

Mr. Ian Perkin
Chief Economist
HK General Chamber of Commerce

Ian K Perkin is Chief Economist and head of the Economic and Legal Affairs Division of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce. He is responsible for formulating Chamber policies on economics, legal and legislative matters, taxation and some social issues.

He is secretary to five Chamber committees; manages the Chamber's economic research program and prepares key Chamber submissions to Government. He also undertakes media and other briefings, drafts speeches for the Chamber leadership and makes his own presentations to local and overseas groups.

Mr. Perkin writes regularly for Hong Kong and overseas publications and is often quoted in the local and foreign media on economic and social issues affecting Hong Kong. He is a member of several advisory bodies, including the Hong Kong Government's Standing Committee on Company Law Reform.

A former journalist, he joined the Chamber in August 1991, after two years as Business Editor of The South China Morning Post. Before moving to Hong Kong in 1989, he operated an independent economic research, lobbying and public relations firm in Australia's national capital, Canberra.

Earlier, he was a senior adviser to the leader of the Australian Liberal Party and former Foreign Minister, The Hon. Andrew Peacock. Mr. Peacock was until early 2000 Australian Ambassador to the US in Washington, DC.

Before joining Mr. Peacock's Canberra staff Mr. Perkin was News Corporation's Bureau Chief in the Australian national capital, as well as Associate Editor and Chief Political correspondent of the national daily newspaper, The Australian. Before that, he held many senior editorial positions in the Australian media industry.

Despite his title, Mr. Perkin stresses that he is: "not an economist in the academic sense, merely someone with an interest in economics."