



# 2ND AUSTRALIA-CHINA FILM INDUSTRY FORUM

#### Beijing, China, 23 April 2012

## Report by Chris Oliver, Senior Manager, State & Industry Partnerships

The CEO of Screen Australia, Ruth Harley, lead a high-level delegation of 25 film producers and industry leaders to Beijing for the 2nd Australia-China Film Industry Forum and to attend other industry events including the opening of the 2nd Beijing International Film Festival (BIFF) and the China Film Group Summit Forum of World Renowned Film Companies (CFGS). For the list of Australians in the delegation and the list Chinese attend the second forum see Attachment A. For the Program Schedule see Attachment B.

The forum, held on 23 April, was hosted and supported by DFAT in collaboration with Screen Australia. Assistance was also provided by Ausfilm, SPAA and the Australia China Screen Alliance. Prior to the commencement of the forum an official program providing a background on each member of the delegation was provided to all participants. The forum kicked off with a welcome address by Screen Australia's CEO Dr Ruth Harley. For a copy of the CEO's Welcome Address see Attachment C. The Australian Ambassador, Frances Adamson, gave address at the Monday afternoon industry networking session.

The forum (including panels) was a much more relaxed event than the first forum (2010) as some of the Australian delegation and Chinese participants had attended the first forum and had established relationships with Chinese partners. The first panel participants included Ellen Eliasoph, President and CEO China Village Roadshow Entertainment Group Asia, and Mr Miao Xiaotian, Vice President of Beijing Film Production Corporation China Film Corporation Ltd. Also participating in the panel were Mario Andreacchio (producer) and Matthew Alderson (Partner Harris Moure Attorneys Beijing). The panel gave a telling insight into the Chinese feature film industry, coproducing with China and some interesting facts emerged. While more than 500 films are produced in China in any one year only some 160 are released theatrically. Of this number 70 are 'foreign' films (official co-productions, including 30 films with HK and Taiwan, or co-financed or are acquisitions, eq. from American studios and 3D movies). It was later revealed by a Chinese studio executive that the figure was closer to 130 films being released Many of the films produced in any one year are really movies made for the 10 movie channels in China. Film hire for co-productions is some 38-44 per cent and much higher than the share for titles acquired on completion (ie up to 25 per cent).



The second panel comprising Geoff Brown (SPAA), Alaric McAusland (Chair Ausfilm) and Chris Oliver (Screen Australia) gave an overview of the Australian industry, official co-productions and the present Federal and State Government incentives.

A number of matters emerged during the delegation's visit to China. They include:

- The decentralisation of applications and approval of scripts and productions (both domestically and international co-financing and official co-productions) by SARFT (State Administration of Radio Film & Television), to the provinces (eg Sichuan, Hebei, etc). However, sign-off will be required by the SARFT head office in Beijing on international projects (eg treaty co-productions and co-financing). There are concerns that this could slow down the approval process; however, there appears to be increased activity in the provinces, with new film and television studios and cultural centres being constructed at an alarming rate (Hebei) and old studios being renovated (eg Pearl River Studios).
- A clear direction from the Chinese Govt that the Chinese film industry needs to engage more with international markets and producer partners. This became evident in meetings with delegates from Hebei and Tianjin Film Studios and became even more apparent in official speeches at the International Film Forum. Also Mr Xue Peijian, President of the Shanghai Media Entertainment Group (SMEG) is heading a delegation visit to Australia in May and will be meeting with Screen Australia.
- There are issues emerging re business practices and accounting of Box office receipts. There is a need for a different and more formal approach in accounting of film receipts that is satisfactory to overseas sales companies and producers. China has drawn more attention from Hollywood since February, when a previous annual import quota of 20 films was increased to 34 (to include 3D and IMAX) and the revenue-sharing formula was altered, allowing foreign studios to keep a bigger share of ticket sales up to 25 per cent. There has been a wave of US-Chinese deals as Western operators seek exposure to one of the world's fastest-growing movie markets. It has been reported, that the US Securities and Exchange Commission is investigating at least five movie studios in the US about their dealings with China.
- Pirating continues to be an ongoing issue in the Chinese marketplace, that needs to be addressed.
- The need to develop projects early and with Chinese Producers or Studios that have direct links to exhibition or their own exhibition network in place (eg Huayi Borthers, Shanghai Film Studio). For example the Shanghai Film Studio investments in film range from RMB6m–RMB100m. They release 25 films in China each year, have cinemas in 73 cities and own a third of the 3D screens in China.

Meetings were held with executives of studios including the Presidents of Shanghai Film Studio, Herbei Film Studios and the Tianjin North Film Group, plus key executives from CCTV-9 Documentary Channel and Beijing TV Documentary Channel.



#### **Outcomes**

There have been tangible development and production outcomes since the first forum and based on discussions with participants, there will be tangible benefits from the second forum. For example:

- Mario Andreacchio informed Screen Australia that he has two projects in development with the Hebei Film Studios, with half production financed committed to one project.
- As a result of contacts made at the first forum, Carmelo Musca codirected a Chinese film *Deep Sleep No More* in 2011. Carmelo is now developing a second film project, *One Night of Madness*, with the same producer, Mr Jin. ScreenWest supported the first project and is intending to provide production finance for the second.
- Gary Hamilton CEO sales agent Arclight (whose current Chinese project *Dangerous Liaisons* produced by partner Ying Ye has just been selected for Directors Fortnight in Cannes) is co-executive producing *Mulan* with Jeffery Chan from Bona Entertainment. Bona have an established exhibition network in China.
- Emile Sherman is actively involved in the Arclight project Mulan and was also pitching a new feature project that he wishes to shoot in China.
- Chris Hilton (Essential Media) is co-producing a substantial factual historical series with National Geographic, CCTV and CCITV (the production arm of CCTV). The project will also involve InFocus Asia (a Beijing production company)
- Michael Tear (Bearcage) was in formal discussions with CCTV-9 (The Documentary Channel) on a four-part series Across Australia. CCTV management have informed Michael that a formal offer to co-finance and co-produce the series will be made within three weeks. Michael had previously met with CCTV-9 management at the first forum and at AIDC.
- Beijing TV are wishing to conduct an International Documentary
  Forum in China and are intending to invite Screen Australia to advise
  in setting up an participate in the forum.

A number of producers (including Doug Mitchell, Kennedy Miller Mitchell) were making their first foray into the Chinese marketplace and holding discussions with Chinese participants to gain an insight into this active, diverse and complex marketplace.

Holding the forum at a similar time to other events such as the BIFF and the BICIF, enable delegates to gain a broader understanding of the Chinese industry and to meet producers from China and other countries at a number of networking events.

For a copy of Screen Australia's *Doing Business with Australia* booklet in Mandarin visit: <a href="www.screenaustralia.gov.au/coproductions/

## Attachment A

	ACFIF 2012 - Australian offic	ial delegation
Name	Position	Organisation
Dr Ruth Harley	Chief Executive Officer	Screen Australia
Chris Oliver	Senior Manager, State & Industry Partnerships	Screen Australia
Alaric McAusland	Chairman/Managing Director	Ausfilm/Deluxe Australia
Debra Richards	Chief Executive Officer	Ausfilm
Defrim Isai	Director of Production Investment	ScreenWest
Geoff Brown	Executive Director	Screen Producers' Association Australia
Mario Andreacchio	Chairman/Executive Director AMPCO Films	Australia-China Screen Alliance/AMPCO Films
Gary Hamilton	Founder and Executive Producer	Arclight Films
Michael Tear	Managing Director	Bearcage Films
Paul Sullivan	Producer	Benchmark Films
Jane Cameron	Director	Cameron Creswell Agency
Carmelo Musca	Producer	CM Film Productions
Pauline Chan	Producer and Company Director	Darkroom Films
Chris Hilton	CEO and Executive Producer	Essential Media & Entertainment
Deidre Kitcher	Managing Director	Filmscope Entertainment
Rosemary Blight	Producer and Company Partner	Goalpost
Doug Mitchell	Producer	Kennedy Miller Mitchell
Lynda Woods	Producer	NJM Films
lan Hart	Principal	Peace Mountain Productions
Pamela Wilson Endrina	Principal	Red Tiger Productions
Emile Sherman	Founder and Producer	See-Saw Films
John Dietz	Principal	VisPop
Alan Lindsay	Managing Director	VUE Group
Lesley Hammond	Principal	Wild Candy

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	ACEIE 2012 BOVE			
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Ware Fred for the Chairman	China Film Producers' Association		Yes	Office: +86-10-62260433
wang rengiin (Secretary General)		wfl55@263.net	Yes	i.
Miao Xiaotian (Vice President)			Yes	13801038711
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Wang Guangli (President)	Infotainment China Media Company	<u>xinkef@gmail.com</u>	Yes	13701395765
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			Yes	13902187666
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An Jiang (Intl. Dept)		twrsiyun@yahoo.com.cn	S 3	13002003/34
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Nina Han (Managing Director)	Coloris Criceriaina Elitertainment Group	bj.houli01@gmail.com	Yes	
Manch Manch Manch	Taihe Universal Film Investment Co. Ltd	ninahan@taihefilm com	Yes	750711757
wang Church (International Department)			Yes	97795111661
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Lu Tao (Member)	Sold acting Floducer's Net (APN)	panpan he@263.net	Yes	13801073766
Wang Lifeng (President)				
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Zheng Fei	q. for	wang wang-xing.com	Yes	13911783045
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				beijing Han Jiao Film & TV			£	*			"ONE NIGHT OF MADNESS"	Investment Company - DSNM			6				Hebei Film and Television Productions				Aingle Pictures	
		wang Anming	Wang Lusha	Сао Во	Wang Xinguo	Jin Zhicheng (Producer)	HE Houyi (Producer)	Interpreter	Jin Yubo (Producer/Executive Director)	Zhang Tiecheng (GM Tiangong Film Corp.)	Igor Darbo (French filmmaker)	Dana Ziyasheva (Igor's partner)	Chi Xufeng (Delegation manager)	Vo line (1977)	re Jillierig (Delegation manager)	Ma Ruixia (US Producer)	Zuo Xuan (US Producer)	Mr. He Zhenhu (Deputy director general )	Mr. Shen Xiaoyi (Chief Director Hebei Film Productions)	Ms Lucy Liu (Producer& Interpreter)	liang H (CEO)	staring transfer (CEO)	Yang Junjie (Asistant)	

Du Yang			_	
Yue Xiang	Wanda Film Group. Beijing	vashti z@hotmail.com	Yes	13601351819
Zhang Jing (General Manager)			Yes	5.
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Claudia Jiang	China Millonni ma Maria		res	
Helen Chen	(CMoDA)	<u>jiangxiao@modachina.org</u>	Yes	13401180958
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Xing Liu (Director of Foreign Investment)	Beijing Galloping Horse Entertainment Co.	kowe@kw2007.com	Yes	Office: +86-10-84981577
Phillys Liu			3 3	
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Sophia Wang (Junior Creative Director)		Sophia Wangawan	S 3	
Wen-chia Chang (Junior Creative Director)	Village Roadshow Pictures Asia	The state of the s	£ ;	1350-139-66/4
Robert Wei		Wen-Cha Chang@vregasia.com	Yes	13261610596
Wang Fan			res	
Fan+assistant	CHINA FILM ART RESEARCH CENTER	wangfan6@yahoo.com.cn	Yes	135-818-051-27
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Phillipa Jones (Managing Director)		Total Colling	res	18601035866
David Kelly	China Policy	philippa.jones@policycn.com	Yes	13501237777
Wei Zhong			Yes	11/10710011
8	Independent Producer	enjoyrosescent@hotmail.com	Yes	13466546414
I ristan McInnis	Film Research	philippa.jones@policycn.com	1	156-5776-3761
Michelle Eastman	Freelance Producer	philippa.jones@policycn com	$\dagger$	120 3274-7701
				134-884-8347

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ctor)  Producer)  Producer)  Mild Candy  AMPCO Films  Asia-Pacific Screen Awards - Academy  Village Roadshow Entertainment Group  Cimarron Group Asia	voutas@gmail.com	Yes
ctor)  Producer)  MAMPCO Films  ant & Managine  idustry Consultant)  (Artistic Director)  Asia-Pacific Screen Awards - Academy  Village Roadshow Entertainment Group  Cimarron Group Asia	ian@hartbeat.com.au	Yes Traveling with Ian Hart
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Producer)  Int & Managine Idustry Consultant)  Industry Consultant  Industry Consultant	wildlife@netspace.net.au	Yes Traveling with Lesley Hammond
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idustry Consultant)  MPA Asia-Pacific  (Artistic Director)  Asia-Pacific Screen Awards - Academy  Village Roadshow Entertainment Group  Cimarron Group Asia	mario.ampcofilms@gmail.com	Yes Traveling with Mario Andreacchio
idustry Consultant)  MPA Asia-Pacific  (Artistic Director)  Asia-Pacific Screen Awards - Academy  Village Roadshow Entertainment Group  Cimarron Group Asia	1	Yes
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Asia-Pacific Screen Awards - Academy Village Roadshow Entertainment Group  Cimarron Group Asia	william fengementing	
Asia-Pacific Screen Awards - Academy   Info@a     Village Roadshow Entertainment Group   Greg b     Cimarron Group Asia   Crystall	Since in pacific and B	13911021068
Asia-Pacific Screen Awards - Academy Village Roadshow Entertainment Group Cimarron Group Asia	wang@mpachina.org	Yes
Village Roadshow Entertainment Group  Cimarron Group Asia	info@apscreenawards. com	Yes
Cimarron Group Asia Crysta	ment Group greg basser@vregusa.com	Yes China Moh: 186 1140 4500
Cimarron Group Asia		$\dagger$
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		22 120 1078 6819
		Yes
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Base FX	kristina@base-fx.com	s 18611890818
	Yes	s 13701117051

Kim Magnusson (Chairman)	Danish Eilm Acadomy			Contact Mario Mach.
	A STREET STREET		Yes	363
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	Huayingtang Entertainment Group	Sense sun@vin 163 com	5 3	13/01121031
Li Fei (Chief Technical Officer)	•		<u>.</u>	
Chi Hong Xiong 计价格数	Soulpower Films	soulpowerchina@gmail.com	Yes	18611845985
NE (**) 743			Yes	18611845906
Sha Xuezhou (Qingdao-Chairman & CEO)	Longxiangtianhe Film Co. Ltd, Beijing		Yes	15053692306-13811529123
Wang Zhuang (CEO)		shaxillezholl@vahor co	20%	100000000000000000000000000000000000000
	Huayudaye Entertainment Co.		<u>.</u>	13581828372
			Yes	
	China Motion Picture Science and Technology (CRIFST)	sq@crifst.ac.cn; samovie1979@hotmail.com	Yes	13693679579

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## Attachment B

#### Australia-China Film Industry Forum 2012 Program Schedule

## 中澳 年 YEARS AUSTRALIA \* CHINA

#### Monday, 23 April 2012

#### Morning session - Hilton Beijing, Signature Ballroom

9:00am – 9:10am Welcome address by *Michael Growder*, Counsellor for Public Affairs and Culture, Australian Embassy Beijing

9:10am – 9:20am Welcome address by *Dr Ruth Harley*, Chief Executive Officer, Screen Australia

9:20am – 10:40am Panel discussions featuring: Village Roadshow Entertainment Group Asia, China Film Group, Harris Moure Attorneys, Australia-China Screen Alliance/AMPCO Films.

- Ellen Eliasoph, President and CEO China, Village Roadshow Entertainment Group Asia
  - o Overview of co-production structure setup in China
    - Sino-Foreign co-productions
    - Difference between Sino-Foreign co-productions and Australia-China co-productions
    - Cautionary measures, permits and policies
- Mr Miao Xiaotian, Vice-President, Beijing Film Production Corporation, China Film Corporation Limited
  - Overview of Sino-Foreign film co-production
  - o Recent developments in the Chinese film industry
  - o Film distribution in China
- Mario Andreacchio, Chairman, Australia-China Screen Alliance
  - o Overview of the Australia-China Screen Alliance
  - o Experiences in working with Chinese co-producers
  - o From an Australian Producers perspective:
    - Bond companies, third party protection for investors in production
    - Collections, third party protection for investors for receipts management

- Mathew Alderson, Partner, Harris Moure Attorneys
  - Legal framework of co-productions with China
    - Laws and jurisdictions
    - Explanations of the Chinese system
    - Policies and regulations



10:40am - 11:00am Tea and Coffee break

11:00am – 12:15pm Panel discussion featuring: Screen Australia, Screen Producers' Association Australia and Ausfilm

- Chris Oliver, Senior Manager, State and Industry Partnerships Screen Australia
  - o Screen Australia promo reel
  - o Australian film industry developments
  - o Australian Producers Offset
- Geoff Brown, Executive Director, Screen Producers' Association Australia (SPAA)
  - Overview of role of SPAA
- Alaric McAusland, Chairman, Ausfilm and Managing Director, Deluxe Australia
  - Overview of Ausfilm and Deluxe Australia
  - Skill sets of the Australian film industry
  - Innovative and cutting edge technologies

12:15pm - 1:00pm Questions and Answers

1:00pm - Morning session concludes

1:00pm - 2:15pm Lunch (Hilton: Elements Restaurant)

2:30pm - 5:00pm afternoon session continues on next page

# Australia-China Film Industry Networking Event Schedule – Sponsored by Ausfilm



#### Monday, 23 April 2012

#### Afternoon session - Hilton Beijing, Signature Ballroom

2:30pm – 2:40pm Welcome address by *Mr Graeme Meehan, Deputy Ambassador, Australian Embassy, Beijing* 

2:40pm - 5:00pm Australia-China Film Industry Networking event

5:00pm – Afternoon networking event concludes

6:30pm – Departure from Hilton for Beijing International Film Festival Opening Ceremony (Limited attendance only)

## Attachment C

#### Ruth Harley speech

Second Australian - China Film Industry Forum

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2012

茹丝·哈里在第二届澳中电影论坛上的讲话

2012年4月23日

Good morning everyone. Thank you for inviting me to the second Australian China Film Industry Forum. It's an honour to be here in this vibrant and dynamic city.

大家早上好。感谢邀请我参加第二届澳中电影论坛。非常荣幸能够来到北京这座生机勃勃,充满活力的城市。

Our region is enjoying considerable stable financial growth – and both Australia and China are sharing in that growth.

我们所在的地区具有相当稳定的经济增长——澳中两国都受益其中。

Our two countries also have a shared history – from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present day.

我们两国也有从十八世纪末一直延续至今的历史渊源。

2012 represents the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our successful diplomatic relationship and I envisage our business and cultural relationship will continue to grow even stronger in the future.

澳中两国在 2012 年将迎来建立外交关系四十周年。我相信两国的经济和 文化关系在未来将继续保持更为强劲的增长。

That sharing is taking many forms..... Today over ½ million people from China visit Australia each year – to see our unique and wonderful wildlife, to visit family and to do business. Many Australians also visit

China and we are committed to seeking pathways for further connections between our two countries.....

两国的共通随处可见----如今,每年有超过50万的中国客人访问澳大利亚---他们或是欣赏我们独特而美妙的自然风光,或是探亲访友,亦或是开展商务活动。许多澳大利亚人也会访问中国,我们致力于发掘进一步加强两国联系的途径。

Our high level delegation of Australian producers present here are a part of that sharing and connection. We will undoubtedly enjoy the architectural sights of this grand city – I certainly will – as well as see old friends.

我们出席此次活动的高级别澳大利亚电影界代表团就是这种共享和联系的体现。我们在欣赏这座宏伟城市建筑景致的同时,还要拜访我们的老友。But today we are here to do business – to share ideas with existing partners and to meet new ones – and for those that have not been to China before – to gain an insight into how your movie business works. 但是今天,我们汇聚在此是为了我们的业务---与已经建立联系的合作伙伴交流,并且借此机会结识新的朋友。对首次来华的成员来说,也是来了解中国影视业的业务是如何开展的。

Both our countries are creatively smart with internationally recognised talent in producing, directing, acting, writing and technical skills. 澳中两国在制片、导演、表演、创作和技术领域都拥有国际公认的创新型人才。

Some of our top Australian producers and talent are with us today .....who are keen to engage with your vast movie industry.

今天在场的包括一些澳大利亚顶级制片人和业内人才,他们热切盼望与中国庞大的电影业合作。

#### They include 他们是

- Doug Mitchell producer of Happy Feet 1 and 2, the delightful penguin musical and also an Oscar winner. You may also be familiar with his internationally renowned films Babe and the Mad Max movies
- 道格·米切尔——《快乐的大脚 1》和《快乐的大脚 2》的制片人,这个欢乐的企鹅的故事曾获得奥斯卡奖。他在国际上享有盛誉的影片《小猪宝贝》和《疯狂的麦克斯》也为观众所熟知。
- Emile Sherman the producer of the Oscar winning film The
   Kings Speech
- 艾米尔·夏尔曼 ——奥斯卡获奖影片《国王的演讲》制片人。
- Mr Mario Andreacchio producer / director of The Dragon Pearl
   the first official co production with China
- 马里奥·安德烈奇奥 —— 澳中首部合拍片《寻龙夺宝》的制片人兼导演。
- Ms Pauline Chan director of 33 Postcards the second official co production with China
- 陈宝玲 ——澳中第二部合拍片《幸福卡片》的导演
- Ms Rosemary Blight producer of The Sapphires which was shot in Vietnam and is soon to be launched in the international marketplace
- 罗斯马莉·布赖特——《蓝宝石》的制片人——这部影片在越南拍摄,很快就会在国际市场上上映。
- Mr Gary Hamilton –Producer of the 3d movie Bait which we are hoping will be released in China this year
- 盖瑞-汉密尔顿 —— 3D 电影《**Bait**》的制片人——我们期待这部影片能够于今年在中国上映。

Many of the films I mentioned have had a successful box office release in China in 2011 – **The Dragon Pearl, 33 Postcards** – as well as **Sanctum** from producer Andrew White and executive producer James Cameron....and more recently **The Kings Speech** and **Happy Feet 2** in 2012.

我上面提到的许多影片 2011 年在中国发行时都取得了成功的票房成绩——例如《寻龙夺宝》,《幸福卡片》——还有由安德鲁·怀特担任制片人和詹姆斯·卡梅隆担任执行制片人的影片《夺命深渊》,以及 2012 年最新发行的《国王的演讲》和《快乐的大脚 2》。

Australian films, **The Dragon Pearl**, **Sanctum** and **Happy Feet 2** recently delivered China box office takings ranging from \$7.5m to over \$13m. Australian Films **33 Postcards** and **Red Dog** are also being screened this week at the Second Beijing International Film Festival. 澳大利亚电影《寻龙夺宝》,《夺命深渊》,和《快乐的大脚 2》最近在中国取得了从 750 万澳元至 1300 万澳元不等的票房收入。澳大利亚电影《幸福卡片》和《红狗》本周将在第二届北京国际电影节上放映。

These films have been assisted by generous Australian government incentives such as the 40% producer offset – some, such as the official co productions have also been substantially supported by Chinese finance and creative input as well as distribution support....others have been generously aided by only Chinese distribution support.

这些影片得到了澳大利亚政府激励机制的支持,例如 40%的制片人补偿 政策。其中的一些,如官方合拍影片,还得到了中方包括在融资和创意方面投入,以及发行等领域的大力支持。其它影片也得到了中方在发行方面的支持。

It is this joint support from our governments, our financiers, Chinese studios and movie distributors along with the important creative

collaboration between producers from both our countries - that will ensure we have further successful co productions and co financing of movies in the future....

得益于来自两国政府,两国金融家,中方制片厂和发行商,以及两国制片人重要的创意合作,我们才能确保今后制作出更加成功的合拍片以及更加成功地为影片联合融资。

I'd now like to show you a trailer of **Happy Feet 2** - the most recent collaboration between a Chinese distributor - the distribution corporation of China Film Co, Ltd and Huaxia film distribution corporation — and an Australian production company — Kennedy Miller Mitchell — which has enjoyed a successful Chinese, Australian and worldwide box office release this year...

我想借此机会为大家放映《快乐的大脚 2》的片花——这是一部由中方发行单位"中国电影股份有限公司发行公司"和"华夏电影发行公司"与澳大利亚制片公司肯尼迪·米勒·米歇尔公司合作的影片,今年在中国、澳大利亚以及全球的发行票房大获成功。

#### Show Happy Feet 2 Trailer

放映《快乐的大脚 2》

A moving film as well as a lot of fun

一部令人感动且妙趣横生的影片

I wish you all the best in your discussions and meetings over the next two days.....and look forward to hearing, and seeing, the results of those meetings.

我祝在座各位在今后两天的讨论和会议中一切顺利,期待你们的佳音。

Thank you....

谢谢!