

Worksheet 17

TRADE

- ❖ Fiji has broad **multilateral** relationships with PRC and ROC
 - Some are bilateral (one to one)
 - Some are part of wider multinational trade agreements and diplomacy
- ❖ Popular slogans to refer to relations between Fiji and PRC and ROC
 - Look North Policy
 - One China Policy
 - Two China Policy
- ❖ Trade relations
 - Include:
 - ✓ Visits by delegations
 - ✓ Prime Ministerial visits
 - ✓ Signing of trade agreements
 - Can be changed according to change in government
 - Can be changed according to world demand
- ❖ **Trade Mission**
 - Trade and diplomacy experts and officials who visit each other's countries
 - ✓ Prepare formal agreements between countries
 - A Prime Minister Visit
 - ✓ Sign a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding)
 - ✓ Usually done after Trade Mission

EXTRACT 2: from the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC News, Sydney) Fiji Prime Minister's Visit to China in 2013

Commodore Bainimarama (at the time, the head of the government following a Military coup) has held talks with China's Premier Li Keqiang and President Xi Jinping on a visit to Beijing. He's reiterated the country's "Look North Policy", which sees Fiji moving trade ties away from Australia and New Zealand towards regional powers such as China and India. Following the meeting with Le Keqiang, Commodore Bainimarama praised China as a friend to Fiji and the Pacific. "[China] has been instrumental in facilitating the solidarity of the region," he said. "With your significant level of support, the peculiarities and special case for Pacific Islands and small island states are continually advocated in international forum. Commodore Bainimarama says he is confident the relationship between the two countries will strengthen, through mutual political trust and non-interference in internal affairs. He also reiterated his support for the

'One China Policy' in reference to competition between China and Taiwan to have influence in the Pacific. Chinese Premier Li Keqiang says Fiji has been a good friend and partner to China since the two countries first forged diplomatic ties in 1975 "As Asian and Pacific countries, China and Fiji are committed to safeguarding regional and world peace and stability," he said. Mr. Li called on both countries to develop agreements on fishing and visa exemptions in a bid to promote further cooperation.

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-05-30>

EXTRACT 3: from the Fiji Government blog ("fijiblog")

CHINESE TRADE DELEGATION VISITS FIJI in 2012 TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES

Attorney -General and the Minister for Industry and Trade, Mr. Aiyaz Sayed Khaiyum met with the Minister for Commerce, Mr. Chen Deming from the People's Republic of China (PRC), to discuss opportunities for strengthening trade and economic relations between the two nations. The visit was welcomed by the Fijian Government amidst Fiji's efforts to expand its relations with the international community for strategic and economic development. This is Minister Deming's first visit to the region, and Fiji is his first stop. "There are many areas of common interest between China and Fiji, and we look forward to exploring the potential that exists for us," said Mr. Saiyed-Khaiyum. Mr. Saue-Khaiyum conveyed appreciation to the Chinese Government for its developmental collaboration and provision of the needed assistance through various means to Fijians. "For better economic and trade relations between Fiji and China, necessary measures need to be instituted which can be pursued through further dialogue", said Mr. Saiyed-Khaiyum. In terms of investment, Fiji provides the necessary platform and invites investors from China in areas such as agriculture, construction, tourism and audio visual", added the Minister. The tourist numbers from China to Fiji has grown tremendously over the past few years and there is potential for this to grow further considering the huge market China represents.

The Permanent Secretary for Industry and Trade, Mr. Shaheen Ali regarded the meeting as fruitful considering relevant issues were discussed to foster and develop the economic and trade relations between the two nations.

Source: <http://fijiblog.gov.fj>