



## **MINISTERIAL FORUM ON NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT**



MG Corporation Chairperson Lawford Benning (pictured above, second from left) and senior Indigenous leaders from across northern Australia were invited to participate in the inaugural Ministerial Forum on Northern Development in Darwin on Friday 1 September 2017. The Forum was to ensure that the northern development agenda is inclusive of Indigenous interests and provides tangible benefits for Indigenous land owners, workers and businesses.

The Forum was chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP, and attended by the Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, the Hon Michael Gunner MLA, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory and Minister for Northern Australia; the Hon Coralee O'Rourke MP, Minister Assisting the Premier on North Queensland; and the Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC, Minister for Regional Development from Western Australia.

The Ministers reiterated the strong commitment to developing the north from all four jurisdictions and agreed the Forum will initially focus on the following shared development priorities: economic infrastructure (including transport, logistics, energy and digital); agriculture and aquaculture; resources and gas; Indigenous business, innovation and growth; defence; innovative economic incentives; and social infrastructure.