QUESTION ON NOTICE No. 216 Asked on Thursday, 22 February 2007

MR LAWLOR asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR MULHERIN)-

QUESTION:

How does the Global Footprint Program assist local businesses to access overseas markets?

ANSWER:

Queensland's "export ready" companies have unlimited opportunities in the global marketplace. Our unique tropical lifestyle and climate incorporates production and processing systems that are world class.

Queensland's clean and natural image is supported by leading edge science and biosecurity enhancing and protecting our agricultural industries.

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries' (DPI&F) Global Footprints program aims to internationally promote, introduce, and build business networks for Queensland export companies. The program consists of a portfolio of company and industry profiles that electronically service overseas trade enquiries involving Queensland's agricultural products and service industries.

Global Footprints comprise industry and company profiles that are also actively promoted with foreign embassies, importers and other export agencies.

The program, launched in 2006, has been used in Asia, South America, and the Middle East linking foreign business with Queensland enterprises.

The program has proved successful with the developing export of boer goats to various markets in South East Asia.

Boer goat producers, exporters, and air freight specialists are participating in the program which has over the past 12 months witnessed major expansions.

Beef processors, food training services, agricultural consultants, cattle breed associations, game meat and leather enterprises are all participants in the program.

DPI&F's Global Footprints export program is open to all Queensland's export ready companies wanting to market their products and services to the international marketplace.