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A statement from Investment NSW:

The Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner (STIC) Americas position is one of six new roles established as part of the Global NSW Strategy which was released publicly in phote most /2019.

STICs are public service roles established under the Government Sector Employment Act and Regulations, and they are employed by Investment NSW.

Recruitment for the STIC North Asia and the UK Agent General and STIC Europe and Israel was commenced by NSW Treasury and taken to Cabinet in error. Following the establishment of Investment NSW through Machinery of Government changes in March 2021, advice subsequently confirmed this was not required for future appointments.

The recruitment for all STIC roles was managed by NGS Global, a specialised external recruitment talent firm.

At the end of the initial recruitment process for the STIC Americas position in late 2021, there was no suitable candidate and no appointment was made at that time.

No formal offer was made or contract issued with any candidate as part of round one recruitment for the STIC Americas position.

Mr Barilaro was among a group of candidates considered for appointment during a second round of recruitment that commenced in December 2021.

At the completion of the recruitment process including interviews, due diligence, reference and background checks, Mr Barilaro was ranked the highest candidate and recommended for the role.

The panel for the second round of recruitment consisted of the CEO of Investment NSW, NSW Public Service Commissioner, Investment NSW Managing Director Trade and Investment and an independent external panel member.

No conflict of interest precluded the Investment CEO from making this appointment.

Investment NSW can confirm no formal approvals were required or obtained from any Ministers or the Premier with respect to STIC appointments to ASEAN, India and the Middle East, the Americas or Greater China.

Mr Barilaro has been appointed to the role with his date of commencement with Investment NSW and onboarding yet to occur.