



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 10 August 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Earth Dialogues Forum

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.47 am): I would also to report on the outcomes of the Earth Dialogues Forum. I seek leave to have the details incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The international Earth Dialogues Forum at the Brisbane Festival was a huge success.

Not only was it the first time the Forum had been held in the southern hemisphere, it attracted huge interest, and provided a unique chance to build positive partnerships.

I had the great honour of co-chairing it with President Mikhail Gorbachev, of Green Cross International.

I was surprised to learn during the Forum that Australia was not one of the 30 host nations for Green Cross.

So, along with the Brisbane City Council, my Government has agreed to work with President Gorbachev to change that and establish an Australian headquarters right here in Brisbane.

During the closing of the Earth Dialogues Forum, I announced the aims and ideals of Green Cross International's Earth Charter will be incorporated into Queensland Education's environmental curricula.

I have also announced the establishment of a Queensland Youth Environment Council to help young Queenslanders raise their environmental concerns and suggestions with my Government.

Mr Speaker, I would like to congratulate the organisers of the Earth Dialogues Forum 2006, and especially the Brisbane Festival and Green Cross International.