

Joint communique

Australia-France science and innovation meeting

27 October 2016, Paris

France and Australia are drawn together by their history, values and common aspirations for a secure and more prosperous future. Both countries are now engaged in a process of upscaling their bilateral relation currently framed by the 2012 Joint Statement of Strategic Partnership between Australia and France. In this context, France and Australia acknowledge that science and innovation cooperation is key to achieve future strategic bilateral objectives.

In acknowledgement of the strengthening ties in science and innovation between Australia and France, officials from the Government of Australia and the Government of the French Republic met in Paris on 27 October, 2016. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange information and views on policy, and to review and discuss current collaboration and identify priorities for future activities.

The meeting was co-chaired by Ms Glenys Beauchamp, Secretary of the Australian Government Department of Industry, Innovation and Science and Mr Pierre Valla, Deputy Director General for Research and Innovation of the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

The Australian delegation included senior officials and science leaders from the Office of Innovation and Science Australia; the Australian Institute of Marine Science; the CSIRO; the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation; IP Australia; the National Health and Medicine Research Council; the Australian Research Council; the Department of Education and Training; the Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, National Measurement Institute.

The French delegation included senior officials and science leaders from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research; Ministry for Economy and Finance; The National Center for Scientific research (CNRS); the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM); the Pasteur Institute; the National Research Institute in Agronomy (INRA); The National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture (IRSTEA); the National Institute for Marine Research (IFREMER); the French Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation (INRIA); the University of Paris Saclay and the Association Nationale pour la Recherche et de la Technologie (ANRT).

A list of participants can be found at **Attachment A**.

The meeting provided an opportunity for Australia and France to identify areas where strategic cooperation could be further developed to serve the common purposes and benefits of both knowledge-based economies. The meeting also provided an opportunity for policy makers, senior executives and science representatives from major research organisations to discuss recent science and innovation policy developments and programmes in both countries.

Government priorities were put forward through an exchange of information on each countries' science, research and innovation system. France gave an overview of key policy areas including the Investment for the Future/Industry for the Future initiatives, the France Europe Strategy 2020 and international cooperation and the French Strategy for Research Infrastructure. Australia provided an update on key national policy drivers including the National Innovation and Science Agenda, the National Research Infrastructure Roadmap and the R&D tax incentive.

The meeting acknowledged the Australian-French relationship in science and innovation was stronger than ever before. Opportunities for future collaborations were identified through the CIFRE programme, the Carnot institutes, the IDEX initiatives, international joint research labs, on one side for France, the Cooperative Research Centres programme, the CSIRO, the Australian Research Council and Australia's National Health and Medical Research Council, on the other side for Australia. Delegates noted there

were current barriers in the relationship, but acknowledged the opportunities that could flow from better exchange of information and greater understanding of each other's science and innovation systems.

Future of areas of cooperation in science and innovation were identified through a discussion on shared strategic priorities, both at an institutional and government level. The meeting noted key priority areas as being 'Industry 4.0' initiatives in France and Australia and the underpinning research capabilities in common priority areas such as space technologies; health and medical; marine and agri-environmental sciences.

Australia and France agreed that the direction for future collaboration will be further detailed in 2017 through a common action plan. This document will focus on effective models of collaboration and areas of mutual interest, such as strengthening collaboration between Australia and France on research-industry linkages:

- through cooperation in higher-education and research training (graduate and postgraduate internships in industry and research labs, joint PhD schemes/co-tutelles, industry-PhD schemes);
- through cross-sectorial research and technology cooperation using existing opportunities and instruments (e.g. French Industry-Academia Joint-units, Australian Global Connection Fund and Global Innovation Linkages schemes);
- by encouraging the development linkages between French Competitiveness Clusters and Australian Industry Growth Centres, as well as between respective innovation incubators and accelerators; and,
- through a sharing of practices in the area of entrepreneurship development for graduate, postgraduate students and early career researchers.

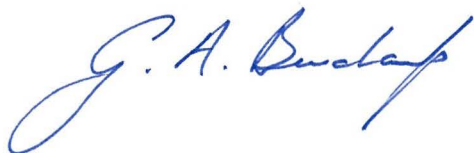
Taking advantage of the respective French and Australian world class higher education and research capacities by stimulating frontier and interdisciplinary research, as well as of joint postgraduate training collaboration in the broad S.T.E.M area. In this respect, both delegations recall the importance of maintaining a support to researchers and student mobility.

The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science and the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research look forward to the opportunity to strengthen the relationship between Australia and France. The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Affairs is also committed to reinforcing science and innovation linkages

Both sides agree to support officials-level science and innovation cooperation meetings either in person or by videoconference, as practical, on a semi-regular basis at intervals to be determined through diplomatic channels.


Signed in Paris on the 27th of October 2016.

Ms Glenys Beauchamp



Secretary of the Australian Government
Department of Industry, Innovation
and Science

M. Pierre Valla



Deputy Director General for Research and
Innovation of the French Ministry of Higher
Education and Research

Attachment A

Australian delegation:

Ms Glenys Beauchamp, Secretary, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
Mr John Ryan, Minister-Counsellor (Industry, Science and Education), Paris & Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
Ms Sue Weston, Deputy Secretary, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
Ms Ann Bray, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Office of Innovation and Science Australia
Ms Clare McLaughlin, General Manager, Science Agencies Governance, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
Mr John Gunn, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Institute of Marine Science
Dr David Williams, Executive Director - Digital, National Facilities and Collections, CSIRO
Dr Peter Fisk, Chief Executive, National Measurement Institute
Dr Simone Richter, Group Executive, Nuclear Science and Technology and Landmark Infrastructure, ANSTO
Dr Fran Roden, General Manager, Policy and Governance Group, IP Australia
Mr Tony Kingdon, General Manager, National Health and Medical Research Council
Ms Kylie Emery, Acting Executive General Manager, Australian Research Council
Ms Virginia Hart, Acting Group Manager, Research and Economic Group, Department of Education and Training
Ms Erica Kneipp, Assistant Secretary, Health and Medical Research Branch, Department of Health
Mr Richard Webb, Director, Research and Innovation Policy, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
Ms Nicola Hinder, Minister Counsellor, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
Ms Jahla Gato, International Science Strategy Section, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
Ms Jennifer Mackinlay, Senior Trade and Investment Officer, Austrade Paris

French delegation:

Mr. Thierry Mandon, French Minister for Higher Education and Research
Mr Pierre Valla, Deputy Director, Directorate General for Research and Innovation, French Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research (MENESR)
Ms Anne Grillo, Director of Culture, Education, Research and Network Coordination, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MAEDI)
Mr Patrice Brudieu, Space adviser of the General Director for Research & Innovation, Head of the Space Policy & Defence Department, French Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research (MENESR)
Ms Thanh-Truc VU, Policy Officer for Asia-Oceania Cooperation, French Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research (MENESR)
Mr Thierry Damerval, Delegate general manager, French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM)
Mr Eric Horlait, Deputy CEO for Transfer and Industrial Partnership, French Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation (INRIA)
Mr Marc Jouan, International Department Vice-President, Institut Pasteur
Mr Pierre Gohar, Director of Innovation and Industrial Partnerships, University of Paris Saclay

Mr Pierrick Givone, Deputy Director General of Research and Innovation, National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture (IRSTEA)

Ms Clarisse Angelier, Head of CIFRE department, Association nationale de la recherche et de la technologie (ANRT)

Ms Béatrice Eveno, Policy Officer CIFRE – Entrepreneurship, Directorate General for Research and Innovation, French Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research (MENESR)

Mr. Robert Habib, Head of International Affairs, French National Institute for Agricultural Research

Mr. Patrick Vincent, Deputy Managing Director, French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea

Mr. Benjamin Gallezot, Deputy Director General, Directorate General for Entreprise, French Ministry of Economy, Industry and Digital Affairs

Ms Anne Rouault, Science and Technology attaché, French Embassy in Australia (MAEDI)

Ms Vigdis Beaussier, Policy officer - academic and scientific cooperation with Asia, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MAEDI)