



Mr Nicholas Brooke  
Chairman of the Harbourfront Commission  
Harbourfront Commission  
17/F, West Wing,  
Central Government Offices,  
2 Tim Mei Avenue,  
Tamar, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Nicholas Brooke

Re: Proposed Establishment of a Harbourfront Authority  
Phase I Public Engagement Consultation

We refer to the Harbourfront Commission's (HC's) Phase I Public Engagement Consultation Digest and the consultation undertaken with representative of the Sustainable Development Committee of the Australian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and Macau (AustCham) on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013. AustCham has reviewed the document and has the following feedback and comments.

1. As a key natural asset of Hong Kong, the HC's vision for the harbourfront is supported to optimise the use of the harbourfront space for the people of Hong Kong and our visitors in the same way other water front cities have achieved.
2. The Chamber agrees and fully advocates the proposal to set up a Harbourfront Authority to have the responsibility to design, develop, manage and maintain the harbourfront and it is considered that this is the optimum way forward. We consider the Harbourfront Authority should be:
  - an independent executive arm;
  - should have separate funding; and
  - independent of government interference.
3. Based upon the options presented in the Phase I Public Engagement Consultation Digest, it is considered that the Harbourfront Commission should be disbanded to avoid confusion and conflicts of interest.

We consider that Australia has valuable experience to offer in the development and management of water front spaces with particular reference to the Melbourne Yarra, Sydney Harbour and Brisbane Southbank developments. The following links provide details on the various approaches to the way Australian cities have developed their strategies.

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboutmelbourne/projectsandinitiatives/southbank2010/Pages/Southbank2010.aspx>

<http://www.shfa.nsw.gov.au/>

<http://brisbanedevelopment.com/south-bank-2-labors-grand-plan/>

AustCham is pleased to continue to offer our involvement and advocacy in the upcoming rounds of consultation.

Yours faithfully



Chris Knop  
Chair, Sustainable Development Committee  
Australian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and Macau