Board Diversity - Why it Matters?



In celebration of International Women's Day - Every year, March 8th is a day that is recognised globally by those wanting to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women around the world. The Chamber is proud to be supporting International Women's Day throughout the month of March.

Supported by the Women in Business Committee

Part of the ICAEW 'C-Suite Conversations'



Speakers:

Harshika Patel, Managing Director, Chief Executive

Officer, JP Morgan Hong Kong and Head of Strategy, Asia Pacific; Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)

Keith Pogson, Senior Partner, Financial Services, Asia Pacific, EY

Nick Marsh, Managing Director, Meraki Executive Search & Consulting Limited

Moderator:

Teresa Ko, BBS JP; Corporate partner and China Chairman, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer; Co-vice chair, IFRS Foundation

Board Diversity - Why it Matters?

The Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (HKEX) has recently put forward a proposal, which forms part of their new environment, social and governance (ESG) rules, that will require Hong Kong-listed companies to appoint at least one woman director by 2025 or face a penalty. Single gender boards will no longer be acceptable.

Whilst the number of females that sit on boards in Hong Kong remains low, this latest regulation from the HKEX will be a catalyst for change. There is a 3-year transition period where companies are asked to set targets and timelines for gender diversity at board level and across the workforce.

During this panel discussion we will speak with industry leaders within the Financial Services sector to hear their views and insights on this topic. There will also be an opportunity for attendees to ask questions of our speakers and dive deeper into the implications of board diversity. We hope you'll join us all for what promises to be an enlightening discussion.

About the speakers



Harshika Patel is a Managing Director at J.P. Morgan based in Hong Kong. She is responsible for running Strategy for J.P. Morgan in Asia Pacific partnering with the Corporate and Investment bank, Asset and Wealth Management and Commercial Banking businesses to drive and implement the firm's strategy across our 16 markets.

She also serves as the CEO for Hong Kong which is home to the firm's Asia Pacific headquarter. Harshika sits on the Board of J.P. Morgan Securities (Asia Pacific) Limited and represents J.P. Morgan on the Board of ASIFMA.

Harshika joined J.P. Morgan in November 2013 as a Managing Director based in Singapore to run the Asia Commodities Sales and Structuringbusiness and the Electronic Sales business, delivering electronic trading services to clients.

Prior to joining the firm, Harshika was at Barclays Capital for 10 years where she helda variety of roles based in London including Deputy Treasurer for Barclays Capital, and Global Chief Operating Officer for the Commodities business. Between 1994 and 2003, she was a Senior Manager in the Financial Services Practice at Deloitte Londonproviding assurance and advisory services to global financial institutions.

Harshika is based in Hong Kong with her husband and two children.



Keith is presently the Chair of the Standing Committee on Corporate Governance & ESG of the Listing Committee of the SEHK. Keith is also the Deputy Chair of the Listing Committee.

Keith has more than 29 years of extensive financial services experience embracing Banking, Wealth Management & Insurance. He has held a number of senior roles within EY and presently looks after a number of our major client relationships, as well as those with major supranational regulatory bodies such as the Financial

Stability Board. He works with many regulators and governments in the region on regulatory and market-reform initiatives. Keith represents EY on the Global Public Practice Committee Bank Working Group.

Keith is a regular speaker and advisor to supranational and regulatory groups in Asia Pacific and globally on topics such as evolving risks facing. He has a deep knowledge of the issues faced by financial institutions in the region when dealing with strategic change and competition.



Nick relocated to Hong Kong in 2012 to lead growth in Asia Pacific, as the CEO for APAC and member of the Executive Committee at Harvey Nash plc. He joined HN in 2002, when he built and ran the executive search business as Global CEO.

Previously Nick led the European practices of Technology and Financial Services for leading executive search firm Odgers Bernstein. Before becoming an executive search professional, Nick worked in Africa for a chemicals business, after studying engineering at Sheffield University, followed by work with S.G. Warburg.

Prior to his move to Asia, Nick sat on the board of Byte Night, a children charity in the UK, and Think London, the government body to promote business in London. He raced cars in the British GT championship and at Le Mans. He is married with two children and sits on the board of Kellett International School as a Governor and Director.

About the moderator



Described as an icon in the legal industry, **Teresa** has over three decades of experience having been involved in numerous first of its kind and transformational M&A and IPO transactions.

She was appointed as the first female to chair the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's Listing Committee in 2009 and was a non-executive director of the Securities and Futures Commission in 2012 to 2018. Teresa currently serves as co-chair of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's Listing Review Committee.

As the current vice-chair of the IFRS Foundation and a member of its Sustainability Steering Committee, she was involved in the establishment of the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) to develop a comprehensive global baseline of high-quality sustainability disclosure standards to meet investors' information needs.

Teresa has long championed greater gender diversity within the firm, the legal profession, and on the boards of Hong Kong-listed companies and listing applicants. She was featured in the HERoes Women Role Model Lists 2021 for the fourth consecutive year and in Forbes Asia's Power Businesswomen list 2021.

Pricing

Member: HK\$140

Non-Member: HK\$250

Details on how to join will be sent via email by 5pm the day before the webinar.

Terms & Conditions

- Reservations in advance are required. Please consider your booking confirmed unless notified otherwise.
- Cancellations must be made in writing 24 hours prior to the event. No shows will be charged.
- This event is closed to the media.
- The event will be cancelled if the No.8 Typhoon signal or the Black Rain Storm warning is in force.
- By attending this event, you agree to be photographed, recorded, and/or filmed and give permission to use your likeness in promotional and/or marketing materials.
- For further information please email catherine@britcham.com
- All payments for this event need to be settled by credit card through PayPal. Please note you do not need a PayPal account to complete payment.