

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

TUESDAY, 25 JUNE 2013

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker:

1. Report of Study Visit to Bavaria, 6 to 14 April 2013.

1. Background

A small multiparty delegation from the provincial parliament, led by the Deputy Speaker, visited Bavaria from 6 to 14 April 2013. The visit was in response to an invitation to the Speaker from the President of the Bavarian parliament, following a visit by a delegation from the Bavarian Parliament to the Provincial Parliament in February 2013.

Bavaria and the Western Cape entered into a partnership arrangement in 1995 in terms of which the two regions cooperate in various fields and share best practices. The aim of the study visit was therefore to study and share experiences, particularly in respect of parliamentary administration and procedures, but also in respect of local government, agriculture, trade, economic development and civil society matters.

Bavaria is a state of Germany, located in the Southeast of Germany. It is the largest state by area, forming almost 20% of the total land area of Germany. Bavaria is Germany's second most populous state after North Rhine-Westphalia, with 12,5 million inhabitants, more than any of the three sovereign nations on its borders. Bavaria's capital and largest city is Munich, the third largest city in Germany.

Delegation

Mr P J C Pretorius (DA) (Deputy Speaker, and Leader of the delegation)

Ms A Rossouw (DA)

Mr J J Visser (DA)

Ms C F Beerwinkel (ANC)
 Ms V Hani (ANC)
 Dr D Brand (Bavaria's official representative in the Western Cape)
 Mr A J Poggenpoel (Official)

2. Programme

Monday, 8 April 2013

Meeting with the South African Consulate-General

The delegation was welcomed at the Consulate by Mr Dumisani Dlomo, Consul: Political and Ms Ogaufi Masibi, Vice Consul: Political. Mr Dlomo briefed the delegation on the role of the Consulate-General and the importance of the relationship between South Africa and Germany. He outlined some of the key activities performed by the Consulate, namely:

- Generally facilitating business between Germany and South Africa;
- Administering an exchange programme for students;
- Dealing with approximately 20 visitors per day, mostly visa related application;
- Promotion of tourism and investments; and
- Interacting with South African Airways and Lufthansa regarding direct flights between Cape Town and Munich.

Meeting at the Bavarian Chancellery

Dr Fischer: Head of International Relations welcomed the Members of the delegation to the Bavarian Chancellery. He emphasized the important role of the cooperation agreement between Bavaria and the Western Cape. Dr Brand gave a presentation on the current status of the various programmes involved in the Bavaria/Western Cape partnership.

Dr Brand highlighted the following:

Economy/business

- Training seminars – renewable energy, green technology and waste management;
- Vocational training – Green Cape; and
- Vocational training – Institute of Culinary Arts.

Education and training

- Cooperation between Katholische Stiftung Fachhochschule and University of Western Cape – nursing; and
- Public Sector management.

Science and Research

- Cooperation and joint research between universities.

Local Government

- Capacity building projects with Hanns Seidel Stiftung;
- Publication of Renewable Energy Guide for Local Government;
- Promotion and development of municipal partnerships; and
- Knowledge transfer to strengthen municipal governance in the Western Cape.

Environment/climate change

Firefighting and disaster management

- Technical team to visit Bavaria; and
- Support to develop training school and training material for disaster management in Western Cape.

Energy efficiency/sustainability/urban development

- Sustainable renovation of historic buildings;
- Two Rivers Urban Park; and
- Exhibition of energy-efficient design and construction in 2014 in Cape Town as part of World Design Capital activities.

Youth development

- Youth exchange programs – BJR;
- Sondeza Youth Camp;
- Schools exchange/partnership programmes; and
- Graf Rasso Gymnasium – Stellenbosch High School and Eerste River Secondary School.

Agriculture

- Technical exchanges;
- Renewable energy on farms;
- Young farmers exchange program;
- Fleckvieh research project; and
- Cooperation between Weihenstephan, Elsenburg and Stellenbosch University.

Civil society/NGO's

- Promotion of civil society dialogue;
- Fair trade;
- Cooperation between Evangelische Kirche Fürstentfeldbruck and partner churches in Western Cape;
- Bavaria Western Cape Association – promotion of bilateral relations, think-tank for new initiatives;
- Cooperation between Eine Welt Netzwerk and Western Cape Network for Peace and Development;
- Training of unemployment women – Bergzicht Training Centre;

- World of Eve Up-cycling project; and
- Cooperation between Evangelische Akademie Tutzing and EFSA;

Sport

Chess – joint activities with Munich Chess Academy and Western Cape Chess.

Culture

- Cape Classic

20 Years partnership celebrations in Munich in 2015

- Joint program of activities; and
- Showcase of cooperation projects.

(Hard-copy of presentation is available on request).

Meeting at the Bavarian Parliament

The delegation was warmly received by Ms Barbara Stamm, President of the Bavarian Parliament, a number of deputy presidents and members of parliament. Deputy Speaker Pretorius was honoured to sign, and write a message, a specially designed page in the Official Visitors book of Parliament. The delegation was impressed to see the South African national flag flying alongside the German national and Bavarian flags in front of the Building.

The two delegations engaged in intensive and comprehensive discussions on a variety of topics related to our institutions and regions, inter alia:

- organizational structures of the Bavarian Parliament and the administration;
- parliamentary governance;
- budgetary powers;
- oversight of parliament over the Executive;
- work of committees; and
- public participation.

The Bavarian State Parliament has two important committees, namely;

- the Steering Committee; and
- the Council of Elders.

The Steering Committee is an advisory and decision-making body and deals with the administrative matters of the Landtag. It compiles the Landtag's budget, resolves on building measures and deals with personnel issues of the Landtag's office. The Steering Committee is composed of 10 Members of various parties.

The Council of Elders is a consulting and coordinating body in parliamentary matters and determines the agenda, date, time and seating arrangements of the plenary assembly. The Council of Elders is not an open meeting. It is a multi-party body and consists of 17

Members. The designation “Council of Elders” is not a reflection of the physical age of members serving on the body.

President Stamm emphasized the need for continued cooperation and information sharing between the two institutions, and stressed that in a globalized world it was imperative that parliaments, and not only governments, obtain first-hand information, and study tours were ideally suited for that purpose.

President Stamm also hosted a formal dinner for the delegation in the parliamentary building, attended also by a number of senior office-bearers from different parties.

Tuesday, 9 April 2013

Meeting with Mr Martin Schüssler, Bavarian State Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry.

Mr Schüssler gave a presentation on the background, role and responsibilities of the State Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry.

85 % of Bavaria was rural and was well known for its culture-rich traditions, intact nature, sustainable agriculture and forestry, and it also had very low unemployment and public debt levels.

General functions of the Ministry were to:

- Provide suitable framework conditions for competitive agricultural, forestry and food industries;
- Support healthy and sustainable food and nutrition;
- Strengthen rural areas and enhance their attractiveness;
- Organize training, education and counseling; and
- Monitor the European Union payments office for agricultural and fisheries funds.

Functions of Rural Development were to:

- Improve agricultural infrastructure and quality of life;
- Strengthen economic, social and cultural potentials;
- Actively integrate citizens;
- Promote internal development of villages;
- Preserve and improve the beauty and recreational value of landscapes; and
- Ensure energy turnaround in rural areas.

(Hard-copy of presentation is available on request).

Visit to Eine Welt Netzwerk (the One World Network)

The delegation was received by Dr Alexander Fonari.

Dr Fonari briefed the delegation on networking organisations, partnerships and projects, particularly in respect of their involvement in the Western Cape.

Networking Organisations

The **Western Cape Network for Community Peace and Development** was a collectively guided independent organisation of non-governmental organization (NGO's) working in the field of conflict resolution, youth, women, community development, peace building and sport in the Western Cape. Members of these NGO's shared common values such as empowerment, youth development, peace building, conflict management, diversity, integrity, transparency, and accountability which became binding principles. The *One World Network* of Bavaria was the regional non-profit network of action groups, institution and fair trade shops. All members were engaged in one world solidarity work and were raising awareness.

Partnership

Co-operation between the Free State of Bavaria and the Western Cape Provincial Government.

The partnership had been successful for more than fifteen years and all parties agreed that it should continue to grow. This agreement also entailed working together for fair and worldwide sustainable development.

It involved the following projects:

- Khayelitsha Multi-Purpose Community Centre;
- KSFH and University of the Western Cape;
- Themba-Labantu; and
- Imbali Western Cape – Lebenslinien e.V

Wednesday, 10 April 2013

Meeting with Vice Mayor Hep Monatzeder, City of Munich

The Vice Mayor welcomed the delegation to the City of Munich and briefed the delegation on various economic issues and challenges.

Various challenges experienced:

- Additional funding for transport;
- Underground building;
- The approval of buildings which must be approved by Federal Government;
- The creation of jobs;
- Investment in solar energy; and
- The demographic change to solidify and to further improve the competitiveness of the city of Munich.

Health and education policies were independent and child care was a local government competency. The City was actively promoting facilities to increase accessibility for the disabled.

In conclusion the Mayor stressed that no city could prosper without its political leaders learning from one another, demonstrating best practices and persevering initiatives.

Visit to Unserland in Ortsteil Unterschweimbach

The delegation was received by Mr Nikolaus von Doderer.

Mr Von Doderer briefed the committee on Unserland (meaning *Our Land*) which started out in 1994. The main goal was to give the inhabitants of the region a choice to shape their living environment. The People of Unserland wanted to produce their own bread, which led to the establishment of their own bakery and with the bread being produced according to guidelines orientated towards environmentally friendly production. People from churches, consumers, craft and trade and agriculture all joined forces to help and sell this product.

From a small beginning their efforts had grown to the extent that some 40 products were being produced locally, including eggs, flour, milk, cheese and honey. These products were being sold via multiple channels such as food crafts, special stores and different food retailer chains within the area. All Unserland products were being priced at market related prices and had very strict controlling rules in place to ensure that all products were fair priced. Unserland was not subsidized by the government.

Meeting with Mayor Dr Kurt Gribl, City of Augsburg

The Mayor welcomed the delegation to the City of Augsburg and briefed the delegation on various economic issues and challenges.

The City of Augsburg was approximately 2000 years old. It was an important industrial city, involved in trade with numerous countries. The diesel engine was invented in Augsburg. The City has a population of almost 250 000 people.

Augsburg as a city strongly promoted energy efficient systems and its goal was to ensure that all households had a solar panel to save energy during the long and cold winters. The public transport system was very well developed. During the 2nd World War the city was severely damaged, including the City Hall. The City went to great lengths to restore its buildings to their original state.

Thursday, 11 April 2013

Meeting with Dr Witterauf, CEO of the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF)

Dr Witterauf welcomed the delegation and presented an overview of the Hanns Seidel Foundation and its involvement in South Africa.

The organization started in 1991. Its focus was to develop a service to strengthen democracy, understanding the Rule of law and combating corruption. It also focused on helping with social projects for the poor and creating an active civil society. It also worked in partnership with the Municipality of Stellenbosch, and was involved in capacity building within local government. The foundation was also involved in a number of workshops and seminars in the Western Cape. The foundation had limited funding available for projects. Its main focus was assisting with strengthening local government and enhancing relations between the two countries. The foundation received funding from the Federal Government, the Bavarian Government, as well as the European Union.

The possibility of involving the foundation in 2014 in a project to train and induct newly elected members of the Provincial Parliament was discussed, and could be explored further.

In conclusion dr Witterauf mentioned that scholarships for pupils were available but that the students must be able to speak German.

Friday, 12 April 2013

Meeting with the 2nd Mayor, Ms Ruth Dorner, of Neumarkt

The delegation was welcomed by the 2nd Mayor of Neumarkt, Ms Ruth Dorner, and Mr Ralf Mutzel, from the Sustainable Development Office.

The Mayor briefed the delegation on matters related to sustainable development in Neumarkt. She outlined the various projects that were being developed, namely:

- An electric car for the use of the Lord Mayor;
- An electric city bicycle;
- A “citizen house” for use by inhabitants; and
- Various projects for social development and participation.

Neumarkt was also the first Fairtrade City in Bavaria.

Sustainable development projects undertaken in the District of Neumarkt:

- A municipal greenhouse, using waste heat from an adjacent sewage plant;
- A large photovoltaics power plant on a railway embankment, with noise protection;
- A net-plus energy administration building; and
- A charging station for electric cars.

The Mayor concluded that the town had a population of some 40 000 and that it was in an excellent financial position with a very low unemployment rate and an almost 100% rates payment rate. A few macro owner-run businesses, employing thousands, formed the backbone of the town’s economy. Citizens of the town represented more than 100 nationalities, and there was also a strong culture of volunteerism among citizens. The Mayor also mentioned that they were interested in entering into a partnership agreement with a town in the Western Cape.

3. Conclusion

The study visit to Bavaria was highly successful and further strengthened the relations between the two regions, and particularly also between the respective parliaments. These relations should be further expanded in future.

The delegation wishes to particularly point out that it was impressed by the extent of current relations and projects between the governments of, and NGO’s and civil society in, the Western Cape and Bavaria. However, members of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament were not always aware or informed of the existence or nature of such projects or details relating to the province’s relations with Bavaria or other international regions. The delegation therefore urges the Provincial Parliament to consider appropriate steps to ensure that

members are regularly briefed about matters related to international relations and cooperation involving the province.

4. Acknowledgements

The delegation wishes to express its gratitude towards the officials of the Provincial Parliament involved in arranging the visit, officials of the Consulate-General in Munich, as well as officials of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation in Pretoria. A special word of thanks also for the assistance and guidance offered by Dr Dirk Brand in his capacity as official representative of the state of Bavaria in the Western Cape

2. Report on study visit of the Western Cape Parliamentary Delegation to the Shandong Province, China from 6 to 14 April 2013.

1. Delegates

Mr MC Walters (Leader of the delegation)
 Mr MGE Wiley
 Mr AM Figlan
 Mr ZC Stali
 Ms M Tingwe
 Mr M Ncedana
 Ms GJ Accom (official)

2. Background

On 10 March 1998 the then Premier, Mr Hernus Kriel and members of the Cabinet of the Western Cape Province met with the Director-General of the Foreign Affairs Office of the Shandong Provincial People's Government (People's Republic of China), Mr Wu Zhongshu and his delegation to establish diplomatic relations between the provinces of Shandong and the Western Cape. This relationship, in accordance with the principles of mutual respect and benefit, gave effect to the development of co-operation in the fields of trade, tourism, education, culture, agriculture and other relevant fields.

According to the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Mr Li Chunting (Governor of Shandong Province, People's Republic of China) and Mr Gerald Morkel (Premier of the Western Cape Province) on 12 June 2000 in Jinan, Shandong Province, both provinces agreed to actively engage in intergovernmental communication and collaboration and to establish effective channels of communication, to give effect to the sisterhood relationship.

On 1 March 2013 delegates from the Shandong Parliament visited the Western Cape Provincial Parliament to strengthen this relationship between the two parliaments.

In return, the Western Cape Provincial Parliament also visited China to cement this relationship. The topics for discussion of the study visit related to Agricultural Rural Development, Oversight, Economic Development, Local Government and Housing Issues. Three cities were visited within the Shandong province, namely Jinan, Weifang and Qingdao.

3. Background on Shandong Province

The Shandong Province of 157.1 thousand square kilometres lies on the east coast of China's mainland and has a population of 96.8487 million. With Jinan being the capital city, Shandong has under its jurisdiction 17 cities with 138 counties, towns and urban districts.

The politics of Shandong is structured in a dual party-government system. The Governor of Shandong is the highest ranking official in the People's Government of Shandong. However, in the province's dual party government governing system, the Governor has less power than the Shandong Communist Party of China Provincial Committee Secretary, colloquially termed the "Shandong CPC Party Chief". Shandong has a GDP of 5.00132 trillion Yuan in 2012, and is the third largest economy in China.

Shandong has made considerable efforts to advance marine economy and explores marine resources in a scientific way and fosters competitive marine industries. Shandong plans on building an eco-efficient economic demonstration zone and a unique industrial base and reserves land resource development area.

Shandong is China's largest supplier of agricultural products. Food grain, cotton, oil crops, fruit and aquatic products are produced in great quantities and it is famous for donkey-hide gelatine, sea kelp and sea cucumber. Its industries include energy, chemical, metallurgy, construction material, machinery, electronics, textiles, foodstuffs and in recent years, new energy, new materials, new IT, new pharmaceuticals and marine resources development.

Taowen, the earliest Chinese written language dating back over 4 000 years, was based in Shandong. In addition to Confucius, the greatest thinker and educator in ancient China, it was also home to various thinkers, strategists, calligraphers, poets and agronomists.

Shandong has 137 higher learning institutions, 560 secondary vocational schools, 200 museums, 153 public libraries and 9 state-level cultural demonstration bases. Health care in Shandong is steadily improving due to a network of 68 thousand service providers with 476 thousand beds combined.

Shandong offers wide choices for tourists. In Jinan there is Mount Tai and Qufu has rich views of mountains, waters and heritage sites relating to ancient sages. Qingdao, Yantai and Weihai are famous for their summer resorts and sand beaches. Weifang is the venue for the world-famous kite festival as well as Yangjiabu woodcut New-Year paintings and shows of colourful folklores.

As one of the first provinces that came to benefit from China's opening-up policy, Shandong has over time brought Qingdao, Yantai, Weihai, Zibo, Weifang, Rizhao, Jinan and Dongying into its Peninsula Economic Open Zone. It enjoys thriving trade relations with over 180 countries and regions around the world. Well-known companies includes amongst others; Hisense, Weichai Power and Shan Steel Group.

At present the Shandong province has cultivated 378 sister-city relationships with foreign countries including 63 pairs at the provincial level in over 66 countries.

4. Itinerary

The itinerary for the period of 7 to 14 April 2013 was as follows:

Sunday, 7 April- Arriving at Jinan Airport

Monday, 8 April

Visit Jinan City Urban Planning Exhibition Hall

Visit and table discussion with Shandong Provincial People's Congress – Mr Zhao Ruilin, Deputy Secretary-General of the Standing Committee of Shandong Provincial People's Congress

Visit to Taishan Sports Industry Group (<http://en.taishansports.com/>)

Visit in Lishan Community of Li xia District

Dinner with Shandong Foreign Affairs Office

Tuesday, 9 April

Sightseeing Mount Tai

Visit to Tai'an High-tech Zone

Wednesday, 10 April

Visit vegetable greenhouse, cow breeding farm – Licheng District

Leaving Jinan for Weifang City

Dinner with Weifang Foreign Affairs Office

Thursday, 11 April

Visit to Shandong Luneng Taishan Football School

(<http://www.lnschool.cn/English/football.asp>)

Visit to Foton Lovol Heavy Industry Co., Ltd. (<http://en.lovol.com.cn/>)

Site visit of Yangjiabu folk culture

Leaving Weifang for Qingdao City

Friday, 12 April

Visit to Hisense Group (www.hisense.com)

Visit and table discussion with Shandong Maritime Safety Administration

Site visit to Olympic Sailing Base

Dinner with Qingdao Foreign Affairs Office

Saturday, 13 April

Sightseeing of Laoshan Mountain

Sunday, 14 April

Visit to Qingdao Polar Ocean World

Sunday, 14 April - Departing Qingdao Airport

Day 1: Monday 8 April 2013

Jinan Urban Planning Exhibition Centre/Hall

Profile:

The Jinan Urban Planning Exhibition centre/hall first opened on 1 July 2011. The hall displays Jinan's urban planning and development, including models of planned and recent developments as well as Jinan's history and culture. The exhibition centre enables the public to understand the planning and construction considerations, including residential, commercial, green space and transportation and other planning and design.

The centre is run by the Mayor of Jinan and its funding is obtained from government. The centre boasts a 3D cinema which presents a film called "Dynamic capital city of springs" which in 10 minutes depicts ever-changing scenes that allow the audience to walk on the moat side, take a shuttle on the highway, wander in the old charming Guxiang area of Jinan and then through the high-rise buildings into the future.

The centre has a model of the entire Jinan which enables visitors to walk over 700 square meters of Jinan city within 5 minutes. Decorative lights depicts the whole panoramic view of Jinan, blue lights depicting rivers, green lights outline a section of urban road, yellow depicting the natural Jinan area. The model is made in accordance with the scale of 1:850 and illustrates not only a variety of construction in accordance with the Jinan scaled down production, but even the ravines, mountains and undulating terrains.

The exhibition area also has electronic touch screens detailing all aspects of Jinan and has access to more detailed information of Jinan's development and planning.

Delegation:

The delegation was given a tour and 3D movie presentation on how Jinan was developed over time, its historical and cultural heritage sites and its present and planned future transport, construction and communication infrastructure.

Observations:

It is clear that considerable planning and adequate resources are spent on developing China's urban areas. There is a striving for balance between protecting the city's natural history and culture and building space sold for profit which contributes to the wealth of the country.

The majority of the funding for capital infrastructure development projects is received from Government.

The delegation was impressed with the technology used within the Exhibition hall and it was found that the City has a Designing and Planning Bureau that maintains the information within the Exhibition hall and various service providers/contractors are used to design and develop the material and presentation videos and technology used within the hall. The Technology deployed and message conveyed to the public by such exhibitions must have a major influence in mobilising public support for essential development and engendering pride in the culture and history of the city.

Due to the rapid economic growth and development of Jinan there is an increase in urbanisation. As a result there is huge infrastructural development taking place and Jinan accommodates the increased influx to the city by building huge apartment buildings within close proximity to each other. These buildings are built on state owned land and people living

on the land prior to the demolition are either compensated, moved to alternative housing accommodation or given an option to rent within the new apartment block.

As there is an increase of influx of people to the province, the Western Cape can consider the way in which the Jinan City municipality accommodates large numbers of people within a limited space of land within their City by densification in high-rise buildings. There are various spaces within Cape Town in close proximity to transport arteries which could be utilised for such purposes. The Power Station Precinct bordering the N2 is one such area.

Visit and table discussion with Shandong Provincial People's Congress

Profile:

The politics of Shandong Province are those of the People's Republic of China, it is structured in a dual party-government system like all other governing institutions in mainland China. The Chinese electoral system is hierarchical, whereby the local People's Congresses are directly elected and all higher levels of People's Congresses up to the National People's Congress are indirectly elected by the People's congress of the level immediately below. The political system is partly decentralised with limited democratic processes internal to the party and at local village levels. There are other political parties in China, referred to in China as democratic parties, which participate in the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), although these have no part in Government.

The Governor of Shandong is the highest-ranking official in the People's Government of Shandong. However, in the province's dual party-government governing system, the Governor has less power than the Shandong Communist Party of China Provincial Committee Secretary, colloquially termed the "Shandong CPC Party Chief".

The Shandong People's Congress has four levels of government namely National, Provincial, Central and City.

Delegation:

The delegation was warmly welcomed by Mr Zhao Ruilin, Deputy Secretary-General of the Standing Committee of Shandong's Provincial People's congress and was given a brief visit history of previous Speakers from the WCPP and the establishment of the friendly relations between the two provinces. He further gave a briefing on the Shandong province with regards to its history, politics, demographics, economy, agriculture, military, tourism and culture.

Mr Walters gave a brief history of the Western Cape Province and thanked Mr Zhao Ruilin for his warm welcome and hospitality.

After the official introductions by both parties there was an opportunity for discussion and question and answer session on various topics.

Observations:

The Shandong province is a well-developed and impressive Province. The blocks of land, roads and buildings are well developed and organised. The delegation was impressed with the

facilities made available within the City, to encourage the population to partake in physical activity to ensure good health.

There are no formal policies in place within the Province to provide housing subsidies to immigrant workers. However, some cities with financial power may provide some subsidies if they wish to encourage urbanisation within their cities. Government might provide subsidies if they want to upgrade particular housing schemes that have become dilapidated.

The Chinese government does not provide subsidies to farmers to provide housing for their workers. These are solely the responsibilities of the individual farmer. It however provides the roads and water infrastructure to the farm.

Unemployment is also a major concern for the Chinese government and it tries to address this problem by developing labour intensive industries. It has a policy in place that states that local government's unemployment rates should not exceed 4 to 5 per cent. The Government has set aside funds for the unemployed and has a policy in place to provide at least one job (mainly within the public service) to those families who have no one working within their household.

The Government is responsible for providing rural infrastructure such as tap water, roads to the outside of the village and communication but the people of the country have to pay for the services. Electricity is disseminated by large electricity corporations. A new policy on public utility construction in rural areas is in place and proposals for support are made to provincial government.

Government's source of revenue to fund infrastructural projects comes from its tax base, exporting industry, investment from businesses.

It is compulsory to attend school in China and for the last 10 years there have been no tuition fees payable for Grades 1 to 9. Learners are only required to purchase their own text books. Learner transport is provided free of charge by Government for grades 1 to 6. From grades that are higher this is usually paid by the learners, depending on their financial strength.

Government makes provision for a minimum subsistence support for vulnerable people.

These people are also assisted by organisations and charity groups.

Visit to Taishan Sports Industry Group (<http://en.taishansports.com/>)

Profile:

Taishan Sports Industry Group produces a comprehensive range of synthetic sports field surfaces of various textures relating to soccer, tennis, track and field and others. Gymnasium equipment and Pardus carbon fibre sport bicycles in a wide range of forms were impressive. It takes up 90 per cent of the market share in China's sports equipment market. Electronic sport games programmes involving remote participation in table tennis, boxing, etc., screened on large LCD screens were also impressive.

Taishan Sports Industry Group was the largest equipment supplier of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. For more than 30 years Taishan has won several awards as a role model in the sport industry in China.

Delegation:

The delegation was given a tour on the premises and was shown different types of sport equipment and also the artificial grass on their on-site tennis courts.

Observations:

The company exports synthetic turf and do not have a regular trade agreement with any company in South Africa.. The company is very keen on doing business on a larger scale with South Africa.

The delegation was of the opinion the company's bicycles were of good quality and the market for it could be attractive as it is a growing sport in South Africa.

The delegation has indicated to the company that there are no professional producers of the synthetic turf in South Africa and has also highlighted the Western Cape Government's drive to get the working class within the province to become more mobile.

The delegation gave the company the website and email address of Wesgro so that they could register their interest to do business with South Africa and the delegation would provide Wesgro with a copy of their catalogue upon their return. They have since been in touch with Wesgro.

Visit in Lishan Community of Li xia District**Profile:**

The Lishan Community is located at the central zone of Li xia district, Jinan and opened its doors after reconstruction during June 2011. The community is made up of a population of 8,142 residents divided into 3 134 households over 0.8 square kilometres.

The Lishan community is an expression of the densification policy of the Shandong Province and the accommodation of the existing community in modern buildings of approximately twelve storeys. This involved the demolition of the existing buildings and the creation of a Community Services and Recreation Centre.

The governing body of the centre is the Community Residents Committee which is a self-governing organisation which is voted in by all residents. The tenure of the committee is 3 years and it is responsible for providing public services to the community inhabitants. The residents are consulted and their advice and suggestions are encouraged on major projects, environment renovations and social management services. Funding is received from the Government.

The centre provides 7 distinct cultural and sport activities which includes calligraphy and painting, Peking opera, Latin dance, table-tennis and Tai Chi Chuan. The centre provides expert lecturers of Jenin Science and Technology Association and provides information sessions to the residents about food and health maintenance and trends, family education, legal knowledge and environment protection. Through the assistance received from the sub-district administration the centre was able to install internet and touch screen computer equipment so to enable the establishment of a one-stop public service website which allows the residents to have access to information on catering, medical, education, housekeeping and

supermarkets as well as enable them to enquire about policies, service processes and print relevant application forms.

The Shandong Economic University provides funds/subsidies to the centre to provide one-on-one learning guidance to assist teenagers to become confident and independent through a self-reinforcing personality.

The centre continues to strive to improve their services to the residents and has policies in place that allows them to assist residents to improve their living conditions. One of the policies is the “4050” where the unemployed can apply for a public service job, social insurance subsidies and serious disease pension. The centre also provides the minimum standard of living for city residents by helping the very needy with food and clothing.

Delegation:

The delegation was presented with a show of Tai Chi Chuan, ballet, Peking opera and Chinese calligraphy demonstration. After the show an opportunity was given for a question and answer session.

Observations:

The centre was a hive of activity and has a strong multi-disciplinary community/cultural element. The delegation was impressed with the participation and commitment of the centre administrators and people, especially the older persons partaking in exercise and dance programmes. The centre provides an opportunity for the community to have access to government information and the relevant forms needed to complete for a specific public service is available online.

The centre contributes to the uplifting of the community and provides valuable and lifesaving health information to the members of the community who need it the most. Government can reach more people at grassroots level in this manner through a community centre. The community takes ownership of the centre and thereby looks after the building as they see the value and benefits of the centre to them.

The design of the centre with a paved outside square and spacious inside meeting and performance facilities encourages active community participation. It also provides guidelines which could be employed to improve the impact of Thusong Centres in local municipalities.

Dinner with Shandong Foreign Affairs Office

The delegation was warmly welcomed by Mr Sun Chuanshang of the Foreign Affairs Office of the Shandong Provincial People’s Government.

This visit by the delegation marked the 15th anniversary of the relationship between the Shandong Province and the Western Cape Province. The Foreign Affairs office of Shandong has made 2013 the year allocated to the Western Cape Province and wish to continue building relations between the two provinces.

The Vice-Governor Juang with the Deputy-Speaker visited the Western Cape Province during March and this visit by the Western Cape delegation was upon invitation as part of the celebration activities.

Day 2: Tuesday 9 April 2013

On day 2 the delegates were taken on a sightseeing tour to Mount Tai and visited the Tai'an High-tech zone in the afternoon.

Sightseeing Mount Tai

Mount Tai is a mountain of historical and cultural significance located north of the city of Tai'an, in Shandong province, China and is widely considered the most important of China's 5 sacred mountains. The mountain has a strong significance for those practicing the Taoist faith.

The mountain's tallest peak, Jade Emperor Peak, is reported to be 1 545 metres high and there are more than 7 200 steps leading to the top of the Taishan. A number of temples and other significant monuments are located on and around Taishan.

Mount Tai is a UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) Heritage Site.

Visit to Tai'an High-tech Zone

Profile:

The Tai'an Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone (TAHDZ), in Tai'an, Shandong province was established in 1994 and is ratified by the Shandong People's Government in 1995 it was recognised as a national facility by the State Council in August 2012. The administration committee of TAHDZ represents the Tai'an People's government and has to implement unified city-level administration involving economics, politics and social affairs over the zone.

TAHDZ focuses on the development of automobiles and spare parts, electricity transmission and transformer equipment, mining equipment, electronic information technology, biopharmaceutical, new energy and high-end modern service industries to create a positive climate for scientific and technological innovation. Their aim is to construct a leading zone driven by innovation, combined with "production, teaching and research", and an accumulation area of high-end service industries.

To date nearly 20 enterprises of the Top 500 of the world or Top 100 of China have settled at TAHDZ. There are more than 370 industrial enterprises in the zone and it is gradually becoming a pioneer in opening a hi-tech and advanced manufacturing area, a transformation area of hi-tech achievements and an experimental area of system innovation.

Since its construction, TAHDZ has invested RMB2 billion on infrastructural facilities, including road, power, water, gas, heat, sewage, communication, etc. which allows for 50km² of its land to be accessible for project development.

The unique advantages in terms of location, policy, system and resources are making TAHDZ an attractive place for modern industries. To improve quality of services and reduce procedures and facilitate investors, TAHDZ sets up specialised agencies, such as Service Centres for Project Approving and Consulting; Project Constructions; and Enterprise

development. The streamlined and efficient team at TAHDZ brings high quality and rapid services to all investors and improves the attraction and competitiveness of the environment.

Delegation:

The delegation was taken on a tour of the main building and presented with an audio-visual presentation on the Zone.

Observations:

TAHDZ receives funding from the Government (National and Local city) and private companies. The land was provided free of charge by the Government.

TAIKAI Electric Group

This company is a large scale enterprise specialising in the manufacture of power transmission and transformer equipment, LV electrical equipment and special vehicles. Their products have been exported to more than 60 countries and regions.

Hyundai:

The factory layout was neat and optimal space was utilised in the factories with the minimum amount of workers. The factory is mainly used to assemble parts obtained from local manufacturers in the area into a final product. The diesel engines of the vehicles are manufactured locally.

Detailed modelling of the 53km² complex coupled to audio-visual commentary illustrated the precise planning involved. A further 50km² land has already been identified for further expansion when the present development is concluded. The subtle yet definite coupling of Chinese culture to modern industrial development was a distinctly Chinese attribute encountered throughout.

Day 3: Wednesday, 10 April 2013

Visit to vegetable greenhouse and cow breeding farm – Licheng District

Delegation:

The delegation visited a community-based vegetable greenhouse project. Due to an outbreak of disease at the cow breeding farm, a koi and carp breeding farm was visited instead.

Observations:

Vegetable greenhouse:

The farm is privately run and individually owned by the community. The land originally belonged to the farmers but the Chinese government purchased the land and co-owns the land with the farmers.

The farm serves as a demonstration site for other farmers; they learn from the techniques used and implement them at their own respective farms. They also focus on their company brand and the marketing thereof. Various ordinary and Chinese vegetables are grown in open plots and only organic fertilisers are used.

Unique techniques are to be used in the new greenhouse for the growing of vegetables. Marsh gas produced from organic residues is used for energy to increase the heat in the greenhouse and the residues of the straw are used for fertiliser. The ceilings are very high which allows the workers to walk in the green house and also make provision for plants that grow very high. Locally produced pesticides are used to kill parasites.

The delegation was of the opinion that much could be learnt from the Chinese way of growing fruits and vegetables in the greenhouse once it is fully operational. Although nothing new was presented at the carp breeding farm it was still an interesting visit.

Leaving Jinan for Weifang City

Dinner with Weifang Foreign Affairs Office

The delegation was warmly welcomed and hosted by Song Yuelin, Deputy Director of the Weifang Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office.

Day 4: Thursday, 11 April 2013

Visit to Shandong Luneng Taishan Football School

<http://www.lnschool.cn/English/football.asp>

Profile:

The Shandong Luneng Football School provides specialised football and table tennis training within a milieu in which nine-year compulsory education and secondary education programmes are followed. This full-time boarding school was established in July 1999. The school adheres to the idea of “culture and sport” and one of its development goals is to become a “world-famous football school”. The school covers an area of 34 hectares and there are presently 240 football students at the school. A hall housing 40 table tennis tables allows concurrent play and coaching to take place.

The school implements specific training materials for different age groups at different levels and does phased implementation training. The school has 11 youth player football teams of nine age groups which total a number of 188 players. High level coaches are hired from Europe to train the students.

Players are selected from all over the country; there are 12 selection bases in schools in four different provinces. During the last 13 years since the school was established 66 players were selected to different levels of the national team, 58 players to Luneng Taishan Football team and 45 players to super league and Grade-A clubs.

The school holds 37 national football championship titles organised by China Football Association and four international titles. In 2010, the under 17 team went to South Africa to compete in the “Future Champion Cup” International Youth Football Tournament and received first place. The school often visits countries in Europe and South America to learn from those countries experience.

The school has extensive teaching facilities and a medical centre. There are 20 training fields of which 11 are natural grass, 4 synthetic grass; 2 sand and 3 grass with lights. The schools number one stadium accommodates up to 5 000 people.

Delegation:

The delegation was warmly welcomed by Guanghua Qian, Vice President of the Shandong Luneng Taishan Football School of China and was given a tour of the premises and witnessed the children's football and table tennis training sessions. Thereafter an opportunity was given to the delegates for a question and answer session in their boardroom.

Observations:

The Shandong Luneng Taishan Football School is a full time boarding school and currently has about 500 students (football and table tennis) and can take up to 1000 students. The School is state owned and is funded by government. The school needs approximately 20 million Yuan RMB per year to function. Students come from all over China and less than half are from the Shandong Province.

Students are identified by either scouts from the academy or clubs; organised tournaments or youth competitions. Candidate students are evaluated by means of a medical assessment (blood, muscle, etc.), physical test with regards to "explosive power", agility and accuracy. There are students at the school from vulnerable groups and more than 80 per cent of the students do not pay tuition fees. Any costs associated with travel, training, coaches' remuneration, etc. are paid for by the school.

The students at the school interact well and there are no incidences of drug abuse, bullying or cases where sexual relationships amongst students need to be controlled. Food given to the students is monitored so to prevent any misuse of banned substances. When students return from recess periods they are tested by on-site medical staff responsible for overseeing all the students' medical needs. Holiday programmes are also arranged for the students during their recess period.

The school receives students from grades 3 to high school and they receive high quality education from the school's education team and are able to move on to university or attend sport schools/colleges. A large percentage of students finish their education at the school.

The school is more famous for its table tennis, a major sport in China, than football but the school is striving towards excellence in the latter and has grown from a very small school 14 years ago to what it is currently and is still growing.

Visit to Foton Lovol Heavy Industry Co., Ltd. (<http://en.lovol.com.cn/>)**Profile:**

Foton Lovol International Heavy Industry Co., Ltd. (Foton Lovol) is a leading manufacturer of construction machinery, agricultural equipment and vehicles. Its revenue in 2012 reached RMB 17.76 billion. In 2012, Foton Lovol brand value climbed to RMB 17.736 billion, ranking them 64th among China's top 500 most valuable brands by virtue of its outstanding performance in "essential growth, structural adjustment and globalisation". Its engineering and technology research institute is regarded highly in China.

Sales volume of combine harvesters has ranked first in the industry for 11 years, boasting a market share of 70 per cent in China. Their tractors have also been leading market share for 7

years and their three-wheel motorcycles have ranked first in the industry over 7 years as well in sales and market share.

Based on its leading position in several China market segments, Foton Lovol has entered overseas markets. At present, the company has formed a global sales and service network made up of more than 300 sales and service providers covering over 120 countries and regions. Their exported products cover agricultural equipment, construction machinery and vehicles.

Delegation:

The delegation was taken on an on-site tour of its tractor assembling workshop.

Observations:

The factory has day and night shifts. Foton Lovol does not have any agencies in the Western Cape, only in the North-West Province. Its South African head office is in Johannesburg. The company produces more than 50 000 tractors in a year of which South Africa purchased 125. The company is also doing well in the agricultural machinery world, producing more than 50 000 combine harvesters as well.

With an area of 50ha and adjacent land to double capacity the same elements of forward planning are evident, as observed in the case of other organisations visited. Foton Lovol is already present in South Africa and we can expect a greater presence as its equipment is utilised in agriculture.

Site visit of Yangjiabu folk culture

The delegation was taken on a tour of the Yangjiabu Folk Grand Viewing Garden which is located at Hanting District of Weifang city with an area of 10 620 square metres. Yangjiabu is one of the three Woodcut Chinese New Year Painting-producing areas and Yangjiabu kites are also well-known. With a history of six hundred years, these two folk art techniques are well preserved, developing and innovating at Yangjiabu. It consists of the museum and a workshop of Woodcut Chinese New Year Paintings, a kite museum, kite-making workshop, and the Hu Shiming (famous Chinese root carving artist) Art museum.

The history of Yangjiabu Woodcut Chinese New Year Painting dates back to the Ming Dynasty, about six hundred years ago. The museum displays 1 200 Woodcut Chinese New Year Paintings in 280 categories. Their themes are mainly about Chinese mythology, folktales, characters of Chinese dramas, lucky beasts and birds, which express people's good wishes for the coming New Year.

In the workshop of Woodcut Chinese New Year Painting, the delegates were able to see every step of Woodcut Chinese New Year Painting in progress.

The kite museum displays over 1 200 kites which belong to more than 100 categories. The kites were made during different periods of time. In the museum the delegates could see the procedures for making a kite.

The famous Chinese root carving artist Hu Shiming's museum is 1 400 square meters and displays his masterpieces including root carving furniture, landscape carvings and lifelike

figure carvings. There are also the Zhengbanqiao painting and calligraphy research studio; Yangjiabu painting centre; museum of cultural relics and a folk museum at the village.

Leaving Weifang for Qingdao City

Day 5: Friday, 12 April

Visit to Hisense Group (www.hisense.com)

The delegation met with Mr Vincent Yu, Vice President of Hisense Middle East-Africa Holdings Co. Ltd.

Profile:

The Hisense Group headquarters are located in the beautiful coastal city of Qingdao. It was founded in 1969 as a small radio factory, and has since grown into a multibillion dollar global conglomerate.

Hisense is recognised as a world-leading provider of flat panel televisions, household appliances and communications and as a global top 10 player by large business intelligence and industry research institutions. The company has achieved numerous awards since its establishment. Hisense has 19 factories worldwide, including China, South Africa, Algeria and Egypt.

Hisense South Africa was established in 1996 and is based in Midrand Johannesburg and has offices in 4 major centres and distributes to more than 3 000 chain stores and over 500 home appliance franchise stores. The Hisense television production base in Garankuwa covers an area of more than 6 000 square metres and has a production capacity of 200 thousand units per year. New categories were launched during 2011 that includes air conditioners, kitchen appliances and floor care.

During the FIFA World Cup in SA, Hisense sponsored the 50 metre tall Wheel of Excellence near Green Point Stadium and was the first to launch 3D televisions and 3D outdoor billboards in South Africa. Furthermore, Hisense has become the world's first corporate partner of United Nations Environment Program's SoCal Environmental Excellence Development (SEED) Award committed to the United Nation's Green Actions to promote green innovations to global companies.

Hisense SA has an Excellency scholarship programme for schools in South Africa.

Delegation:

The delegation was taken on a tour of the premises and was introduced to various new advanced appliances which are still in the development or concept stages.

After the tour the Hisense group gave a presentation of their company profile in China and South Africa and opened the floor for discussion and a questions and answer session.

Observations:

Hisense is the first to launch cellphones with 3G ability. It believes in healthy operations and is deeply concerned with social responsibilities, especially education. Hisense is a respected company in China and focuses on technological investments.

Hisense forms part of a joint project with Universities to offer bursaries to South African students from disadvantaged backgrounds. They also offer various bursaries in China in collaboration with the Shandong University.

The delegation was impressed with the CCTV systems as they are very effective and could be used by the City of Cape Town.

Visit and table discussion with Shandong Maritime Safety Administration

The delegation met with the Director General Yuan Zongxiang and his team.

Profile:

Shandong Maritime Safety Administration of the People's Republic of China is one of the provincial level administrative organs directly under the Ministry of Transport of China. According to the responsibilities and rights authorised by the *Maritime Traffic Safety Law* of the People's Republic of China, *Marine Environment Protection Law* of the People's Republic of China, and certain international Conventions and national laws, regulations and rules, Shandong MSA is in charge of maritime supervision, Emergency Response and security work including marine safety supervision, marine pollution prevention, marine search and rescue coordination, and marine safety communication in the coastal sea areas, ports and inland waters of seven coastal cities of Shandong Province.

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Transport, the Maritime Safety Administration of P.R.C and Shandong provincial government, Shandong MSA strictly enforces laws and services with great passion, deepens reform, and carries out scientific management.

Shandong MSA carries out a three-level management. The first level includes 18 departments, and the second level includes 5 sub-branches; Yantai MSA, Jinan MSA, Qingdao MSA, Rizhao MSA, Weihai MSA, and 7 direct units which are Maritime Patrolling and Law-enforcing Detachment, Seafarers' Examination Centre, Communication and Information Centre, Cheng Shantou VTS Centre, Yantai Oil Spill and Emergency Response Technical Centre, Research Centre and Logistic Service Centre. There are 25 basic maritime departments belonging to the third level of government which are responsible for on-site supervision.

The jurisdiction area of Shandong MSA dominates a coastline of 3,024.4 kilometres in which islands' coastline are 688.6 kilometres, and the portion of mainland coastline is 1/6 of national total coastline. The jurisdiction area of Shandong MSA is one of the dense areas of ports in China.

The Shandong province is located at the south-north maritime traffic major route of eastern part of China it is therefore a high risk area with busy marine transportation, complex navigation environment, and atrocious weather and sea conditions.

The jurisdiction area of Shandong MSA is very busy due to the ocean resources, tourism resources and fishery resources, aquaculture, fishing, entertainment and water matches the task of maritime safety management and pollution prevention becomes very complex.

Delegation:

A brief introduction about the organisation, its responsibilities and some work environment was provided by the Director General Yuan Zongxiang. The delegation showed their gratitude and gave high praise to marine supervision of Shandong MSA. During the meeting marine S&R, ship pollution prevention, crew training and external publicity of MSA was discussed. The delegation also received a guided tour and discussion with the Captain of the HAIXUN at the Olympic Sailing Centre.

Observations:

The MSA receives support from Provincial and Local government in Shandong.

The MSA protects marine life around their coastline by putting measures in place to examine/inspect ships and remove any harmful materials found on board. The International Convention prescribes laws to prevent ballast water from contaminating coastlines.

The MSA has strict legislation and laws in place to prevent ballast water from contaminating their coastline. The delegation recommends that South Africa obtain a copy of the Shandong's legislation on the prevention of contamination of their coastlines.

The MSA do not perform a maritime defence function as that belongs to the National government level and neither are they responsible for controlling immigration.

There are several universities in Shandong that offer studies in the maritime field. The MSA have numerous open days to showcase achievements and provide information on successful search and rescue operations and also allow guided tours for students.

Site visit to Olympic Sailing Base

The delegation went on a site visit to the Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre which was constructed for the 2008 Summer Olympics. This centre hosted the Olympic and Paralympic sailing competitions. The Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre covers 45 hectares, comprising a 30 hectare competition area and 15 hectare area for development after the Games. The seven facilities, includes the Qingdao Sub-Village, Athletes Centre, Administrative Centre, Venue Media Centre, Logistics Centre, Reception Centre and Accreditation Centre.

Dinner with Qingdao Foreign Affairs Office

The delegation was warmly welcomed and hosted by Ms Wang Li, Deputy Director General of the Qingdao Municipal Foreign Affairs Office.

This office has expressed interest in building a relationship with the City of Cape Town and has requested information on how to establish a relationship as it has a lot in common with Cape Town and the Western Cape. They further added that the Western Cape and Shandong Province are sister provinces, it will add new dimension to this relationship if Cape Town and Qingdao can become twin cities.

Day 6: Saturday, 13 April

Sightseeing of Laoshan Mountain

Mount Lao or Laoshan is a famous mountain in Qingdao Laoshan National Park, near Qingdao, Shandong Province, eastern China. It lies about 30 kilometres east of the downtown of Qingdao, and is an important tourist destination.

Mount Lao is the highest coastal mountain in China, peaking at 1,132.7 metres. Laoshan is known as one of the birthplaces of Taoism. In 412 CE the Chinese Buddhist pilgrim Faxian landed near Laoshan on his return from India.

Day 7: Sunday, 14 April

Visit to Qingdao Aquarium and Polar Centre

While this was not an official visit this facility illustrated how marine animals can significantly contribute to public entrance with the truly spell-binding performance of seals, dolphins, and whales (Braudes). A huge enclosed pool with lateral holding pools and with a seating capacity for 1 000 spectators this facility is something to be emulated by major cities. Coupled to an aquarium much like Cape Town it also has educational value. The tourism and entertainment value of the spectacular seal, dolphin and whale acts leads to the question as to whether Cape Town should not develop such a facility, perhaps linked to the aquarium.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations:

- (i) The visit to Shandong was very interesting and dispelled any reservations that delegation members might have had about the level of development in that region of China. Technological and cultural development must hold many lessons for the Western Cape.
- (ii) Officials often referred to the excellent wines of the Western Cape. While we sampled the local wines of Shandong and found them pleasant they are inferior to good Cape wines which should find an expanding market in Shandong. Our cellars must be encouraged to expand their presence in Shandong and attend the Yantai wine show on a regular basis to showcase their wares. The Department of Agriculture and Wesgro should maintain and expand their efforts in this connection.
- (iii) What impressed was the pace of development. Thirty-plus storey skyscrapers go up not one at a time, but in groups; four to six being erected at the same time. These were not isolated observations as these tower blocks were visible from Jinan to Qingdao. Indeed Qingdao today consists of the old city and the new city. The new city, about the size of Cape Town was erected within 20 years in a former rural setting. The Department of Human Settlement should take cognisance of the densification aspects of the Chinese approach.
- (iv) There seems to be little concern with regard to environmental impact of development. Cliffside roads along the coast are built, dumping the rubble into the sea, something that would be bound to raise massive public protests in South Africa.

- (v) The concern of the Chinese for aesthetics was however inspiring. Roads are very wide and bordered by multiple rows of trees and shrubs. Streets are clean and roads in good condition. This principle should be promoted by the Department of Local Government and City of Cape Town.
- (vi) The aesthetics were even evident in the factories we visited. All were spacious and spotlessly clean providing a pleasant working environment, where limiting space to the minimum necessary for production processes was not the major aim.
- (vii) Shandong has identified foreign trade as a major strategic thrust as evidenced by the Foreign Relations capacities present both at provincial level as well as with the administration of individual cities. It would appear as if the organic growth of our own capacity and expansion thereof to towns would pay dividends where we are also export sensitive and tourism focused. This should be considered by the Department of Economic Development and Wesgro as something to be pursued.
- (viii) Shandong is blessed with good agricultural resources such as deep soils and water and virtually every m² of soil which is not built upon is productively cultivated. The greater area of the province is very flat and the water table appears to be very high making the intense dam-based aquaculture we observed during our travels possible. This perhaps provides a possibility for fish production in the Philippi area of the Cape Flats, close to the nearby township markets. This could be pursued by the WC Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with WICADI.
- (ix) The use and design of Thusong Centres could profit from incorporation of many of the cultural and arts factors observed at the Lishan Community Centre of the Li Xia district. It is to be recommended that greater involvement of communities in utilizing Thusong Centres for recreational and cultural practices should be encouraged through interdepartmental activities. A workshop should be held to brainstorm this with the Departments of Local Government, and Social Development and relevant stakeholders.
- (x) The example of the Shandong Maritime Safety Administration and its operational efficiency provides an example to our local services. The pride in their task, the technologies they deeply and the detailed planning of activities should serve as a template for our own coastal patrol and monitoring activities which are in a perilous state at present. A strategic visit to Qingdao by local officials of DAFF might be advisable. The Department should be requested to obtain a copy of the Shandong legislation on ballast water treatment before such a visit.
- (xi) The accessing of electronic skills via the bursaries offered by Hisense in collaboration with Shandong University should be pursued by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in collaboration with Wesgro.
- (xii) Links between Weifang as the kite centre of China and the organisers of the annual kite festival held at Muizenberg should be encouraged as this could enhance the quality and status of the latter. The involvement of Weifang kite enthusiasts in the Muizenberg festival could turn this into a major tourist attraction and deserves the attention of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

- (xiii) The approaches of residential education, early talent identification, expert coaching, adequate and modern facilities and access to challenging competition as evidenced in the Luneng Taishan School should be of value if application in local sport schools is possible. The involvement of clubs could be considered. Advancement to tertiary level should always be an option. The Department of Sport and Culture should advance those aspects of the Chinese approach which are of practical value.
- (xiv) The proactive approach followed in creating the Tai'an High tech Industrial Development Zone and attracting top enterprises to the zone should be followed in the case of the Saldanha industrial development zone. Investment to create a facilitating environment which in turn will encourage large scale settlement of private enterprises will accelerate progress within this project.
- (xv) The Taishan Sports Industry could be an attractive supplier of synthetic turf, shoes, sport equipment, sport bicycles and e-games and could perhaps be enticed to invest in the Western Cape.

6. Acknowledgements

The delegation expresses its sincere gratitude to the following for their welcoming hospitality and readiness to share their knowledge and vast experiences in their areas of expertise:

- (i) Zhao Ruilin, Deputy Secretary-General and the Members of the Standing Committee of Shandong's Provincial People's congress;
- (ii) Yuan Zongxiang, Director General and staff of the Shandong Maritime Safety Administration
- (iii) Wang Li, Deputy Director and staff at the European and African Affairs Division of the Qindao Municipal Foreign Affairs Office
- (iv) Sun Chuanshang, Deputy Director-General and staff of the Foreign Affairs Office Shandong Peoples' Congress Standing Committee
- (v) Song Yuelin, Deputy Director and staff of the Weifang Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office
- (vi) Zhang Lizhong, Director of the Investment Promotion Bureau of Tai'an National Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone (Tai'an Economic Development Zone)
- (vii) Guanghua Qian, Vice President of the Shandong Luneng Taishan Football School of China
- (viii) Dick Qu, Sales Manager and his team of the Foton Lovol Shandong International Trading Co., Ltd.
- (ix) Max-Wang, Executive of the Youth Department of FC Shandong Weifang Cup Committee
- (x) Dennis Yang, Export Manager of Taishan Sports Industry Group
- (xi) Vincent Yu, Vice President and his team at Hisense Middle East – Africa Holdings Co., Ltd
- (xii) Tao Zhong, Board Chairman and his team of Shandong Taikai Power Engineering Co., Ltd.

The delegation also expresses their sincere appreciation to Jian Yunyun, Section Chief, Europe and Africa Division from the Foreign Affairs Office of the Shandong Provincial People's Government for her assistance with regards to the logistical arrangements,

interpreting service and support and invaluable insights and information provided to the delegation during their visit.

The delegation further thank the Speaker and the Parliament of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament for permission to undertake this visit and James Retief, Manager of the Information and Communication's section and his staff for their assistance with the planning and logistical arrangements of the trip.

7. References

Should additional information be required kindly contact Ms GJ Accom to view the following brochures and documentation:

- (i) Tai'an National Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone and Tai'an Economic Development Zone
- (ii) Shandong Luneng football school to a successful road
- (iii) Taikai Group Introduction
- (iv) Shandong Taikai Power Engineering
- (v) Taishan Sports Industry Group
- (vi) Tourist brochure on Qingdao, China