

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: John Larkin <John.Larkin@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 1:45 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Coalar <coalar@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: For Clearance: Jennifer Hewett Media Visit S23 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Approved, thanks.

Regards

John Larkin

Assistant Secretary | APEC and Latin America Branch
Trade Resilience, Indo-Pacific Economic, and Latin America Division (TID)

Ts 22(1)(a)(ii) | Ms 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 9:28 AM
To: John Larkin <John.Larkin@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Coalar <coalar@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: For Clearance: Jennifer Hewett Media Visit S23 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi John

Grateful for your clearance of the attached S23 and attachment A for Jennifer Hewett's Media Visit Program.

Kind regards

Hachins

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Policy Officer | Latin America & Caribbean Section (LCS)
APEC and Latin America Branch (ALM) | TID
P +s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Minute

Date: 12 February 2025

TO. John Larkin, Assistant Secretary, APEC and Latin America Branch

FM. s 22(1)(a)(ii), COALAR Secretariat Manager

SECTION 23 REQUEST FOR APPROVAL:

TRAVEL COSTS FOR JENNIFER HEWETT,

AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REVIEW (AFR), MEDIA VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

MAY - JUNE 2025

This minute requests S23 approval up to \$25,000 (inclusive of GST) for the costs of a media visit, by AFR journalist, Jennifer Hewett, to Brazil and Chile.

The objective of the visit is to strengthen links between Australia and Latin America by supporting an Australian journalist to help build their awareness and understanding of the region, its importance to Australia’s economic and broader geo-strategic interests, the depth of existing commercial engagement, and opportunities to strengthen engagement further. It is expected that the visit would result in feature articles about Latin America in Australian print/digital media and potentially other news media.

The visit is anticipated take place from 31 May – 12 June 2025 and specific areas of focus will be Latin America’s role in the global energy transition and opportunities this is opening for Australia, including in critical minerals, rare earths and mining equipment, technology and services (METs).

s 47E(d)

An initial itinerary is at Attachment A, which will be further developed with regional Heads of Mission.

A breakdown of the estimated costs is below:

Item-	Estimated Cost (AUD) GST inclusive
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Total	\$25,000
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1. The estimated costs are at the upper limits based on desktop research. Actual costs to be incurred may be lower than the estimated maximum.

2. The airfares costs are based on business class
3. Travel Allowance expenses are based on the [International Traveling Allowance Rates 2024-25](#) and Post advice.

Approval:

I recommend that you confirm the proposed commitment is:

1. within the limits of your delegation
 - supported by the COALAR Board
2. supported by sufficient uncommitted funds in COALAR's 2024-2025 Budget s 47E(d)
3. consistent with the use of COALAR Budget makes efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of Commonwealth resources.

I am satisfied that the proposed commitment is within the limitations of my delegation or authorisation under Section 23 of the PGPA Act 2013 on the basis of the information provided above, **I APPROVE / DO NOT APPROVE** the proposed commitment up to **\$25,000** (incl GST).

Name: John Larkin
Position Title: Assistant Secretary, APEC and Latin America Branch
Date: February 2024

Program Jennifer Hewett Media Visit – Latin America			
Where – When	Who/What	Purpose	Sector/Stakeholder type
Chile			
Saturday 31 May* Santiago, Chile	Travel to Santiago	Options to engage with Chilean companies that are now investing significantly in mining/processing/renewables in Australia, and that have big operations in Chile (SQM, HIF, Codelco as a start).	
Sunday 1 June Santiago, Chile			
Monday 2 June Santiago, Chile			
Tuesday 3 June Santiago, Chile			
Wednesday 4 June Belo Horizonte	Depart Santiago LA674, arrive CNF. Departs SCL 5:30pm, arrives CNF at 10:35pm.		
Brazil			
Thursday 5 June Belo Horizonte, Brazil	Australian business and academia, Belo Horizonte <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • METS: Orica, Ausenco • ASX200: BHP • Critical minerals: Meteoric/ Viridis (REE), Pilbara/ PLS (lithium), Centaurus, Resouro • Academia: Federal University of Minas Gerais (top-ranked university for mining) 	Worley, Orica, Ausenco, BHP in Brazil have big operations and can talk in detail on opportunities. Worley has its largest Latin America office with over 1,000 employees, Orica has over 700 employees. They are growing fast on the back of critical minerals; s 47E(d) it.	Critical minerals
Friday 6 June Belo Horizonte, Brazil	Australian business and academia, Belo Horizonte <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • METS: Orica, Ausenco • ASX200: BHP • Critical minerals: Meteoric/ Viridis (REE), Pilbara/ PLS (lithium), Centaurus, Resouro 		Critical minerals

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academia: Federal University of Minas Gerais (top-ranked university for mining) 		
Saturday 7 June Belo Horizonte, Brazil	Day trip to Ouro Preto OR Inhotim		Culture
Sunday 8 June Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	Fly to Rio		
Monday 9 June Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australian business: South 32, Karoon Energy, Worley, s 47F(1) Other: Vale, Petrobras, BNDES Think tank: CEBRI 		
Tuesday 10 June Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australian business: South 32, Karoon Energy, Worley, s 47F(1) Other: Vale, Petrobras, BNDES Think tank: CEBRI 		
Wednesday 11 June Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australian business: South 32, Karoon Energy, Worley, s 47F(1) Other: Vale, Petrobras, BNDES Think tank: CEBRI 		
Thursday 12 June Buenos Aires	<i>TBC - Rio to Buenos Aires multiple flights. 3 hours 20 minutes</i>		
TBC Saturday 21 June or Sunday 22 June	<i>Return to Australia</i>		



AUSTRALIA-LATIN AMERICA MEDIA VISIT PROGRAM

CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE COALAR BOARD

Proposal

To undertake a media visit to Latin America, taking Australian journalists to the region to help strengthen links between Australia and Latin America by building awareness and understanding of the region and the opportunities for Australia. The program could fund two Australian journalists to Latin America in FY 24/25 to meet with key stakeholders including government representatives, Australian and Latin American businesses, alumni groups, education providers, industry associations and cultural institutions, amongst others. It would be expected that the visits would result in feature articles about Latin America in Australian print/digital media and potentially other news media.

Objectives

- Increase understanding in Australia of the importance of Latin America to Australia's economic interests, the depth of existing commercial engagement, and opportunities for future trade and investment (both ways) in key areas, including in mining and critical minerals, agriculture, energy (including renewable energy), education and infrastructure.
- Increase awareness of the shared geostrategic pressures and policy challenges facing governments in both Australia and Latin America in managing the global clean energy transition, and opportunities to collaborate and engage with Latin America.
- Highlight opportunities for collaboration between First Nations populations from both Australia and Latin America, including in areas such as First Nations trade and economic empowerment, traditional knowledge, sustainability, language preservation and community consultation.
- Leverage growing Latin American diaspora in Australia and Latin American alumni in the region to highlight expanding people to people links, including through personal stories.

Potential Format

The Australia-Latin America Media Visit Program could support two Australian journalists to visit two to three countries each in Latin America and could cover a wide range of topics including trade and investment, mining and critical minerals, education and research, climate change and resilience – including the energy transition, diaspora, cultural and community connections, and First Nations links.



Each visit could be programmed around a priority theme (linked to COALAR's strategic priorities) with an appropriate specialist journalist in that field. Some examples/options could include:

- **The importance of Latin America to the global energy transition** (green energy, critical minerals, etc.) and the opportunities that this offers for Australia (mining investment, METs, critical minerals projects, collaboration on green technologies, etc). A visit under this theme might include Chile, Brazil and Peru, with an appropriate business/finance journalist with expertise in these themes.
- **First Nations links/collaboration with the region** - A visit under this theme could incorporate Mexico and Guatemala, s 47E(d) and be undertaken by an Australian First Nations journalist. It could be timed to coincide with s 47E(d) or to promote any potential COALAR-supported First Nations projects.

Depending on identified theme/focus for visit, a list of recommended journalists, with input from DFAT's Media Team, DFAT Posts and board members, would be provided for Board consideration. Travel programs could be designed by relevant Posts with input from the COALAR Secretariat and Board.

The COALAR media visit program could be complemented by visits by journalists from the Latin American region to Australia. For example, the Latin America desk can bid for a Latin America specific visit to Australia to be funded separately under DFAT's International Media Visits (IMV) program. Another option could be to propose a jointly funded COALAR/IMV media visit from the region in FY25/26 which would aim to raise awareness in Latin America of Australia, our relationship with the region, and emerging opportunities.

The COALAR media visit program will also complement other ad-hoc opportunities, such as the upcoming IMV on *energy security and the energy transition* in late 2024 which will include one or two media representatives from the region.

Estimated Cost and Timeframe

s 47E(d)

November 2024 – Proposal approved and program developed

December 2024 – Journalists approached

February-March 2025 – Program conducted

March-April 2025 – stories filed and published

Record Number	Title	Date Registered	Date Closed	Owner
s 22(1)(a)(ii)	PROCUREMENT - ACQUISITION - Services - Media Visit DFAT s 47E(d)	s 47E(d)		TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Jennifer Hewett AFR Visit to Brazil - Further Background Material [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Jennifer Hewett Visit: Additional Information and Further Reading Material [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Pre-travel reading material: Jennifer Hewett [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Draft Meeting List for JH in Santiago			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Draft interviews JH visit to Brazil			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	JH four published AFR articles as of 18 June 2025			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d)			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) flight booking - media visit [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	FOI - Proposed wording for invalid FOI [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d)			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Advice - other FCIs media programs Fw: Re: HPE Content Manager Electronic Object : D11/104838 : COALAR support f...			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) - Record of sub-committee s 47E(d) [S...			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) - 29 November 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) //FOR ACTION//31 October COB: s 47E(d) SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) [EXTERNAL] FOR REVIEW BY 28 OCT- COALAR Concept Note Media Visit Program [SE...			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) EXTERNAL] RE: //FOR ACTION//31 October COB: s 47E(d) SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) FOR REVIEW BY 28 OCT- COALAR Concept Note Media Visit Program [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Letter of Invitation - Media Visit - COALAR [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) Journalist [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) Re: Invitation - Media Visit - COALAR [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	S23 Request - Fw: For Clearance: Jennifer Hewett Media Visit S23 [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	S23Approval - For Clearance: Jennifer Hewett Media Visit S23 [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d)			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	RE Brazil: Updated Jennifer Hewett Program - Questions [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	RE Urgent query [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	RE Brazil: Updated Jennifer Hewett Program - Questions [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Updated 9 June 2025 visit program Jennifer Hewett			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Visit to Latin America			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d)			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Jennifer Hewett			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Jennifer Hewett			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Travel Itinerary Jennifer Hewett			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d)			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Invitation letter for media visit - DFAT			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	[EXTERNAL] RE: Invitation - Media Visit - COALAR [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	RE Visit to Latin America by Jennifer Hewett, Australian Financial Review [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d) [SEC=OFFICIAL]			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	s 47E(d)			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	POLITICAL-ECONOMIC - VISIT PROGRAMS - Administrative Arrangements - Jennifer Hewett Visit to Brazil and Chile			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...
	Energy Transition Reading Pack			TID_ALM_LCS TID ALM ...