

**The Australian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong**  
4/F, Lucky Building, 39 Wellington Street, Hong Kong



## Australia – Hong Kong Working Holiday Scheme

**11 September 2001**

The Australian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong (AustCham) applauds the Australian and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region governments on yesterday's announcement of the Australia – Hong Kong Working Holiday Scheme.

“An agreement such as this, the twelfth for Australia and only second for Hong Kong, confirms the strong ties that exist between Australia and Hong Kong,” said AustCham Chairman Alan Johnson today.

“Exchanges of young people between Australia and Hong Kong will continue to support and develop the strong business, cultural, educational and social ties between our two homes,” he said.

“Australia is a multi-cultural country that would be highly attractive to young Hong Kong people who wish to travel and at the same time take up some short-term employment or studies. It is also a great opportunity for Hong Kong students to see first-hand the friendly and open society of Australia and learn more about the education system which is currently educating 17,000 Hong Kong students.”

“On the other hand AustCham has seen a distinct growth in recent years in the number of under 30-year-old Australians who are traveling to Hong Kong to explore employment opportunities. This visa will encourage a growth of that market and bring new skills to Hong Kong,” he concluded.

For more information about the Australia – Hong Kong Working Holiday Scheme contact Louise Smith, Consul (Immigration) at the Australian Consulate General on telephone 2585 4148.

The Australian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong was formed 14 years ago to facilitate business development and networking opportunities for its members. It is the largest Australian chamber outside Australia and one of the largest international chambers in Hong Kong, reflecting the growing strength of Australian business in Greater China. Over the past 14 years AustCham has grown to more than 820 corporate members and it now represents almost 1,000 Australian companies and a community of some 45,000. AustCham member companies employ over 200,000 people in Hong Kong.

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### **ENQUIRIES:**

**Sally Penfold, AustCham Communications Manager**

# media release

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