

EEAC MINISTERS REPORT. ANNEX 1 (Nid ym'r atodiadau ar gael yng nghymraeg).

EUROPEAN AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE 9 OCTOBER 2003

Date	Assembly Minister/ Official/ Division	Event	Objectives	Outcomes
28 June to 30 June 2003	Carwyn Jones AM, Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside	Summer Fancy Food Fair, New York.	To promote Welsh produce in America and witness at first hand the way in which new contacts are developed and existing links strengthened between Welsh food producers and US consumers.	Ministerial involvement meant that the benefits of Welsh food were maximised and helped raise the profile of Wales in the US market place.
30 June 2003	Alun Pugh AM/Huw Davies/and Director General of Forestry Commission	Twinning of Afan Forest Park, Port Talbot. Opening Ceremony, visited by Japanese Ambassador to the UK.	Minister Alun Pugh delivered a keynote speech. Objective: The Forestry Commission (FC) manages Afan Forest Park on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government. There is also a forest named Afan at Kurohime in Japan, which is owned and managed by Mr C W Nicol, a native of Neath who wished his forest to be twinned with its Welsh counterpart.	Twinning Ceremony completed.

4 July 2003	No Ministerial involvement External Relations VIP Visits Team	HE John Everard Her Majesty's Ambassador to Uruguay	To learn about External Relations within the Assembly, discuss trade matters with WTI and be briefed on developments in Wales. Visit to St. Fagan's included as requested by the Ambassador	Improved understanding of objectives to raise the profile of Wales and the identification of potential business opportunities.
9 July, 2003	First Minister/Sue Essex AM/ Alan Pugh AM	Visit of Rt Hon Helen Clark – Prime Minister of New Zealand	Follow up to an invitation by the First Minister via the New Zealand High Commission. Included meeting with the First Minister, who hosted lunch and an evening reception. The Prime Minister addressed the Plenary session of the Assembly.	A very successful visit which strengthened links between Wales and New Zealand.
11 July 2003	First Minister/ External Relations VIP Visits Team	Visit by the India High Commissioner HE Mr Ranendra Sen	Meeting with the First Minister to reinforce, strengthen and develop economic co-operation. Also meetings with the WDA, Cardiff Chamber of Commerce and the Western Mail	During Mr Sen's visit, the news broke that Wockhradt Ltd, a leader in the Indian pharmaceutical sector had acquired CP Pharmaceuticals of Wrexham in a £10.8m deal. A press release issued announcing the visit by Mr Sen and welcoming the take-over.
27 July 2003	First Minister/ External Relations VIP Visits Team	Visit by J Dennis Hastert, Speaker and delegation of American Congressmen	Meeting with the First Minister and dinner in evening. Opportunity to network with other Welsh politicians, academics, businesses etc	Successful visit which contributed to raising the profile of Wales with influential visitors.

30 July 2003	No Ministerial involvement External Relations VIP Visits Team	Study group of 29 government officials from Ethiopia	Visit organised by UN Emergency Unit for Ethiopia to look at devolution and agricultural issues including foot and mouth.	No outcomes to report at this time
4-7 August 2003	Andrew Davies AM Minister for Economic Development and Transport	Lorient Interceltique Festival	The Minister for Economic Development and Transport, Andrew Davies AM, visited Lorient from 5 7 August 2003 to represent Wales. As well as attending some Festival events, the Minister hosted a Tourism Promotion lunch, organised by the Wales Tourist Board. The Minister also undertook a programme of visits to look at how Brittany is taking forward their strategy for Waterfront and Marina development.	The Festival is seen as one of the key events in the European calendar, and as the featured nation in 2002, Wales enjoyed enormous success. The Economic Development Minister's visit sought to build on that success.
18 August 2003	No Ministerial involvement External Relations VIP Visits Team	Visit by Mr Gupta Executive Editor "Prajavani Bangalore	FCO sponsored visit to Wales and to Thompson Foundation in particular to discuss training for Indian journalists.	No outcomes to report at this time
22 August – 30 August 2003	Jane Davidson AM – Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning	Visit to New South Wales, Australia	To focus on collaborative learning between both education systems and to support the achievement of education policy in Wales through facilitating shared learning with the education community in New South Wales. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Welsh Assembly Government and NSW Government is due for review this year. The visit will identify ways in which positive outcomes can be	The development of new and existing links with partners in NSW and an opportunity to have benchmarked Wales' progress as a Learning Country against a highly regarded education service.

			<p>achieved through securing a strong educational underpinning to the Memorandum of Understanding in the future.</p>	<p>It is intended that that visit will lead to the development of collaborative learning ventures in a number of areas that would be beneficial in achieving education policy objectives in Wales and NSW.</p>
<p>1-5 September 2003</p>	<p>First Minister</p>	<p>Accompany the Trade Mission to Latvia and Estonia</p>	<p>To develop greater trading links between Welsh companies and their counterparts, to undertake a programme of wider activity to raise the profile of Wales in these countries and to develop closer relationships.</p>	<p>The visit provided a useful opportunity to develop business contacts and explore the potential for future collaboration in other areas, such as cultural and language interests.</p>
<p>6 September 2003</p>	<p>First Minister</p>	<p>Milan. Meet representatives of University of Catania, Sicily and host joint WTI/WDA reception</p>	<p>Build and develop inward investment and international trade links with Italian companies. Raise the profile of Wales in the context of Italy v Wales football international.</p>	<p>Successful event with good potential for business. Good publicity opportunity.</p>

<p>9 September 2003</p>	<p>No Ministerial involvement</p> <p>External Relations VIP Visits Team</p>	<p>Study group of 7 senior officials from Shanghai regional government</p>	<p>Visit arranged at request of XYZ Communications to study management services in Welsh Assembly Government.</p>	<p>No outcomes to report at this time.</p>
<p>10 September 2003</p>	<p>First Minister/</p> <p>External Relations VIP Visits Team</p>	<p>Visit by the Finnish Ambassador</p> <p>HE Pertti Salolainen & party</p>	<p>The Ambassador and members of the Embassy travelled to Wales for the Wales/Finland football match. Meeting held with the First Minister, representatives of the Welsh Development Agency and the Football Association of Wales.</p>	<p>Closer links with Finnish Embassy and Community. Better understanding of Wales.</p>
<p>11-12 September 2003</p>	<p>First Minister</p>	<p>Attend the CPMR AGM. St Malo</p>	<p>First Minister attended the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions 30th Anniversary event and chaired a plenary session on territorial cohesion in the enlarged EU which included a contribution from Commissioner Barnier. The First Minister also met the President of the CPMR and its Secretary General as well as representatives of CPMR member regions.</p> <p>The First Minister held a meeting with the President of Brittany to explore the possibility of a Memorandum of Understanding between Wales and Brittany. Agreed work towards signing a Memorandum of Understanding between Wales next year.</p>	<p>Improved links with CPMR and contributed to the development of the relationship with the regions of Europe.</p>

<p>16 September to 21 September 2003</p>	<p>Carwyn Jones AM, Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside.</p>	<p>3rd Conference of the International Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development, Perth, Australia.</p>	<p>To represent Wales as the Network brings together regions from all over the globe to share information and combine thinking power to tackle sustainable development issues.</p> <p>To accept the role of Co-Chair of the Network, on behalf of Wales and the First Minister, in preparation for hosting the next International Network of Regional Governments Sustainable Development Conference in March 2004, in Cardiff.</p>	<p>Acceptance of role of Co-Chair of the next International Network of Regional Governments Sustainable Development Conference and the visit enhanced international links and roles in the field of sustainable development.</p>
<p>24 September 2003</p>	<p>First Minister Jane Davidson AM.</p>	<p>European Association of Regional and Local Authorities for Lifelong Learning (EARLALL)</p>	<p>Attended a reception and gala dinner to mark the General Assembly of the European Association of Regional and Local Authorities for Lifelong Learning (EARLALL) which is being held in Cardiff.</p> <p>Jane Davidson AM was appointed Vice-President of EARLALL in September 2003</p>	<p>No outcomes to report at this time.</p>
<p>26 September 2003</p>	<p>First Minister/ Sue Essex, Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services, Andrew Davies AM Minister for Economic Development and</p>	<p>Visit by Michel Barnier – European Commissioner</p>	<p>Visit to Wales by European Commissioner Michel Barnier. Meeting with Ministers. Visit to Structural Funds projects.</p>	<p>Opportunity to show the Commissioner how Wales is applying Structural Funds and discussions on a range of subjects.</p>

