



## **Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham**

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment  
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate  
Senator for South Australia

March 26, 2019

Mr Edward Yau  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China

Dear Secretary,

In connection with the signing of the *Free Trade Agreement between Australia and Hong Kong, China* (the Agreement) and discussions in relation to Chapter 7 (Cross-Border Trade in Services), I have the honour to confirm the following agreement reached between the Government of Australia (Australia) and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong, China) to strengthen cooperation in the field of professional services:

Noting the vital role that professional services play in facilitating bilateral trade and investment, as well as regional and global trade and investment flows, and pursuant to paragraph 8 of Annex 7-A to Chapter 7 (Cross-Border Trade in Services) of the Agreement, Australia and Hong Kong, China shall enter into discussions to explore ways to facilitate recognition of existing relevant professional experience for the purpose of the fulfilment of a Party's standards or criteria for the registration, authorisation, licensing or certification of service suppliers.

I have the honour to propose that this letter and your letter in reply confirming the above constitute an agreement between Australia and Hong Kong, China, which shall enter into force on the date of entry into force of the Agreement.

Yours sincerely,

**Simon Birmingham**

March 26, 2019

The Honourable Mr Simon Birmingham  
Minister for Trade, Tourism, and Investment  
Australia

Dear Minister,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 26, 2019, which reads as follows:

*“In connection with the signing of the Free Trade Agreement between Australia and Hong Kong, China (the Agreement) and discussions in relation to Chapter 7 (Cross-Border Trade in Services), I have the honour to confirm the following agreement reached between the Government of Australia (Australia) and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong, China) to strengthen cooperation in the field of professional services:*

*Noting the vital role that professional services play in facilitating bilateral trade and investment, as well as regional and global trade and investment flows, and pursuant to paragraph 8 of Annex 7-A to Chapter 7 (Cross-Border Trade in Services) of the Agreement, Australia and Hong Kong, China shall enter into discussions to explore ways to facilitate recognition of existing relevant professional experience for the purpose of the fulfilment of a Party's standards or criteria for the registration, authorisation, licensing or certification of service suppliers.*

*I have the honour to propose that this letter and your letter in reply confirming the above constitute an agreement between Australia and Hong Kong, China, which shall enter into force on the date of entry into force of the Agreement.”*

I have the further honour to confirm that the above reflects the agreement reached between the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong, China) and the Government of Australia (Australia) and that your letter and this letter in reply constitute an agreement between Hong Kong, China and Australia, which shall enter into force on the date of entry into force of the *Free Trade Agreement between Hong Kong, China and Australia*.

Yours sincerely,

( Edward Yau )  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China