

**FOR THE MEETING & SIGNING OF THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
(MOU) BETWEEN MINISTERIO DE
AGRICULTURA Y GANDERIA OF
PARAGUAY & DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY
INDUSTRIES**

ON THURSDAY 7TH AUGUST 2008

TIME : 12.30 PM TO 1.30 PM

**AT THE MEETING ROOM 20.2 LEVEL 20
AT THE DPI BUILDING
NO 1 SPRING STREET MELBOURNE**

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT : -

A very good afternoon. Indeed it is my enormous pleasure and pride to acknowledge: -

1. the Honorable Minister Joe Helper,
Member of Parliament, Victorian
Minister for Agriculture ;
2. Mr Telmo Languiller, MP , Member for
Derrimut and Parliamentary Secretary
for Human Services ;
3. Mr Richard Bolt, Secretary,
Department of Primary Industries
(DPI), Victoria, Australia ;
4. Professor German Spangenberg,
Executive Director, Biosciences
Research Division, Department of
Primary Industries (DPI) ; and
5. Mr Martin Barlass, Deputy Executive
Director, Biosciences Research
Division, DPI.

It is with enormous pleasure and pride that I attend this memorable event on behalf of the Republic of Paraguay, its **President NICANOR DUARTE FRUTOS** and **Ambassador to Australia, MR ISAO**

TAOKA who unfortunately was unable to attend today.

I want to express on behalf of Paraguay and its Government our profound appreciation to the ***Government of VICTORIA and its Minister of Agriculture , the Honorable Minister Joe Helper, Mr Telmo Languiller, MP, Mr Richard Bolt, Secretary, Department of Primary Industries (DPI), Victoria, and last but not, least Professor German Spangenberg, the Executive Director, Biosciences Research Division, Department of Primary Industries (DPI)*** for their enormous commitment to science, to research, their determination to facilitate the benefits of their work to Victorians and on this occasion to Paraguayans.

We appreciate how significant and historical this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the **DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (DPI) VICTORIA and MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA Y GANDERIA OF PARAGUAY** in the fields

of :-

- Agriculture &
- Biological sciences & the
- Related sciences

I assure you dear Minister and dear scientists that Paraguay and our scientists will work extremely hard with you in order to make sure that this MOU provides mutual benefits to the people of Victoria and Paraguay.

I am also aware that *other similar MOU's have been signed with other neighbouring countries to Paraguay, namely Chile, Argentina and Uruguay* and I can tell you that the whole region now including Paraguay admires the outstanding leadership displayed by the Victorian Government, its Premiers and Ministers together with the Department of Primary Industries and its scientists.

This MOU is a practical and living example that will further strengthen the bilateral relations and friendship between Victoria and Paraguay.

Finally, I place on record my government appreciation for the stewardship and

commitment provided by Minister Joe Helper and Telmo Languiller, in the advancement and promotion of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Thank you.