



John Barilaro

Deputy Premier
Minister for Regional NSW
Minister for Industry and Trade

Stuart Ayres

Minister for Jobs, Investment Tourism and Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW AND GUANGDONG PARTNER FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

The NSW Government and leaders from the province of Guangdong in China today signed commercial and research agreements to collaborate on new opportunities in health, financial services, technology and smart cities development.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Trade John Barilaro joined the Premier Gladys Berejiklian and Minister for Investment Stuart Ayres at the 27th NSW-Guangdong Joint Economic Meeting (JEM) in Sydney, which marked 40 years of a Sister State relationship between NSW and Guangdong province.

“NSW’s relationship with Guangdong and China is deeply valued and one of our state’s oldest and strongest trade relationships,” Mr Barilaro said.

“Last year our two way trade topped \$44 billion – more than a quarter of our total exports. China is our number one source of imports, number two export destination, and largest overall trading partner.

“NSW and Guangdong will collaborate on R&D and clinical trials in stillbirth and foetal monitoring; blockchain technology to verify the provenance of NSW products in China; smart cities research; and using wastewater treatment technology in the paper industry.”

Mr Ayres said JEM was a chance to explore new business, investment and other bilateral opportunities.

“This important meeting will support NSW’s objective of remaining the number one destination for Chinese investment in Australia; this surpassed \$63 billion last year, with education and tourism the key sectors,” Mr Ayres said.

“Western Sydney is booming and is now the third largest economic region in the country. The future Western Sydney Airport and Aerotropolis, with its key advanced manufacturing, education, aerospace, logistics and health precincts, make NSW an extremely welcoming environment for investment.”

Premier Gladys Berejiklian hosted His Excellency Mr Zhang Hu, Vice Governor, People’s Government of Guangdong Province along with 135 government and industry delegates.

Four themed sub-forums were co-chaired by Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Rob Stokes (Smart Cities), Minister for Health and Medical Research Brad Hazzard (Health, Medical and Life Sciences Technology), Treasury Secretary Mike Pratt representing Treasurer Dominic Perrottet (Financial Services and Technology), and Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture Michael Johnsen, representing Minister Adam Marshall (Innovation in Agriculture).

**MEDIA: Georgina Kentwell | Deputy Premier | 0427 206 308
Sophie Hull | Minister Ayres | 0447 583 756**