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To: Hupp, Millan[hupp.millan@epa.gov]
From: Matthew Freedman
Sent: Thur 7/6/2017 8:49:48 AM
Subject: Re: Australia meeting
[Mail Attachment.ics](#)

Millan:

Greetings from Marrakech. Sorry for the delay in followup. I am still collecting inputs from friends but wanted to give you some additional thoughts on scheduling.

I think it is important to play both offense and defense. Offense to move forward the Agenda from the Administrator and defense in terms of a 'risk mitigation' strategy to address in a proactive manner critics from whatever perspective. That is why I urge consideration of some type of deliverable - a Communique, Statement of Principles, Memorandum of Understanding - something that codifies the goals and objectives of the trip but also the larger issues. This will blunt any criticism in the future and allows the Administrator for focus on the positive outcomes.

The trip will undoubtedly turn to issues where the Administration differs from the current Aus government - climate change is but one issue, but there is no reason not to have an informed and thoughtful discussion. It allows both parties to address critics, and to move on. With a document that can be readied - several paragraphs only - it would frame the meetings and the agenda that is being put together. That would, by definition, make some meetings more important and others less. For example, State of Victoria meetings might be more important if part of a Communique talked about future discussions on Federal vs State environment issues/deregulation etc. and the Administrator wanted to have a parallel dialogue between EPA and the States in the US.

You also asked about the initial days. Here is an update

Arrival Friday.

-- Since you will arrive around 6:30 am you will either need to get an early check in or have the booked the rooms the previous evening so that they are available. The Embassy will handle but just wanted you to be aware. Walking around Sydney Harbor, the Rocks (where the early boats came in with British prisoners arrived) is fascinating. You will need some down time, too. In the afternoon you might consider taking the ferry from Circular Quay to either the Zoo (15 min). There is a great Chinese/Asian rest, WOO about 7 min walk from the hotel. In fact, Circular Quay, Rocks etc are all within 3 blocks of the hotel so easy logistics. The best single book to understand the foundation and history of Aus is The Fatal Shores which gives the context of how and why the British would round up undesireables and send them to Aus for being petty criminals etc (and no London police force then)

-- Saturday : A morning water taxi ride from Circular Quay to The Boathouse for breakfast would be great. It is owned by the (former) Minister of Trade Andrew Robb, a good friend, and the breakfast food is special. With good weather you can sit outside at picnic tables with

umbrellas and enjoy Saturday morning with locals. Also, you can take a 15 minute ride to Bondi Beach from Circular Quay and walk as long as you want on a long and winding paved walking trail along the sea at a high level with runners, surfers etc and watch the surfers. I can send some photos if useful to visualize. Definitely a memorable experience. Dinner? Could be at a traditional German place in The Rock, if the Administrator likes German but I'll come up with other options. There are several along on the pier at Woogamalloo - steak, Indian, Chinese - first rate which is about a 7 min drive from the hotel.

-- Sunday: It would be nice to see if part of the schedule tied to Sydney Harbor clean up that is being proposed for Monday might be shifted even though it may be inconvenient for some. Otherwise, we might think of one or two individual meetings, and then a small CEO roundtable in the hotel in the afternoon. Maybe a visit from the US Consul General to give an overview. I am getting specific suggestions on invitees etc.

I think it may be useful to meet someone in the Labor Party opposition, but will get informal guidance from Josh's office. Again, so the Administrator can say that he heard all sides on environmental issues.

I've received an updated/more detailed draft schedule from the Embassy but reminded them that I'm simply providing input to you and that all the normal decision-making processes and communications need to remain in place, and that my only role is to provide informal input and suggestions to decision-makers.

Would be pleased to discuss the concept of any Communique if appropriate.

Off to Lisbon now but will followup with additional inputs.

Matthew

On Jun 28, 2017, at 2:29 AM, Hupp, Millan wrote:

Matthew will call Millan upon arrival at EPA.



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