

Memo

21 December 2017

To: His Worship the Mayor, Councillors, Independent Maori Statutory Board
Members, Executive Leadership Team

Cc: Jacques Victor, GM - Auckland Plan Strategy & Research

From: Koro Dickinson, Manager Global Partnerships and Strategy

Subject: Global Engagement Activity Update – January 2018

Summary

The purpose of this memo is to outline Auckland Council's key upcoming global engagement activity during the month of January 2018. It notes key activity undertaken last month and outcomes achieved through this activity.

Action: for information

Date	Key Activity – January 2018	Location
23 Jan	Visit by a US political delegation for transport and strategy briefing	Auckland
Week of 27 Jan	Visit by Australian Indigenous Business delegation focusing on Maori economic development	Auckland
26 Jan	Global Partnerships and Strategy (GPS) Unit briefing with Hamish Macmasters - New Zealand (NZ) Ambassador designate to Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan	Auckland

Key Activity - December 2017

The following is a list of key global activity facilitated by GPS and outcomes achieved:

Date	Activity	Location	Outcome
1-2 Dec	Visit by Mr. CHEN Zhiying, Executive Vice Mayor of Guangzhou.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforced the strong Guangzhou – Auckland relationship and the success of the recent Tripartite Summit. Discussion with Councillor Clow and ATEED regarding areas of collaboration.
1 Dec	Auckland Council and ATEED combined presentation to NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) staff.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefed Auckland's interests and global engagement strategy to the off-shore based MFAT 15-member staff group. Deepened mutual understanding on effective collaboration between Auckland and MAFT off-shore offices.
3-4 Dec	Mayor Goff and delegation including Deputy Mayor Cashmore, Councillors Collins and Watson, and Chief of Strategy, Jim Quinn attend the NZ-China Mayoral Forum.	Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased Auckland's knowledge of NZ-China relationship and its significance, particularly in education, tourism and primary industry sectors. Acknowledged the intention to promote 2019 as NZ-China Year of Tourism. NZ companies were able to promote their interest in doing business with China.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Profiled e-commerce cooperation with Alibaba. • Fu Wah launched their Antipodean Explorer initiative involving luxury rail travel between North and South Islands.
6 Dec	Roundtable discussion with Mr. Krzysztof Szczerski - Secretary of State and Chief of the Cabinet of the President of Poland.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to prepare for the visit of the Polish President Andrzej Duda to Auckland in 2018, meet the Polish ex-pat community in Auckland, and learn about Polish interests in upcoming EU-NZ Free Trade Negotiations.
8 Dec	Auckland Council Group Dialogue with Ms. Bonnie Glaser, Director of the China Power Project - Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington DC.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on China's international strategic agenda and influence in the Asia-Pacific region both at the national and regional levels. • Discussion of potential cooperation opportunities within the frame of US-NZ-China relationship, particularly at city-to-city level.
8 Dec	Visit by Volunteer Services Abroad (VSA) Communications Director to focus on South Auckland Pasifika initiatives and facilities.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement facilitated between VSA and Emeline Afeaki-Mafile'o, an award winning Pacific social entrepreneur. • Discussion on future collaboration with Auckland and how the VSA may contribute to business and social capacity building work in Tonga.
14 Dec	GPS met with MFAT's Martin Harvey to provide input on upcoming EU-NZ FTA negotiations.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPS will be following negotiations closely to ensure Auckland Council's interests represented and implications identified well in advance.
11-15 Dec	The NZ Deputy Consul General to Los Angeles, designate, Murray Bruges met with Auckland Council.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefings with Jim Quinn, John Duncan, John Mauro and David Norman focused on consulate contributions that could help inform Auckland's strategy and priorities.
19 Dec	GPS facilitated Jim Quinn's meeting with MFAT on Smart Cities and Singapore.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on potential and possibility for Auckland around any NZ "Enhanced Partnership" with Singapore. • Discussed what Auckland is doing to become a "SMART" city. • Discussion around advantages of Auckland's current city-city connections with Singapore.
20 Dec	Conference call with Fernanda Massaccesi, Director of the International Relations team of the City of Buenos Aires (BA) Argentina.	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss potential opportunities for city to city collaboration to leverage direct Air NZ Auckland-BA flight three times a week. • Brief on C40 event in BA in 2018 linked to the G20 Summit.

Next steps

- The Global Partnerships and Strategy Unit will provide an update on key global activity each month.
- Requests for additional information or enquiries about the information listed above can be directed to Tao Chen, Advisor Global Partnerships and Strategy; (tao.chen@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz Mobile: 021 853 948).