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TSRA SUPPORTS PACIFIC ASIA INDIGENOUS TOURISM CONFERENCE

The Torres Strait Regional Authority will host an Indigenous delegation to attend the first Pacific Asia Indigenous Tourism conference in Darwin next month.

Expressions of Interest are being sought from established Indigenous tourist operators and aspiring Indigenous tourist operators in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area interested in learning more about Indigenous tourism opportunities.

The Asia Pacific region has the greatest concentration and variety of Indigenous people and cultures in the world.

Conference organisers believe tourism will provide an important opportunity for communities to restore, protect and promote Indigenous cultures.

The conference (28 to 30 March) has been organised by the Australian Tourism Export Council, Tourism NT and the Pacific Asia Travel Association with support from the United Nations World Tourism Organisation.

TSRA chairperson, Mr John (Toshe) Kris, said tourism had been identified as one of the key industries with the potential to provide economic stability and growth in the Torres Strait.

Mr Kris said the industry would stimulate economic activity across the region, generate advanced training and business skills and increase the scope for Torres Strait Islander business ownership and management.

“The Northern Territory and the Torres Strait share many similarities including remoteness, seasonal changes that impact on visitors and cultural aspects all of which are both selling points and challenges for the respective regions to deal with.”

“This conference will help increase the appreciation of tourist activities that may be appropriate in the Torres Strait region and knowledge of running successful tourism ventures in remote communities.”

“I encourage established Indigenous tourism operators and Indigenous people interested in learning more about tourism opportunities to consider joining the TSRA conference delegation.”

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TSRA Communication Coordinator Ken Orr (07) 40690718 0427 623643