activities.

Both sides will encourage exchanges and establishment of sister cities relationship between Hobart and Fuzhou, Launceston and Putian, and build platforms for these cities to conduct practical cooperation in the fields of economy and trade, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, culture, education, and tourism.

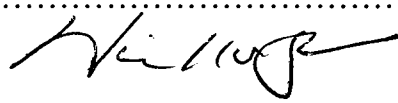
7. Review

Following two years of operation of this Agreement, it is agreed by the parties that the content will be reviewed to reflect the current status and capture new arrangements not yet identified.

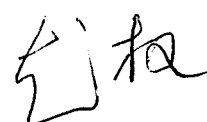
V. Dispute Settlement

The Joint Committee shall be a working mechanism founded under the framework of sister state-province relationship. Should there be any disputes arising in its operation, they shall be solved by members on both sides through friendly consultation in the principle of equality and mutual benefit.

This Agreement is done in duplicate in the English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic. Signed in Canberra, Australia on November 17, 2014, it shall come into force from the date of signature as a non-binding memorandum of understanding.

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 (Signed)

Representative of the State of
Tasmania

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 (Signed)

Representative of Fujian Province,
the People’s Republic of China

Premier of the State of Tasmania

**Secretary of the CPC
Fujian Provincial Committee**

中华人民共和国福建省和 澳大利亚联邦塔斯马尼亚州 关于成立合作发展混合委员会协议书

应澳大利亚联邦塔斯马尼亚州州长威尔·霍奇曼邀请，中国共产党福建省委员会书记、福建省人民代表大会常务委员会主任尤权率福建省代表团于2014年11月16日至20日对澳大利亚进行友好访问。

访问期间，尤权书记与威尔·霍奇曼州长进行了富有建设性的会谈，回顾了两省州结好三十多年来在经贸、农林、水产、教育等领域所取得的成果。

为了提升两省州交往水平、深化务实合作，双方就共同成立“中华人民共和国福建省和澳大利亚联邦塔斯马尼亚州合作发展混合委员会”（以下简称“混委会”）达成协议如下：

一、关于混委会的职能

混委会的主要职能是负责统筹协调两省州在经贸、农林、水产、文教和旅游等领域的友好交流与合作事务，积极推动双方城市间开展友好往来。

二、关于混委会的构成

混委会的福建方成员单位为福建省人民政府外事办公室、福建省教育厅、福建省农业厅、福建省林业厅、福建省海洋与渔业厅、福建省商务厅、福建省文化厅、福建省旅游局等；塔州方成

员单位为塔斯马尼亚州州长内阁部、州发展部，初级产业、公园、水资源与环境部，塔州旅游部，政府教育与国际培训部，塔州林业总公司和塔斯马尼亚大学等。

三、关于混委会的工作机制

混委会每两年举行一次会议，由福建省和塔斯马尼亚州轮流主办。混委会的日常联络协调工作由福建省人民政府外事办公室和塔斯马尼亚州州发展部负责。

四、关于今后双方合作构想

(一) 经贸合作方面

双方支持并组织本地优势企业参加由对方政府举办的大型贸易投资促进活动，并适时互派团组，开展经贸洽谈、项目对接、旅游促销等活动，推动产业合作。

(二) 农业合作方面

福建省将组织农业、畜牧业企业到塔斯马尼亚州考察，推动畜牧业优良品种繁育、精细农业、灌溉设施、蔬菜大棚节水种植，优良农作物品种、优良畜禽品种引进等方面开展合作。

两省州农业部门建立信息沟通渠道，适时在两地合作举办农产品推介会和展示会，推动两地农业企业开展互访考察交流，扩大农业的贸易往来与合作。

(三) 林业合作方面

双方将继续在耐寒种苗培育、技术交流、木材与林产品贸易、森林可持续合作经营、人才培养等方面深化合作。

(四) 海洋与渔业合作方面

双方将在原有合作的基础上，进一步在海洋资源利用与环境保护、远洋捕捞、水产品养殖与加工以及海洋与渔业人才培养等方面扩大交流与合作。

(五) 教育合作方面

双方将继续在课程和学生交流等教育领域推进已有的合作并寻求建立新的合作关系。

双方将促进两省州合适的大学和中学之间建立友好校际关系，并考虑在以下方面开展合作的可能性：

1. 根据学术研究排名、优势领域和共同兴趣等情况，塔斯马尼亚大学将与福建省高校开展适当的合作办学项目。

2. 集美大学与塔斯马尼亚大学澳大利亚海洋学院合作开办海洋工程学院（二级学院）。

3. 闽江师范学院与塔斯马尼亚职业技术学院（TasTAFE）合作开办“2+1”幼儿教育专科课程。

4. 福州八中与霍巴特学院合办孔子课堂。

5. 莆田仙游一中与塔州罗斯尼学院合作开办“中澳高中课程实验班”。

6. 两省州将探讨互设政府奖学金，接收对方官员到本地政府部门或高校见习工作或学习深造。

(六) 友城合作方面

双方表示，以推动两省州人民之间的相互了解，增进共识，

加强各领域合作为目的，将进一步深化、推进友好关系，搭建活动平台，于两年内互在对方城市举办“福建周”和“塔斯马尼亚周”。同时举办中小企业对接、旅游资源展示推介等活动。

双方将推动福州市与霍巴特市、莆田市与朗塞斯顿市开展交流并建立友好城市关系，为两市在经贸、农林、水产、文教和旅游等领域开展务实合作搭建平台。

(七) 评估

双方同意在本协议书执行 2 年后，对其进行评估，检查执行情况，并视情增加新的合作安排。

五、关于争议的解决

混委会是在双方友好省州关系框架下成立的工作机构，其在运行过程中如有出现任何争议，应由双方成员单位本着平等互利的原则，通过友好协商予以解决。

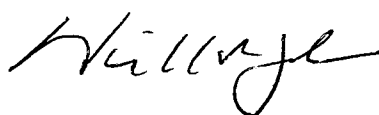
本协议书于 2014 年 11 月 17 日在堪培拉市签署，一式两份，每份都用中、英文写成，两种文本同等作准。本协议书自签字之日起生效。

中华人民共和国福建省
代表



中共福建省委书记

塔斯马尼亚州
代表



塔斯马尼亚州州长