

Meeting Minutes and Action Items | Australia Thailand Business Council

Meeting Information

Date:	Wednesday, 8 November 2017	Location:	Suite 801, Level 8 14 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000
Time:	11:15am until 12:10pm AEST Summer Time		
Attendees:	Douglas Blunt (DB) John Connor (JC) Jamie Gibson (JG) Peter Siripol (PS) Mrs. Salila Tepkasetkul (Trade Commissioner – Royal Thai Consulate-General)	Dialing In:	Robert Taylor (RT)
Apologies:	Aakash Tolani – Pomeroy Pacific	Minute Taker:	JG

Agenda Items – Annual General Meeting	Actions Arising
1. Opening and Apologies (TB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting was opened at 11:15am (AEST), by Joint President John Connor as Chair. Mr Aakash Tolani of Pomeroy Pacific was an apology. 	<i>Nil</i>
2. Review of previous Meeting Minutes (TB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of AGM on 29 November 2016 tabled. Minutes approved and accepted. Outstanding business arising. Strategic review of the ATBC and transition to a 'Virtual Chamber' remains a priority to be discussed under General Business. 	<i>Nil</i>
3. President's Report "Australia Thailand Business Council Annual Report 2016 – 2017" (JC & DB) Circulated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Highlighting key events:</u> It was noted that a year of mourning since the passing of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand on 13 Oct 2016 had now passed, and that the Royal Cremation ceremony was held on 26 October 2017, in Bangkok. The ATBC noted a number of Royal Funeral Flowers Presentation ceremonies were held at the Royal Thai Embassy in Canberra, and at other Australian capital cities on the occasion of the King's funeral. The ATBC commemorated the event via a Notice of Condolences on the ATBC website. In addition, the ATBC formally wished the new King, King Maha Vajiralongkorn a long and peaceful reign. Two of the Joint President's (John Connor and Robert Taylor) announced that they would be resigning from the ATBC at the Annual General Meeting. While new memberships were again not called for in 2016/2017, given the healthy cash position of the ATBC, there were however a number of new memberships throughout the year. 	<i>Nil</i>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary, Jamie Gibson, visited Thailand 4 times during the year in his day to day capacity with Kingsgate Consolidated, and was able to meet with a number of Australian Government officials, AustCham Members, and other Thai Nationals to advance the cause of the ATBC. The Thai Deputy Prime Minister, H.E. General Tanasak Patimapragorn, led a troupe of 56 Thai Khon dancers to stage a "Khon" masked performance (Khon Performance) and exhibition at the Sydney Opera House on Monday 28 August 2017. Kingsgate pledged its ongoing support to the ATBC. Appreciation to the board, ambassadors and commendation to Doug Blunt, John Connor, Robert Taylor and Jamie Gibson for their ongoing commitment to the Council. 	
<p>4. Treasurer's Report Douglas Blunt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doug Blunt confirmed that the ATBC's annual finances were independently audited and are available for inspection by members upon request. 	
<p>5. Board Resignations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were two Board resignations with Joint President's John Connor and Robert Taylor both announcing their resignations from the ATBC at the AGM. 	<i>Nil</i>
<p>6. Election of Officers for 2017 - 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acting Returning officer Peter Siripol assumed control of the AGM No competing nominations for positions were received. Doug Blunt was elected as President of the ATBC. Jamie Gibson (Kingsgate, GM Corporate), elected as Secretary. Doug Blunt also re-appointed as Treasurer. Peter Siripol was elected as Assistant Secretary and to the Board of the ATBC. The ATBC is delighted to welcome Peter Siripol to the Board, formerly a very well respected Thai Government official, with impressive experience and connections across the the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Australian Department of Transport & Infrastructure, APEC related areas and the Thai Embassy. Jamie Gibson advised that there are 2 Thai Nationals based in Bangkok that have expressed a desire to be actively involved with the ATBC, and the Board will seek resumes/credentials for review. The Board will appoint an auditor for 2017/18. 	
<p>7. President Doug Blunt resumes chair 8. General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ATBC welcomed Mrs. Salila Tepkasetkul (Trade Commissioner – Royal Thai Consulate-General) to the meeting. The Trade Commissioner outlined the Thai Government's strategy of promoting and increasing bilateral trade between the two countries and outlined some suggestions that the ATBC may be able to get involved/assist with. These included a general expression of interest for importers/exporters to update existing databases with a view to targeting them via trade shows, cultural events, seminars and other relevant events such as the ASEAN CEO's Summit – 16-18 March 2018. It was agreed that the ATBC would work closely with the Trade Commissioner to outline an engagement program for stakeholders in 2018. The ATBC also acknowledged the many years of dedication and support from both retiring Joint Presidents – John Connor and Robert Taylor, and formally thanked them for their tireless efforts in promoting the two way relationship between both countries and in helping build and maintain the ATBC as a peak body. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both John Connor and Robert Taylor have been awarded life memberships for their efforts and they have both agreed to be Special Advisers to the Board as the need arises. • The ATBC also acknowledged the ongoing support of Kingsgate and Jamie Gibson and it was agreed that Jamie Gibson be promoted to Vice-President of the ATBC. • The ATBC also agreed that further website development, the creation of ATBC social media accounts and linkages to professional development networks such as LinkedIn will greatly assist the ATBC in both managing its membership and promoting its messages. • This area will be given priority in coming months and fits in with DB’s strategic review of the ATBC and opportunities and challenges for 2018. • Appreciation expressed to Kingsgate for use of the boardroom. • Appreciation expressed to board members for past efforts and the challenge ahead. 	<p><i>DB/JG to report back on ATBC engagement and virtual chamber options – first half 2018</i></p> <p><i>JG to report back on ATBC website and social media options by Feb 2018</i></p>
<p>9. Meeting closed – 12:10pm AEST</p>	

Confirmation of next meeting: TBA