

## **Nomination for Election to the Board of Directors of the China-Australia Chamber of Commerce in Beijing**

### **Statement of Candidate's Objectives and Benefits – Vaughn Barber**

An inaugural recipient of the Australian Young Scholars in China scholarship, I returned to Beijing some 22 years later with my family to take up the role as Head of China Outbound for KPMG China in 2011. Prior to that, I worked for almost 15 years with KPMG in Hong Kong as an M&A and international tax partner. I am fluent in Mandarin and proficient in Cantonese.

China is a board-level priority for KPMG. Given the increasing importance of China's outward direct investment (ODI) to China and host countries around the world, KPMG established the Global China Practice, with dedicated teams in nearly 60 locations around the world, including countries and regions along the 'Belt and Road'. I am part of the leadership team that developed this strategy and oversaw its rollout globally. On 1 July 2015, I was appointed the Global Chair of KPMG's Global China Practice.

The Australia-China relationship is especially important given its increasing commercial, investment and political significance to both countries. This is why we have established an Australia-China Strategic Corridor connecting the KPMG Member Firms in both countries, and led by senior professionals with decades of experience in facilitating cross-border transactions. This is one of the Strategic Corridors that we have established within the Global China Practice. Our goal is to contribute meaningfully to the development of the economic relationship and people-to-people connections between the two countries and to be respected by the business community in Australia and China as the leading professional services firm in Australia-China business.

Before taking on these roles, I was the leader of KPMG China's outbound tax practice and the Asia Pacific Regional Leader of our Mergers & Acquisitions Tax practice where I acted on some of China's largest outbound acquisitions including CNOOC's US\$15.2 billion acquisition of Nexen Inc. in Canada and CITIC Securities' US\$1.252bn acquisition of CLSA Limited.

With this practical experience, I have a good understanding of the drivers of Chinese inbound and outbound investment, the future trends and the challenges. AustCham performs an important role in facilitating win-win outcomes from Chinese investment in Australia and more Australian participation in emerging opportunities in the Chinese market. If elected, I look forward to making a contribution toward these efforts.

Having served on the board for two terms, including as Deputy Chair for the last two years, I look forward to continuing to support the development, implementation and review of Chamber strategy. Areas where I feel I could continue to make a contribution are representing the Chamber in meetings with Australian and Chinese government stakeholders, supporting efforts to identify and build relationships with Chinese collaboration partners, supporting social and business events, and working towards effective collaboration across Greater China.

Beijing, 5 June 2017