



CITCSA Flash

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Happy New Year 2008

Happy Australian New Year and Seasons Greetings to our readers. Looking forward to a busy 2008 with the Beijing Olympics in China now only 8 months away in this "Year of the Rat".

Arab Chamber celebrates 25 years in SA

The South Australian Chapter of the Australian Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry SA celebrated their 25th anniversary with a dinner at the Hyatt Regency Adelaide on November 9th.

Special guests who were welcomed by South Australia Chapter's president Dr Minerva Nasser - Eddine and National Delegate from South Australia, Mr Ray Najjar, included the Lieutenant Governor of South Australia Hieu Van Le and Mrs Le, the South Australian Attorney General Mr Michael Atkinson, Dr Glen Simpson, Executive Director of Coffey International and Chairman of the Council for Australian Arab Relations, and their Excellencies Mr Tamman Sulaiman, Ambassador of Syria and Mrs Isis Saeed, and Mr Hassan Talat Nazer, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Mrs Amal Masoud.

Entertainment during the evening included a performance of belly dancing, and the guest appearance of two chefs brought out from Dubai especially for the occasion (pictured left). AACCI acknowledge the support of DTED.

On December 13th 2007, the Lord Mayor Right Honourable Michael Harbison hosted members and supporters of the Australian Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and CITCSA representatives and VIP's at the Queen Adelaide Room in the Adelaide Town Hall to celebrate their win as International Chamber of the Year in the CITCSA Awards, and their 25 years of operation in South Australia.

Mission to India in March 2008

The Australia India Business Council (SA Chapter) and the Department of Trade and Economic Development are organising a mission to India from March 12 – 21 2008. The mission will be led by the Premier of South Australia, Honourable Mike Rann MP.

South Australian companies and organisations in the education, food/wine, biotechnology, environment and renewable industries that are considering entering or expanding into the Indian market are invited to participate. This mission is mainly for established companies that are experienced exporters. There will be a further mission for new exporters for the India market organised by the Australia India Business Council for later in the year.

The Department of Trade and Economic Development in conjunction with the Australia India Business Council (SA Chapter) is pleased to invite you to an Information Session about the mission on 31 January 2008 in the Level 10 Boardroom, 178 North Terrace, Adelaide. RSVP by January 25th ph 83032468, email nina.parletta@state.sa.gov.au . Contact Maggie Farrell at Office of Trade for more information

Mission to Singapore for Food Hotel Asia in April 2008

The Australia Singapore Business Council is leading a food and wine mission to Food and Hotel Asia in Singapore April 22nd – 25th 2008. The biannual Food and Hotel Asia is one of the most important food trade shows in Asia which attracted over 36,500 visitors from throughout the Asia region, and had 2300 exhibiting companies. Contact Ernie Goh, President of Australia Singapore Business Council if you would like to join the mission on 0409799933.



L-R Mr Gordon Landy, Executive Chef of Za'abeel Palace, Dubai; Mr Steve Marafioti, Vice Chairman Australian Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr Michael Wundsche, General Manager and Board Member, Culinary Guild of Dubai.



Presenting the Cheque
L-R: Nick Begakis AM, Chairman of CITCSA, Georgia Hourigan (Barbara's daughter), SAWA Secretary Barbara James, Barry Salter Executive Manager of CITCSA.

Friends of CITCSA send help to Afghanistan

CITCSA members and guests at the 2007 CITCSA Gala Awards Dinner helped to raise \$2900 for the Support Association for the Women of Afghanistan Australia. A raffle was held to raise funds for SAWA, which provides childrens' education, widow support, adult literacy classes, birthing kits, resettlement services for refugees and many more essential services to those in need.

Many thanks to the businesses who kindly supported this cause; Tee Lee Travel, State Theatre Company, Soniclean, Abache Hair and Beauty, The Adelaide Hilton, The Adelaide Festival Centre, The SA Tourism Commission, The Belly Dance Academy of Nayima Hassan, The SA Film Corporation, Food Adelaide, Adelaide's Top Food and Wine Tours, Bellis Fruit Bars, Barossa Fine Foods, SAWA-Australia and Sumptuous Magazine.

SA Chapter of French Australia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI)

The French Australia Business Club in SA has now been accepted as a member chapter of the French Australia Chamber of Commerce and Industry. This will expand the contacts and trade opportunities with French and French speaking countries worldwide as part of a network of 114 member organisations in 78 countries. For information about membership of the French Australia Chamber of Commerce in SA, contact Christelle Damiens 0431147520 or fabcsa_facci@yahoo.com.au

New Federal Minister for Trade and Increase in EMDG funding

The Hon Simon Crean MHR is the new Federal Minister for Trade in the new Labor Government. He was the Shadow Minister for Trade when in Opposition. Trade still remains as a cabinet position.

The Labor policy released before the election promised increased funding in the order of \$50 million for Export Market Development Grants (EMDG) which are administered by Austrade, taking effect from the 2008/09 grant year.

The additional \$50 million to fund these changes will be made available in the 2009/10 year which means the changes take effect for expenditure incurred during the 2007/08 financial year.

CITCSA sponsor Export Solutions, a company that specialises in the preparation of EMDG grants for exporters, can provide more information on the proposed improvements to the EMDG scheme and how they can assist exporters.

Contact Stuart Mitchell or Damien Cook at Export Solutions for more information 82319066.

New Australian Ambassador for Saudi Arabia

Mr Kevin Magee has been appointed as Australia's new Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with non-resident accreditation to the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Yemen. He will succeed Ian Biggs, who has been Ambassador since January 2005. Mr Magee is expected to take up his appointment in January 2008.

Mr Magee is a senior career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and was most recently Director of the China Political and External Section. Overseas, Mr Magee has served as Consul-General in Guangzhou (2003-06), Deputy Head of Mission in Moscow (2001-03), First Secretary in Singapore (1994-97) and Third Secretary in Beijing (1990-92).

CITCSA

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BEHIND the FACES"*

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