



# European Australian Business Council

## Annual Report 2023-2024

12 November 2024

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# 01. Chair's Report

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Assuming the role of Chair of the EABC is for me a great privilege and honour. The sudden passing of our former Chair, friend and colleague Simon Crean was indeed a shock and time of great sadness. Members will be interested to know that on the first anniversary of Simon's passing those of us on the EABC annual mission to the EU acknowledged his service to the Council and to our country. We shared a photograph of our commemoration of Simon in The Hague with Carole Crean.

I have held the Chair appointment for the second half of this reporting period, and it has been a time of much activity. I thank all members of the wider Council for your welcome, and for your support. I also wish to thank our CEO, Jason Collins, and the Executive team for their assistance as we pursue our important work. The valuable stream of engagements with a wide range of speakers and interlocutors has been impressive and continues to ensure members are both informed and heard by key decision makers from both Australia and the EU.

Australia's prosperity and well-being is dependent on free and open global markets. Europe (including the EU, UK and other European countries) as a region represents our largest economic partner. Annual aggregated trade between us stands at more than A\$148 billion, and total stocks of two-way investment exceeds A\$3.2 trillion. We continue our EABC work to expand and modernise the bilateral trade and investment framework. We strive to remove unnecessary obstacles to the flow of goods, services, investment, technology, research and ideas. Both the Australian and European markets benefit from the results of these efforts.

Our focus on settling a comprehensive economic partnership between Australia and Europe continues. Notwithstanding the set-back following the unsuccessful attempts in Osaka last year to conclude an FTA, we continue the campaign. Discussions with the Australian Government and the EU leadership have confirmed a commitment on both sides to resume negotiations as soon as circumstances permit. The successful negotiation of an FTA between Australia and the EU will require some very intense and coordinated work on both sides. We will need the support of the business community and Government leaders to resolve the few remaining but important areas of disagreement. I look forward to renewing and continuing our efforts to conclude this much needed FTA.

The EABC continues to explore and promote opportunities that exist between Australia and Europe. Some of the most prospective areas currently are clean energy, quantum technologies, defence and cybersecurity and critical minerals. Of note, during this reporting period Australia and the EU have signed an MOU on sustainable critical mineral supply chain collaboration.

Our message to policy makers in both Australia and Europe continues to be, that in these times of great uncertainty, we must work closely together to achieve energy transition, decarbonize our economies, secure supply chains, diversify export markets and take advantage of digital trade flows.

The EABC is fortunate to have outstanding support from our membership. We have in this reporting period maintained a sound financial position and recovered from the challenge of

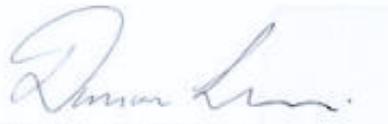
# 01. Chair's Report

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the Covid period. I compliment Jason Collins and the members of the executive team for their management of the Council as we move forward.

I pay particular thanks to Jeff Connolly and Vicki Thomson who as deputy chairs of the Board stepped forward to lead the work of Council following Simon's passing. I thank Adam Lai, and before him Sue Horlin, as our Treasurers for their support. I wish also to acknowledge our outgoing Board Members Jeff Connolly, Sarah Built, David Gall, Peter Grey, Sue Horlin, Francois Romanet and Xavier Simonet. I also extend a welcome to our new Board Members this year Karine Delvallée, Adam Lai, Richard Kirkman, Cathryn Carver.

The Council of course derives its strength and effectiveness from our membership. I thank all our major partners and our members for their support and commitment to the mission of the EABC. I have been advised by a number of our members that the EABC is in their view, the most effective and engaging business organisation they have experienced. These remarks give me confidence that our mission is of central. Importance and the work of the EABC serves the best interests of our membership, of our economy and of our country. We have much work to do and I look forward to engaging with you all as we proceed into 2025.



**Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC**

Chair, European Australian Business Council



## 02. CEO'S Report

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**In 2025 the EABC will celebrate 25 years since the launch of our programme of activities. Perhaps more than ever, we are convinced of the importance of our core mission - promoting closer cooperation between governments, officials, business and innovators in Europe and Australia.**

As we approach the end of each year, we reflect on the opportunities and challenges presented by the trends reshaping the global landscape, and emerging forces with disruptive potential.

Faced with an increasingly complex and contested geostrategic environment, in which economic and industrial policy, national security and international relations have become increasingly intertwined, the importance of deepening cooperation with trusted partners is clear.

Australia's and Europe's ability to adapt to emerging risks, while delivering shared strategic priorities - of economic security, industrial competitiveness, and the biggest and most fundamental transformation of our economies on the pathway to net-zero - will require optimized innovation, technology and investment flows, secure and resilient supply chains, and cooperation with likeminded partners to leverage our comparative advantages and build shared capabilities.

The EABC has led private sector advocacy for an ambitious trade policy agenda in Australia, in particular championing FTAs with the EU, the UK following Brexit, and with EFTA, as essential modern frameworks for economic relations and as a platform for ongoing co-operation in a rapidly changing world. We will continue to advocate in the strongest way, for the effective implementation of the FTA with the UK and AUKUS Pillar II, and for the missing piece in Australia's trade and investment architecture – an ambitious EU-Australia FTA that delivers for both regions.

While in recent years we have seen burgeoning interest in the business opportunities in both markets, and an extraordinary increase in investment, we also very much recognise that there is still such a great deal of work that must be done to unlock the potential of these important partnerships. The framework for the economic relationship between the EU and Australia is no longer fit for purpose. There are

opportunities being lost to secure the deeper and more intensive collaboration that will deliver in spades for Europe's and Australia's economies, businesses and societies.

Time is of the essence and the EABC has called for the political leadership of Australia, the European Union, and its Member States, to deliver on shared commitments to economic competitiveness and security by finalising a mutually rewarding deal between trusted and strategically-aligned partners.

This year, in May, we were honoured to welcome Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC as our new Board Chair. Duncan, who also serves as Chair of EABC Major Partner Thales Australia, and as a Professor of National Security at ANU's Crawford School, comes to the role following a distinguished 47-year career with the Australian Government, both in and out of uniform.

Our new Chair has hit the ground running, leading our discussion with Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Richard Marles, in his first day in the role, and the EABC's annual Business Mission to Europe in June. This year our mission travelled to the Hague, the Port of Rotterdam, Brussels, Madrid and London, with a group of senior business leaders from a diverse range of industry sectors, and leading research-intensive universities. It provided an important opportunity for direct engagement with European political leaders, institutions, peak industry bodies and international organisations. Further details of the Mission can be found on page 18 of the annual report. Looking forward, I am pleased to advise that our annual Business Mission will return to Europe in late June 2025, visiting Brussels, Warsaw and Vienna, followed by a standalone programme in London the following week.

In addition to our sustained FTA advocacy, the EABC has focussed on a broad range of other business issues, economic policy initiatives and regulatory settings to strengthen bilateral cooperation and foster fertile business and

## 02. CEO'S Report

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investment environments in both markets. These cover issues related to bilateral trade and investment and the multilateral system; taxation; decarbonisation; science, technology and innovation; policy levers to boost productivity, economic complexity and diversification; evolving regulation in areas including AI, ESG, cybersecurity, migration and movement of skilled workers; defence and security; gender equality and female economic empowerment; digital transformation; among many others.

More than fifty roundtables and other activities were hosted by the EABC and our partners in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Perth and Brisbane, and in Europe. Our programme of activities in Australia, since last year's AGM, has included many productive engagements with a wide variety of political, diplomatic and organisational leaders as well as key officials, including:

From the **Commonwealth Government, Opposition, and Members of Parliament:** **Senator the Hon Tim Ayres**, Assistant Minister for a Future Made In Australia and Assistant Minister for Trade; **Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham**, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs; **Hon Chris Bowen MP**, Australian Minister for Climate Change and Energy; **Hon Pat Conroy MP**, Minister for Defence Industry, International Development and the Pacific; **Hon Peter Dutton MP**, Leader of the Opposition; **Senator the Hon Don Farrell**, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Special Minister of State; **Hon Andrew Giles MP**, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs; **Hon Patrick Gorman MP**, Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister, Assistant Minister for the Public Service; **Hon Kevin Hogan MP**, Shadow Minister for Trade and Tourism, and Deputy Manager of Opposition Business; **Senator the Hon Jane Hume**, Shadow Minister for Finance, for the Public Service, and Shadow Special Minister of State; **Hon Stephen Jones MP**, Assistant Treasurer, and Minister for Financial Services; **Hon Madeleine King MP**, Minister for Resources, and for Northern Australia; **Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP**, Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities, Treasury, and Employment; **Hon**

**Richard Marles MP**, Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and Minister for Defence; **Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister**, Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy; **Zoe McKenzie MP**, Co-Chair of the Australia-Europe Parliamentary Network; **Hon Brendan O'Connor MP**, Minister for Skills and Training; **Hon Ted O'Brien MP**, Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy; **Senator James Paterson**, Shadow Minister for Home Affairs and Cyber Security, and Shadow Cabinet Secretary; **Allegra Spender MP**, Independent Member for Wentworth; **Hon Angus Taylor MP**, Shadow Treasurer; **Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP**, in capacity as Assistant Minister for Defence, Assistant Minister for Veterans' Affairs' and Assistant Minister for the Republic, and in his current capacity as Assistant Minister for Migration; and **Senator the Hon Murray Watt**, Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

**State Government Ministers and Members of Parliament** including: **Hon Anoulack Chanthivong MP**, Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, Minister for Corrections; **Hon Ben Franklin MLC**, President of the NSW Legislative Council; **Hon John Graham MLC**, NSW Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism; **Hon Natalie Hutchins MP**, Victorian Minister for Treaty and First Peoples, Minister for Jobs and Industry, and Minister for Women; **Hon Chris Minns MP**, Premier of New South Wales; **Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC**, Treasurer of New South Wales; **Hon Tim Pallas MP**, Treasurer of Victoria, Minister for Industrial Relations, and Minister for Economic Growth; **Hon Greg Piper MP**, Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly; and **Hon Penny Sharpe MLC**, NSW Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council.

Public Servants including: **HE Mr James Baxter**, Australia's Ambassador to the WTO; **Jim Betts**, Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts; **Mike Burgess**

## 02. CEO'S Report

**AM**, Director-General of Security, ASIO; **David Epstein**, Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister; **Gina Cass-Gottlieb**, Chair, ACCC; **Tony Cook PSM**, Secretary, Department of Education; **Michael Coutts-Trotter**, Secretary of the NSW Treasury; **Joseph Longo**, Chair, ASIC; **John Lonsdale PSM**, Chair, APRA; **George Mina**, Deputy Secretary Trade and Investment Group, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; **Meghan Quinn PSM**, Secretary, Department of Industry, Science and Resources; **Natasha Smith**, Australian Ambassador-designate to Germany; **Lynette Wood**, Australian Ambassador-designate to France; **Daniel Westerman**, CEO of the Australian Energy Market Operator; and **Tim Yeend**, DFAT Associate Secretary Trade and Investment.

European dignitaries, political leaders and officials including: **HE Mr Pierre-André Imbert**, Ambassador of France to Australia; **Joaquín Mollinedo**, Spain Australia Council Foundation President; **HE Ms Esther Monterrubio**, Ambassador of Spain to Australia; **Ramón Moreno**, Spain Australia Council Foundation Secretary General; **Margaritis Schinas**, Vice President of the European Commission; **Commissioner Kadri Simson**, European Commissioner for Energy; **HE Mr Richard Tibbels**, EU Special Envoy for the Indo-Pacific; and **HE Mr Gabriele Visentin**, Ambassador of the European Union to Australia.

Leaders of Australian Government Reviews, and distinguished business and organisational leaders including: **Hon Anna Bligh AC**, Australian Banking Association CEO and former Queensland Premier; **Philip Chronican**, NAB Chair; **Phil Coorey**, Political Editor of the Australian Financial Review; **Rachael Falk**, Member of the 2023-2030 Australian Cyber Security Strategy Expert Advisory Board and CEO of the Cyber Security CRC; **Professor Ross Garnaut AC**, ZEN Energy Director; **Dr Stefan Grobe**, Euronews Brussels Correspondent; **Peter Harris AO**, former Departmental Secretary and Productivity Commission Chair; **Sir David Higgins**, Unites Utilities Chair and Board Member of Gatwick and Sydney Airports; **Professor Elizabeth Hill**, University of Sydney Professor of Political Economy and Deputy Director of the Gender Equality in Working Life

Research Institute; **Phil Hogan**, corporate consultant and former European Commissioner for Trade and Agriculture; **Professor Peter Høj AC**, Group of Eight Deputy Chair and Adelaide University Vice-Chancellor and President; **Rosemary Huxtable AO PSM**, former Finance Secretary and Member of the Defence Strategic Review External Advisory Panel; **Danny Nielsen**, Vestas Senior Vice President and Country Head, Australia and NZ; **Dr Martin Parkinson AC PSM**, Chair of Australia's Migration System Review; **Hon Nicola Roxon**, former Labor Cabinet Minister and Chair of HESTA, AIHW and VicHealth; **Luisa Santos**, BusinessEurope Deputy Director-General; **Mark Scott AO**, Group of Eight Chair and University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor and President; **Dr Blair Sheppard**, PwC Global Leader Strategy and Leadership; **Hon Warwick Smith AO**, former Coalition Cabinet Minister and Business Council of Australia Global Engagement Chair; as well as several of the EABC's Board Members.

Finally, together with the EU Delegation in Australia, we have held a number of productive sessions bringing the EU Ambassadors, EU Economic and Commercial Counsellors and European Chambers together for engagements with Australian Federal and State and Territory government officials and industry groups on the EU-Australia FTA and opportunities to enhance business, research and innovation, and institutional linkages.

**The EABC's ability to undertake all these activities was only made possible by the strong commitment of our Australian and European member organisations. We are enormously grateful for their steadfast support, not only as financial members but for their outstanding leadership, expertise and participation.**

This year we were delighted to welcome a number of new members, including **Veolia** as a Major Partner, who will be represented on the Board by Australia and New Zealand Managing Director and CEO, **Richard Kirkman**. New Corporate Partners include **Astrazeneca**, Lumination, Property Council of Australia, and Telix Pharmaceuticals.

## 02. CEO'S Report

Our thanks are also due to the extensive network of partners in Australian and European government agencies, diplomatic missions, peak business and industry organisations, national chambers of commerce here in Australia and the expanding network of Australian chambers and associations in Europe. Our thanks are also due to the extensive network of partners in Australian and European government agencies, diplomatic missions, peak business and industry organisations, national chambers of commerce here in Australia and the expanding network of Australian chambers and associations in Europe.

We are particularly grateful for our highly productive and longstanding working relationships with **Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**, the **Australian Trade & Investment Commission** (Austrade), the **European Commission's Directorate-General for Trade**, the **UK Department for Business and Trade**, the **Delegation of the European Union to Australia**, the **Australian Mission to the European Union**, and **Australian and UK High Commissions**.

This year we have also continued to deepen our cooperation with State Departments and Agencies, in particular our valued partnership with our Member, **Investment NSW**. We have appreciated the many great opportunities to work together over the past year and look forward to finding new areas for collaboration in 2025.

Our entire team joins with me to extend our sincere thanks to our Chair **Duncan Lewis**, Deputy Chair **Vicki Thomson**, our Treasurer **Adam Lai**, and Honorary Board Member Ambassador **Gabriele Visentin**. We would also like to pay special mention of **Jeff Connolly** who served as Deputy Chair of the EABC from 2022-2024 and as a Board Member since 2015, and **Sue Horlin**, who served as Treasurer from 2021-2024. We look forward to continuing to work closely with Jeff and Sue as they join our Corporate Council.

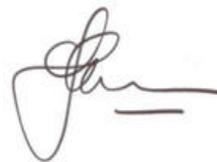
**To all members of the EABC Board and Corporate Council, we thank you for your strong leadership, invaluable insights, support**

### **and encouragement.**

I would also like to pay special tribute to our late Chair the Honourable Simon Crean, whom this year was posthumously appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia for his eminent service to the people and Parliament of Australia, to tertiary education, to business and to industrial relations. Anyone who had the privilege to know him will understand how well deserved this honour is. We have been extremely fortunate to have had the thought leadership, optimism and determination of the Simon over many years, supporting us, challenging us and driving our ambition.

Finally, our ability to undertake advocacy and policy activities, engage with so many stakeholders, and to deliver relevant, purposeful and well-executed business roundtables and other events, is only possible with a talented and incredibly dedicated team. To all our team members: **Jo Johns, Caragh Heugh Johnson, Carolina Romero, Irene Latoa, Gigi De Leon**, new members **Manon Koopman** and **Sarah Kostoglou**, and to **Isabella Tonkin** who left the team earlier this year, many thanks for the exceptional contribution you have made!

As ever, our plans for the coming twelve months will be ambitious, and we look forward with enthusiasm and excitement to working with all our members and partners in our 25th year.



**Jason Collins**

CEO, European Australian Business Council



# 03. Financial Reports 2023-2024

## Treasurer's Report

### STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE AT 30 JUNE 2024

As anticipated, FY24 has seen a recovery from an atypical deficit result in FY23 due to higher than usual post-recovery membership turnover and increased costs. Total income for the year was \$1,598k (FY23: \$1,629k) and total expenses for the year were \$1,597k (FY23: \$1,723k). The result was a surplus for the year of \$1k (FY23: -\$94k). Stabilisation of revenues and cost reductions have contributed to the overall result, positioning for growth in FY25.

### FINANCIAL RESULTS AT 30 JUNE 2024

Following a challenging FY23 the past financial year required particular focus and attention to secure revenues and reduce costs where possible. Cost reductions were secured through a change in premises and team restructuring, although function and travel costs continue to increase. Increased travel costs have also been associated with participation in ministerial visits, delegations and ongoing advocacy efforts. Significant efforts have also been made to renew memberships under review processes, and new memberships were secured during FY24, however the full benefit of new income will flow through in FY25.

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT 30 JUNE 2024

Cash at Bank was \$561k (FY23: 695k) with total receivables of \$850k (including membership invoices raised in June 2024 for FY25 - with a corresponding entry for 'Deferred Revenue'). Deferred income and accrued expenses are recorded in the report as a result of business mission activity outside of the reporting period and membership fees received in advance. Total members funds as at 30 June 2024 were \$506k (FY23: 504k).

### AUDIT

BDO has undertaken the audit and preparation of the EABC financial report for FY24. An unqualified audit report was approved by Directors for presentation to members at the Council's Annual General Meeting on 12 November 2024.



**Adam Lai**

Treasurer, European Australian Business Council



# 03. Financial Reports 2023-2024

## Directors' Report

### **DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

The Directors of the European Australian Business Council Limited (EABC/the Council) present their report for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

The principal activities of the EABC during the 12 month period to 30 June 2024 were unchanged, and include the presentation of a programme of business roundtables, policy fora, briefings, meetings, delegations and other activities for our members and partners.

The net surplus for the year was \$1,495 (2023: deficit -\$94,020).

The reporting year included an increased level of membership revenue from new and rejoining members, along with lower levels of other revenue due to the timing of the Council's annual Business Mission to Europe and other programmes (with a commensurate reduction in associated expenses). New office premises secured during the last reporting period achieved further cost savings.

### **DIRECTORS' DECLARATION FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

In the directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and associated regulations, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes thereto give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act).

This report has been made in accordance with a resolution of directors.



Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC  
Chair

Adam Lal  
Treasurer

12 November 2024

# 03. Financial Reports 2023-2024



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of European Australian Business Council (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial report, including material accounting policy information, and the declaration by those charged with governance. In our opinion the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at:

[http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf)

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### BDO Audit Pty Ltd

Leah Russell  
Director

Sydney 12 November 2024

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# 03. Financial Reports 2023-2024

## STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE & OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2023
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
Membership Revenue	1,259,000	1,045,000
Other Revenue and income	339,388	583,796
<b>Gross Income</b>	<b>1,598,388</b>	<b>1,628,796</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Accounting and audit expenses	(54,145)	(53,439)
Business mission expenses	(267,996)	(482,122)
Depreciation	(52,456)	(5,587)
Finance costs	(14,294)	(6,248)
Functions and entertainment	(95,443)	(88,531)
Management fee	(903,966)	(800,911)
Printing, postage and stationery	(6,461)	(6,041)
Rental expense	(49,723)	(144,710)
Travelling expense	(51,198)	(46,355)
Other expenses from ordinary activities	(46,210)	(43,872)
Expected credit losses	(55,000)	(45,000)
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1,596,892</b>	<b>1,722,816</b>
<b>Surplus before income tax expense</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>(94,020)</b>
Income tax expense	--	--
<b>Surplus after income tax expense</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>(94,020)</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive income for the year attributable to the members of the European Australian Business Council Limited</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>(94,020)</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2023
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	561,403	694,887
Trade and other receivables	850,089	193,347
Other current assets	106,355	111,565
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,517,847</b>	<b>999,799</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Plant and equipment	8,752	3,715
Right of Use Asset – Office	97,430	345,732
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>106,182</b>	<b>349,447</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,624,029</b>	<b>1,349,246</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	155,131	138,725
Lease Liability – Office	51,197	30,893
Business Mission fees in advance	-	23,024
Membership fees in advance	859,000	335,000
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,065,328</b>	<b>527,642</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Lease Liability – Office	52,849	317,247
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>52,849</b>	<b>317,247</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,118,177</b>	<b>844,889</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>505,852</b>	<b>504,357</b>
<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>		
Accumulated surplus	505,852	504,357
<b>Total Member Funds</b>	<b>505,852</b>	<b>504,357</b>



# 04. Programme Highlights 2023-24

## **EABC AGM Reception with the Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier of New South Wales - 21 November 2023**

Following our AGM, we were delighted to welcome members and friends for a Reception with the NSW Premier, Hon Chris Minns MP, and our parliamentary host, Hon Greg Piper MP, Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly. The Premier highlighted the significant contribution of European investment, businesses, and people to the economic development and cultural fabric of New South Wales. He underscored the alignment between Europe's and NSW's policy priorities, capabilities, and the vast opportunities to intensify our collaboration as we seek to build a prosperous future on the pathway to net-zero.



## **Senator the Hon Don Farrell, Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism & Special Minister of State - 22 November 2023**

Minister Farrell joined the EABC for an important discussion on the state-of-play of the EU-Australia and the outlook for future progress shortly after his trip to Osaka to engage with his counterparts. During the roundtable, members profiled their interests in the bilateral trade and investment relationship, and underlined the urgency of modernising the framework for the economic relationship through an ambitious and mutually-rewarding deal.



## **Margaritis Schinas, Vice President of the European Commission - 1 December 2023**

We were delighted to host Margaritis Schinas during his visit to Australia for a special boardroom lunch in the NSW President's dining room. The Vice President shared valuable insights into the EU's political, economic, and policy landscape, along with his approach to fulfilling a people-centered policy mandate. Tasked with advancing a European Way of Life, he highlighted opportunities to strengthen collaboration with Australia in areas such as cultural exchange, economic cooperation, skills, migration, international standards development, global governance, and upholding the global rules-based order.



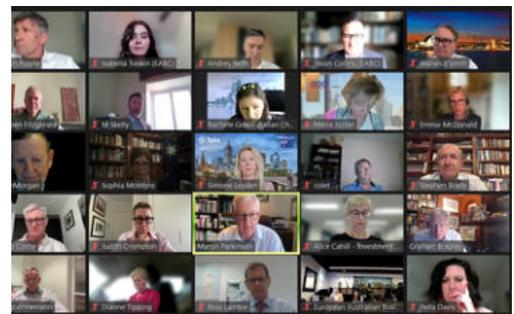
## **Rachael Falk, CEO, Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre; Advisory Board Member, Australia's Cyber Security Strategy - 11 December 2023**

Shortly following the strategy's release and ahead of the Government's industry consultations, we were joined for an online discussion with Rachael Falk, Member of the EABC Corporate Council. Rachael provided her expert insights into the current and emerging cyber risk landscape, best practice risk management and governance, the Government's proposed regulatory reforms and the implications for executives and directors.



## **Dr Martin Parkinson AC PSM, Chair, Australia's Migration System Review - 21 February 2024**

Similarly, EABC Corporate Council Member Dr Parkinson joined members for an update on his key findings and recommendations which informed the Government's Migration Strategy and roadmap for the delivery of significant long-term reforms to ensure a fairer, faster, more transparent and targeted system, while addressing skills shortages, driving productivity and foreign investment, and bringing migration back to sustainable pre-pandemic levels.



## **EABC Visit to the Australian Nuclear Science & Technology Organisation (ANSTO) - 23 February 2024**

EABC Corporate Council Member Hon Dr Annabelle Bennett AC SC, ANSTO Board Chair, and Shaun Jenkinson ANSTO CEO, kindly hosted the EABC for a tour of ANSTO's world-class facilities including the multi-purpose nuclear reactor, Open Pool Australian Lightwater (OPAL), the home of neutron science in Australia, the Australian Centre for Neutron Scattering (ACNS), and nuclear medicine facilities including the Mo-99 Manufacturing Facility. Following the tour, the group engaged in a valuable discussion on ANSTO's integral role for providing innovative, sustainable, and critical services to industries and collaboration opportunities.





# 04. Programme Highlights 2023-24

## EABC International Women's Day Business Forum - 7 March 2024

This year's UN Women Australia's was themed 'Count Her In: Invest in Women. Accelerate Progress.' We were delighted to bring together an eminent panel of speakers for an important discussion on the economic imperative of tackling the barriers to female workforce participation, career progression, and financial security. Our speakers included co-host **Melanie Evans**, EABC Board Member and ING Australia CEO, **Hon Dr Anna Bligh AC**, ABA CEO, Professor Elizabeth Hill, University of Sydney Political Economy Professor, and **Bede Noonan**, ACCIONA Australia Managing Director.



## EU-Australia Ministerial Corporate Lunch & Industry Forum with Kadri Simson, European Commissioner for Energy & Hon Chris Bowen MP, Australian Minister for Energy & Climate Change - 4 April 2024

The EABC was delighted to host this important event to launch the EU-Australia agreement on intensifying energy and critical minerals collaboration. Eminent speakers for the industry forum included **Professor Emma Johnston AO**, University of Sydney Deputy Vice-Chancellor & CSIRO Board Member; EABC Corporate Council Member **John Lydon**, Co-Chair of the Australian CLC NSW Net Zero & Clean Economy Board Member; EABC Board Members **Brett Wickham**, ACCIONA Energía Managing Director, **Stephen Forshaw**, Airbus Chief Representative, **Martin Merrick**, Volvo Group CEO; and **Professor Ross Garnaut AC**, ZEN Energy Director; **Daniel Westerman**, AEMO CEO; and **Danny Nielsen**, Vestas CEO.



## Hon Anoulack Chanthivong MP, NSW Minister for Industry, Trade, and Innovation, Science and Technology - 23 April 2024

Minister Chantivong joined the EABC for a timely update on the NSW Government's priorities, including new trade, innovation and industry strategies all due in 2024. In each area, he underlined the focus on ensuring greater coordination across government, as well as more effective collaboration with industry and universities and European partners to diversify and reindustrialise the NSW economy.



## Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts - 2 May 2024

Secretary Betts engaged in a thoughtful discussion with members on how to deliver the necessary infrastructure, transport, digital connectivity, security and regulatory environment to drive decarbonisation of the economy, industrial competitiveness, an attractive investment environment and inclusive and sustainable growth across Australia's cities, regions, and territories. He provided participants with an update on the Government's key priorities across his diverse portfolios, including the development of new aviation, culture, and transport sector decarbonisation strategies; media reforms; delivery of efficiency-boosting planning reforms in parallel with new environmental laws; and the navigation of social licence.



## Senator James Paterson, Shadow Minister for Home Affairs & Cyber Security - 8 May 2024

The Shadow Minister joined the EABC for discussion on Australia's response to the rapidly changing threat landscape, including on sovereign capabilities (deterrence, disruption and offensive), critical infrastructure reforms, the new migration and cyber security strategies, tackling foreign interference, and Australia's response to geopolitical conflicts and rising contestation.



## EABC Annual Federal Budget Dinner - 14 May 2024

Our annual budget dinner co-hosted by NAB in Parliament welcomed a number of Government Ministers to engage with guests and provide an update on their portfolio announcements. Following the Treasurer's Budget Speech, NAB Chief Economist **Alan Oster** provided an early analysis of the budget strategy before our panel of experts commented on the political and economic dimensions of the Government's agenda. Our pannellists included **Hon Nicola Roxon**, HESTA, AIHW & VicHealth Chair & former Labor Cabinet Minister; EABC Corporate Council Member **Hon Warwick Smith AO**, BCA Global Engagement Chair & former Coalition Cabinet Minister; **Rosemary Huxtable AO PSM**, Defence Strategic Review Advisory Panel Member & former Finance Secretary; EABC Corporate Council Member **Peter Harris AO**, Global Infrastructure Partners Director & former Productivity Commission Chair; and EABC Corporate Council Member and co-host **Philip Chronican**, NAB Chair.





# 04. Programme Highlights 2023-24

## **Hon Richard Marles MP, Deputy Prime Minister & Defence Minister - 23 May 2024**

We were then honoured to welcome Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister on the second anniversary of the election of the Albanese Government. He provided an overview of the work the Government has undertaken thus far to ensure Australia is prepared to meet the challenges posed by an increasingly complex, contested and rapidly changing geostrategic environment. In addition to highlighting specific reforms and critical defence capabilities that the Government has prioritised in response to the Defence Strategic Review, he underlined the importance of investing in, and having a clear strategy behind, Australia's diplomacy, statecraft, and the intensification of cooperation with trusted partners in the Indo-Pacific region.

## **Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC, Chair, EABC - 23 May 2024**

That evening members gathered again for a boardroom dinner with newly appointed EABC Chair Duncan Lewis. During his remarks, he reflected on the growth of Australia's relationship with Europe over the decade since his posting as Australian Ambassador in Brussels concluded, and the markedly altered environment each region now faces. He highlighted key trends driving global uncertainty and geostrategic risk, the preparation that must be undertaken, as well as the importance of capitalizing on the opportunities they provide.

## **European Elections Forum - 5 June 2024**

On the evening of the European Elections we were joined by a distinguished panel to political context and outlook for the results, as well as the potential implications for the future of EU leadership and policy-making in key areas such as trade, industry, economics, defense and security, migration, energy, and sustainability. Our panellists included with former European Trade Commissioner **Phil Hogan**, BusinessEurope Deputy Director-General **Luisa Santos** and Brussels Correspondent for Euronews **Dr Stefan Grobe**.

## **Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer of New South Wales - 30 July 2024**

Treasurer Mookhey joined the EABC for a valuable discussion on his economic and fiscal management strategy following his second Budget. He provided an update on the delivery of the Government's key priorities of cleaner and cheaper energy, essential services, and sustainable housing supply, before highlighting the importance of scaling the capital, R&D and workforce required to propel both existing priority sectors and emerging high-value industries. The discussion provided the opportunity for members to highlight the key challenges in NSW, and to discuss the opportunities for improved planning and regulatory systems, and government-industry cooperation.

## **Gina Cass-Gottlieb, Chair, ACCC - 13 August 2024**

Members were joined by Australia's competition chief for a discussion on how key priorities of cost-of-living, the transition to net-zero and digitalisation are shaping the ACCC's work and upcoming regulatory and enforcement priorities. The discussion covered the Government's proposed reforms of M&A and competition rules; the Commission's increased focus on greenwashing and sustainability collaborations, the market power of large tech companies; and the opportunities and challenges stemming from a rapidly evolving technological landscape, including digital platform regulation, AI regulation, data collection and privacy standards, as well as the effectiveness of the News media Bargaining Code.

## **Senator the Hon Tim Ayres, Assistant Minister for a Future Made in Australia; Assistant Minister for Trade - 26 August 2024**

Tim Ayres joined the EABC to provide an update on the Government's economic centrepiece, the Future Made in Australia Plan, which aims to maximise the economic and industrial benefits of the net-zero and digital transitions, and to secure Australia's place in a changing global economic and strategic landscape by attracting investment in priority industries, strengthening defence capabilities, bolstering economic security and innovation. The discussion covered the suite of upcoming reforms and investment attraction initiatives, as well as the opportunities to unlock the potential of the economic and R&D relationship with Europe, including through the conclusion of an EU-Australia FTA.





# 04. Programme Highlights 2023-24

## **Hon Penny Sharpe MLC, NSW Minister for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage - 11 September 2024**

Minister Sharpe addressed the EABC on the State Government's ambitious climate, energy, and environmental protection agenda, including its plans for reaching new 2030 and 2035 emissions reduction targets and accelerating the rollout of transmission and renewables. While noting the significant opportunities for business, she also addressed current challenges including skills, innovation, and regulatory frameworks, emphasizing the importance of a just transition for communities, while reaffirming her commitment to working closely with industry, universities, communities, and European partners to foster effective cooperation.



## **Meghan Quinn PSM, Secretary, Department of Industry, Science, and Resources - 17 September 2024**

Secretary Quinn provided participants with an update on several recent strategies including AI, RNA, Robotics, Australia's recently released national science priorities, and its flagship industrial policies, the National Reconstruction Fund and Future Made in Australia Plan. She emphasized the need for collaborative policymaking among government, industry, and universities; along with effective international cooperation on innovation, technology, investment and standard setting; and creating an enabling policy and regulatory environment to enhance productivity, diversify the economy, and strengthen sovereignty capabilities.



## **Hon Angus Taylor MP, Shadow Treasurer - 18 September 2024**

The Shadow Treasurer joined the EABC for a discussion on the 'back to basics' economic plan the Opposition will be taking to the next election, focussing on driving productivity growth, addressing cost of living pressures, and fostering a vibrant business and investment environment. He argued that Australia is in a unique position to implement bold reforms, highlighting elements of his plan, on competition policy, pragmatic industrial relations policy, and a new vision for the energy mix, including the rollout of Australia's first nuclear power plants.



## **Mike Burgess AM, Director-General of Security, ASIO - 24 September 2024**

The Director General provided a sobering address on Australia's current security environment, having recently raised the national terrorism threat level from possible to probable. He outlined primary concerns on ASIO's radar, including politically motivated violence, and domestic extremism, espionage, foreign interference and sabotage, highlighting the vulnerabilities businesses should address. The off record discussion covered these and many other topics including corporate espionage, critical infrastructure security, the impact of the rapid advancement of AI; international intelligence cooperation; and the changing nature of risk and statecraft.



## **EABC & The Group of Eight Joint Board Dinner - 24 October 2024**

We were delighted to once again hold the annual joint board dinner with the Go8 University Vice Chancellors, cohosted by Go8 Chair Professor **Mark Scott AO** and EABC Board Member and Go8 Chief Executive **Vicki Thomson**. After receiving an enlightening briefing on the political landscape, the discussion covered important topics including social cohesion; navigating social license, resilience and risk management in an increasingly volatile geopolitical and economic environment; and driving best-practice policy making and constructive political discourse in a time of rising populist and reactionary rhetoric.



## **Hon Tim Pallas MP, Treasurer of Victoria, Minister for Industrial Relations and Economic Growth - 7 November 2024**

With the Victorian Government's new Economic Growth Statement set to be released in the coming days, boardroom dinner provided a timely opportunity for a discussion on the upcoming suite of economic reforms, the Government's economic management and growth strategy, and the State's businesses and investment environment. The Treasurer reiterated his commitment to invest in the significant infrastructure and housing required to support Victoria's rapidly growing population, and address intergenerational inequities, while fostering international trade and investment as a key growth engine for the economy and job creation. In particular, he highlighted importance of Europe as the State's largest source of foreign investment and a critical partner for the State's manufacturing and technology sectors.











# 05. 2024 Canberra Delegations

The EABC Delegation to Canberra is a key part of our annual programme. The delegation provides an opportunity for senior Australian and European business leaders to engage in direct dialogue with members of the Federal Government, Opposition, and Leaders of the Public Service. This year we arranged two programmes in Parliament House to ensure that members had additional opportunities to engage on key national policy priorities for the Labor Government and Coalition Opposition in the lead up to the next federal election, and to provide their feedback to policymakers on the key challenges faced by specific sectors.

Our first delegation took place on **26 February**, and was led by EABC CEO, **Jason Collins**, and EABC Deputy Chairs **Vicki Thomson**, the Group of Eight Universities Chief Executive, and **Jeff Connolly**, Thales Australia CEO.

We held a number of valuable discussions, covering economic, industrial, climate change and energy, resources and critical minerals, defence and security, cybersecurity and migration policy, as well as on Australia's international partnerships and trade and investment agenda.

During the programme the EABC met, in chronological order, with **Hon Pat Conroy MP**, then Minister for Defence Industry, for International Development and the Pacific; **Hon Peter Dutton MP**, Leader of the Opposition; **Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP**, then Assistant Minister for Defence, Veterans' Affairs, and for the Republic; **Senator James Paterson**, Shadow Minister for Cyber Security and Home Affairs; **Hon Brendan O'Connor MP**, then Minister for Skills and Training; **Hon Angus Taylor MP**, Shadow Treasurer; **Hon Kevin Hogan MP**, Shadow Minister for Trade and Tourism; **Lucile Danks**, Senior Advisor to the Treasurer Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP; **Hon Chris Bowen MP**, Minister for Climate Change and Energy; **Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP**, Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities, Treasury, and Employment; **Hon Madeleine King MP**, Minister for Resources, and for Northern Australia; **Zoe McKenzie MP**, Co-Chair of the Australia-Europe Parliamentary Network; and **Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister**, then Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy.

Our second delegation, led EABC CEO **Jason Collins** and EABC Chair **Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC**, Thales Australia Chair, visited Canberra on **8 and 9 October**.

Ministers and Shadow Ministers met with the delegation to highlight their political and policy priorities ahead of the next election across policy areas including climate change and energy, tax reform, employment and workplace relations, migration, treasury and finance, financial services, trade and tourism, and resources and energy. We were also delighted to welcome Phil Coorey over dinner on Tuesday and David Epstein for a boardroom lunch on Wednesday for an update on the political priorities and outlook shaping the remainder of this term.

During the programme the EABC was joined by, in chronological order, **Hon Ted O'Brien MP**, Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy; **Allegra Spender MP**, Independent Representative for Wentworth in the House of Representatives; **Hon Chris Bowen MP**, Minister for Climate Change and Energy; **Phil Coorey**, AFR National Political Editor; **Hon Stephen Jones MP**, Assistant Treasurer, and Minister for Financial Services; **Senator the Hon Jane Hume**, Shadow Minister for Finance, the Public Service, and Shadow Special Minister of State; members of the Hon Michelle Rowland, Minister for Communications' team, **Chris Louie**, **Sophie Kowald**, **Matt Healy** and **Ben Saint**; **Senator the Hon Murray Watt**, Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations; **Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP**, Assistant Minister for Immigration; **Hon Kevin Hogan MP**, Shadow Minister for Trade and Tourism, and Deputy Manager of Opposition Business; **David Epstein**, Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister; and lastly, **Hon Madeline King MP**, Minister for Resources, and for Northern Australia.







# 06. 2024 Business Mission to Europe

Each year the EABC Business Mission to Europe provides an excellent opportunity to strengthen bilateral relationships with European political leaders, institutions, officials, peak business and industry groups, policy organisations and leading universities and/or research institutes.

During these missions the EABC delegation travels to Brussels and London as the political capitals of the European Union (EU) and the United Kingdom (UK), and to other political and commercial capitals in Europe. Since 2006, the missions have travelled to Amsterdam, Antwerp, Berlin, Bern, Bratislava, Brussels, Budapest, Copenhagen, Dublin, Frankfurt, Geneva, Hamburg, Helsinki, Istanbul, Lisbon, London, Madrid, Malmö, Milan, Munich, Paris, Rome, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Strasbourg, The Hague, Toulouse, Venice, Vienna, Warsaw and Zurich.

The visits offer an valuable opportunity for senior representatives from a wide range of companies, sectors and organisations, to discuss critical challenges and opportunity in strategic domains, including political and economic governance, banking and financial services regulation, trade policy and negotiations, research and innovation, energy and decarbonisation, foreign and security policy, competition policy, digitalisation, cybersecurity and beyond.

This year, the EABC delegation travelled to **The Hague, Rotterdam, Brussels, Madrid** and **London**.

## Delegates

The delegation was led for the first time by newly appointed Chair of the EABC Board, **Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC** (Thales Australia), together with EABC Deputy Chair, **Vicki Thomson** (Group of Eight Universities) and EABC CEO, **Jason Collins**. The delegation was joined by EABC Honorary Board Member and EU Ambassador to Australia, **HE Mr Gabriele Visentin**.

Delegates who participated in the Business Mission include senior representatives from a diverse range of sectors, including **Angus Barker** (Australian Rare Earths); **Andy Burwell** (Worley); **Hon Dr Annabelle Bennett AC SC** (Gardior); **Stephen Forshaw** (Airbus); **David Gall** (NAB); **Guillermo García-Perrote** (Herbert Smith Freehills); **Peter Halliday** (Siemens); **Andrew Low** (Australian British Chamber of Commerce); **Andrew McCallum** (Meat & Livestock Australia); **Kevin McCann AO** (Telix Pharmaceuticals); **John McMurtrie AM** (Lumination); **Hon Dr Brendan Nelson AO** (Boeing) **Professor Simon Ringer** (The University of Sydney); **Emilio Romeo** (Ericsson); **Xavier Simonet** (Australian Trade and Investment Commission); **John Weber** (Airservices Australia); **David Whiteley** (IFM Investors); **Brett Wickham** (ACCIONA Energía Australia); **Tracey Wright** (Group of Eight Universities).

## Mission Support

The Business Mission was greatly supported by the Australian Missions in **Brussels, the Hague, Madrid and London, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade)**, as well as **Embassies, Consulates-General and Trade Commissions**, and **Bilateral Chambers of Commerce of the Netherlands and Spain** also provided their invaluable endorsement and active support.

## Mission Programme and overarching themes

This year's mission addressed a range of overarching and interrelated issues, include, among others, security and defence; economic security and sovereign capabilities; trade and industrial policy; geopolitical risk landscape; the energy transition, critical minerals, decarbonisation of industries and the net-zero





# 06. 2024 Business Mission to Europe

economy; the opportunities and challenges of rapid technological change; supply chain security and diversification; discussions on the advancement of the EU-Australia Free Trade negotiations; tackling the economic challenges of cost of living, inflation and housing; drivers of innovation, productivity and competitiveness; the implementation of the UK-Australia FTA and opportunities stemming from AUKUS Pillar II, cooperation on regulatory alignment and international standards; among many others. These discussions took place in the spirit of fostering shared values and objectives, and exploring common ground to deepen the relations and unlock R&D, business and investment opportunities between Australia and the EU and its member states, and the UK.

## 23 - 25 June, The Hague & Rotterdam

In chronological order the programme kicked off with a welcome lunch and briefing with **HE Dr Greg French**, Australia's Ambassador to the Netherlands, Embassy colleagues, and **Annika Barton**, Austrade Trade and Investment Commissioner to the Netherlands, Nordics and Baltics, followed by a Dinner hosted at the Ambassador's Residence. The second day included a breakfast meeting with **Professor Dr Jan Peter Balkenende**, former Prime Minister of the Netherlands and Chair of the **Dutch Sustainable Growth Coalition**; a Business and Industry Forum hosted by **VNO-NCW** President **Ingrid Thijssen**; with guest speakers including **Tjark Tjin-A-Tsoi**, CEO, Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (TNO); **Mark Heine**, CEO, Fugro; **Sander Versluis**, Associate Director and Senior Architect, UNStudio; **Edward Feitsma**, Chief Economist, VNO-NCW; and **Irvette Tempelman**, Senior Strategic Policy Advisor, AI & Digitalization, VNO-NCW. This was followed by a meeting with **Caroline Kollau**, Energy Market Director and Deputy Director General for Climate and Energy, **Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy**; and **Allard Castelein**, Special Representative for the Government's Raw Materials Strategy. Delegates were then welcomed for a site visit at the **Worley Renewable Hydrogen Center for Excellence**, and briefings with **Hozefa Furniturewala**, Vice President, Growth & Business Development, Western Mainland Europe; **Frank Ouwerkerk**, Senior Director - Commercial & Business Management; and **Chris Gill**, Senior Vice President, Global Hydrogen Business; and **Fritz Hagen**, Technical Manager, Hydrogen Centre of Excellence. The programme in The Hague was concluded at a cocktail reception hosted by **HE Dr Greg French** with Dutch business and government representatives. The following day, delegates were taken on a private guided boat tour of the **Port of Rotterdam** and its new hydrogen, industrial and offshore wind projects, before meeting with the **Rotterdam Port Authority** including **Martijn Coopman**, Program Manager International Hydrogen Supply Chains.

## 25 - 26 June, Brussels

The EABC delegates continued their trip to the heart of the EU, in Brussels, where they were first met by **HE Ms Caroline Millar**, Australia's Ambassador to the EU, NATO, Belgium and Luxembourg, and the Embassy team for a briefing on the political and policy developments ahead of a series of political meetings. That evening the delegation held a dinner at TheMerode, during which EABC Chair **Duncan Lewis** and EU Ambassador **HE Mr Gabriele Visentin** addressed participants. Wednesday's programme began with a breakfast meeting with **Stefano Sannino**, Secretary General, **European External Action Service (EEAS)**, followed by a meetings with **BusinessEurope's Luisa Santos**, Deputy Director General, and **Eleonora Catella**, Director International Relations; and later with **Kim Jørgensen**, Director-General, **European Investment Bank**. Delegates were then joined for a boardroom lunch with **Jamil Anderlini**, Editor in Chief, POLITICO Europe. Next, the delegation visited the Berlaymont, for meetings with **Stefano Grassi**, Head of Cabinet to Energy Commissioner **Kadri Simson**; **Margaritis Schinas**, European Commission **Vice-President for**





# 06. 2024 Business Mission to Europe

**Promoting our European Way of Life; Mairead McGuinness, European Commissioner for Financial Stability, Financial Services, and Capital Markets Union; and Valdis Dombrovskis, European Commission Executive Vice-President for An Economy that Works for People and European Commissioner for Trade.** That evening, delegates were welcomed to the Ambassador's residence for a cocktail reception hosted by **HE Ms Caroline Millar**.

## 27 - 28 June, Madrid

The next day, the delegation travelled to Madrid, where they were welcomed with a lunch hosted by **Herbert Smith Freehills** Partner, **Eduardo Soler Tappa**, and a briefing from **Australia's Ambassador to Spain, HE Ms Sophia McIntyre**, and **Jennifer Mackinlay, Austrade's** General Manager Europe and Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner and Head of UK, Europe, and Israel. That afternoon, the programme continued with a visit to the **Bank of Spain**, for a meeting with Director-General Economics, **Angél Gavilán**. That evening, the delegation was hosted for a cocktail reception at the Australian Embassy by **HE Ms Sophia McIntyre**. On Friday, the programme commenced with a meeting with **Spanish Secretary of State for Trade, Amparo López**. This was followed by a business forum hosted by the **Spanish Confederation of Business Organizations (CEOE)**, hosted by CEOE Secretary General **José Alberto González-Ruiz**, and with speakers including Secretary of State **Amparo López**, and **Ramón Moreno**, Secretary General of the **Spanish Australia Council Foundation (SACF)**, **Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation**. The delegation then visited the **ACCIONA Campus**, where they were hosted by CEO and Chairman, **José Manuel Entrecanales**, for a site visit and briefings, including from Chief Financial and Sustainability Officer, **José Entrecanales**. That afternoon, the **SACF** hosted a magnificent lunch for the delegation and senior Spanish business and institutional leaders at the **El Pabellón de Cecilio Rodríguez**. Speakers included **Joaquín Mollinedo**, SACF President and ACCIONA Chief Institutional Relations, Sustainability and Marketing Officer, **Ramón Moreno**, SACF Secretary General, and **Vega Yubero Bouthelier**, SACF Director. Delegates were then given a private tour of the **Galería de las Colecciones Reales**, before enjoying a rooftop delegation dinner.

## 2 - 3 July, London

The programme in London kicked off on the eve of the UK snap election with a discussion with **Jonathan Geldart**, The Institute of Directors Director General, over drinks. They were then joined over dinner by **Tom Cargill, Wilton Park** (UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office) Chief Executive. The following day commenced by a political and policy briefing hosted by **IFM Investors** Chief Risk Officer, **Esperanza Cerdan**, with guest speakers including **Francis Maude PC, The Rt Hon the Lord Maude of Horsham**, former Conservative Minister and IFM Investors Advisory Board Member, **Gregg McClymont**, former Labour Shadow Minister and IFM Investors Executive Director Public Affairs Europe, and **Gian-Carlo Peressutti**, former White House Press Secretary and IFM Investors Director, Public Affairs, Policy, and Strategy. The programme continued with a meeting, hosted by **National Australia Bank**, with the **Tony Blair Institute for Global Change**, including **Joni Smith**, Director of Global Politics, **Jeegar Kakkad**, Director of Government Innovation, and **Verity Nicholas**, Director of Private and Public Sector Engagement. The programme concluded with a working lunch with Australia's High Commissioner to the UK, **HE the Hon Stephen Smith**, and Deputy High Commissioner to the UK, **Elisabeth Bowes PSM**, Deputy Australian High Commissioner to the UK.





# 07. Board Members



## **Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC (Chair)**

Chair, Thales Australia; Professor Practice in National Security, Australian National University; *former Director General, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (Australian Government); former Security Department of Defence (Australian Government); former National Security Adviser to two Prime Ministers and the Federal Government (Australian Government); former Australian Ambassador to Belgium, the European Union, Luxembourg and NATO (Australian Government); former Major-General, Australian Army & Commander, Special Operations Command (Australian Government); former Commander, United Nations Transitional Administration Timor Leste.*



## **Vicki Thomson (Deputy Chair)**

Chief Executive & Board Director, the Group of Eight Universities Australia; Founding Member, Australian Government's University Foreign Interference Taskforce; Board Member, MS Australia; Recipient of the Insignia of the Knights in the Ordre des Palmes Académiques; *former Board Member, Australian Government's Australia-China Council; former Member, Australian Government's New Colombo Plan Reference Group; former Executive Director, Australian Technology Network of Universities; former Director, Communications, Universities Australia; former Chief of Staff to the Premier of South Australia; former Political Reporter, ABC.*



## **Adam Lai (Treasurer)**

Managing Partner, PwC; *former Associate, Mercury Group; former Strategy Manager, Mercury Group; former Strategy Manager, Telstra Corporation; former Business Analyst, Abelia Repetition Engineering.*



## **Hon Nick Greiner AC (Chair Emeritus)**

*Former Consul-General of Australia to New York; former Premier and Treasurer of New South Wales; former Federal President, Liberal Party of Australia; former Chairman or Deputy Chairman of Harper & Row (Australasia), British American Tobacco (Australia), Bradken, Citigroup (Australia), Coles Myer Ltd, Rothschild (Australia), Stockland Trust, QBE Insurance and Castle Harlan Australian Mezzanine (amongst others); former Governor, CEDA; former Adviser, Wattle Hill RHC Fund and McKinsey & Company.*



## **Alastair Walton (Chair Emeritus)**

*Former Consul-General of Australia to New York; former Consul-General & Senior Trade Commissioner to Houston, Texas; former Co-Chair & Managing Director, Goldman Sachs Australia; former Director, Film Finance Corporation, Great Barrier Reef Foundation and Australian Business Community Network; former Member, Australian Financial Services Advisory Council; former Chair & Partner, BKK Partners.*



## **Ambassador Gabriele Visentin (Honorary Member)**

EU Ambassador to Australia, European External Action Service; *former EU Special Envoy for the Indo-Pacific; former Head of Parliamentary Affairs Division; former Administrator, European Commission, former Adviser on European Affairs, Ministry for Industry and Energy; former Head of Cabinet, European Community for Steel and Coal.*



## **Angus Armour**

Board Member, Australasian College of Paramedicine; Adjunct Professor, School of Business, University of Technology Sydney; *former Managing Director & CEO, Australian Institute of Company Directors; former Principal Adviser, Business Council of Australia; former Deputy Secretary, NSW Trade & Investment; former Managing Director & CEO, Export Finance and Insurance Association; former Chair, Berne Union; former Board Member, CEDA; former Committee Member, Mohammed Bin Rashid Innovation Fund.*



## **Graham Bradley AM**

Chair, Virgin Australia International Holdings, Infrastructure NSW, United Malt Group Limited; Shine Justice Ltd, Ensemble Theatre and Tennis Australia; Member, UNSW Business School Advisory Council; *former Director and Chair, Volt Corporation Limited and Volt Bank Limited; former Chair, EnergyAustralia, HSBC Australia, Anglo American Australia, GrainCorp Ltd, Stockland Corporation and Po Valley Energy Ltd; former Director, GI Dynamics; former President, Business Council of Australia; former Deputy President, The Takeovers Panel; former Managing Director, Perpetual Limited; former National Managing Partner, Blake Dawson (now Ashurst).*



## **Stephen Brady AO CVO**

Adjunct Professor of International Relations, Bond University; Chairman, National Gallery of Australia Foundation; Council Member, National Gallery of Australia; *former Board Member, Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI); former Board Member, The Ethics Centre; Board Member, Bangarra; former Australian Ambassador to twelve European countries; former Chief of Staff to two Governors-General; former Senior Adviser, Office of the Prime Minister.*

# 07. Board Members



## **Julian Carrigan**

Senior Partner, Australia and New Zealand, McKinsey & Company; Lead Partner Public Sector Practice, Australia and New Zealand, McKinsey & Company; *former Partner, United Kingdom, McKinsey & Company; former Manager, across several Strategy and Operations portfolios, Boral.*



## **Judith Crompton**

NSW Chair, Australian British Chamber of Commerce; Board Member, SkyBuys; Director, Gow Gates Group; Board Member, BE Sydney; Member, Policy and Engagement Committee, Chief Executive Women; *former CEO, Asia Pacific, Cover-More Group; former CEO, Europe, Middle East & Africa, Cover-More Group; former CEO, Travel and Aviation, Cover-More Group; former Chief Commercial Officer, Virgin Australia; former Head of Global Corporate and Industry Sales, Etihad; former Regional General Manager, Qantas.*



## **Karine Delvallée**

CEO, BNP Paribas Australia and New Zealand; *former Chief Risk Officer Asia-Pacific, BNP Paribas; former Head of RISK Corporate Asia Pacific, BNP Paribas; former Head of Energy and Commodities Finance Credit Management, BNP Paribas.*



## **Melanie Evans**

CEO, ING Australia; Board Member and Finance Audit & Compliance Committee Chair, Surf Life Saving Australia; Member, Chief Executive Women; *former Head of Retail Bank, ING Australia; former Director Marketing, Sales & Service, Business Bank, Westpac; former General Manager, Service Revolution & Transformation, Westpac; former Head of Home Ownership, Westpac; former leadership roles, BT Financial Group.*



## **Stephen Forshaw**

Chief Representative for Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific, Airbus; Honorary Member of Singapore Advisory Committee, Australian Institute of Company Directors; Member of the Global Trends Watch Committee, International Association of Business Communicators; *former Managing Director, Temasek; former Senior Director, Corporate Communications for Asia Pacific Region, Microsoft; former Vice President Public Affairs, Singapore Airlines.*



## **David Gall**

Group Executive, Corporate and Institutional Banking, National Australia Bank (NAB); Member of the Executive Leadership Team, NAB; Senior Fellow of the Financial Services Institute of Australasia (FINSIA); *former Chief Risk Officer, NAB; former Group Executive, Retail Banking and Strategy, St George Bank.*



## **Peter Halliday**

CEO, Siemens; *former Energy and Performance Services, Global Head of Energy and Performance Services Australia, Siemens; former Head of Building Performance & Sustainability (Senior Vice President), Siemens; former Senior Vice President, Siemens; former Senior Vice President Building Technologies ASEAN, Siemens.*



## **Brett Himbury**

Chair, Stafford Capital Partners; Chair, Quay Partners; former Chief Executive, IFM Investors; *former Managing Director, Tyndall/Suncorp Investment Management; former Senior Manager, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Westpac and Rothschild Australia; former Co-Chair, American Australian Association Business Council; former Board Member, German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce and Pacific Hydro; former Adviser, Childhood Dementia Initiative.*



## **Justin Howden**

Vice President, UN Association of Australia; Board Member, Food & Drink Victoria; *former Group Head, Global Government Affairs & Industry Development; H&H Group; former Head, Government Relations, Public Policy, Scientific Development & Community Engagement, Swisse Wellness; former Director, Political & Consumer Affairs, Complementary Medicines Australia; former Managing Director, Marketing & Investment Partners; former General Manager, International Business, Invest Victoria; former President, Australia-Malaysia Business Council.*

# 07. Board Members



## **Gavin Jackman**

Principal, Antinomies; Member of Faculty, Centre for Corporate Public Affairs; Adviser, Homes for Homes, The Big Issue; *former Executive Global Head, Corporate Affairs & Social Responsibility, Orica; former Group Executive, Public Affairs, Santos Ltd; former Director, Government Affairs, BP Australia; former Senior Adviser to the Prime Minister and Chief of Staff to a Federal Cabinet Minister, Australian Government.*



## **Stephen Johns**

Chair, Goodman Group; Board Member, Garvan Institute of Medical Research; *former Chair, Brambles Ltd; former Chair, Leighton Holdings Limited; former Chair, Spark Infrastructure Group; former Executive Director, across various portfolios including Group Finance Director, Westfield Holdings Ltd; former Board Member, Westfield Holdings Ltd.*



## **Richard Kirkman**

Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director, Veolia Australia and New Zealand; *former Chief Technology & Innovation Officer, Veolia UK & Ireland; former Technical Director, Veolia UK.*



## **Stephen Loosley AM**

Deputy Chair, Thales Australia; Senior Fellow, Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI); Visiting Fellow, United States Studies Centre; Corporate Councillor, Asia Society; Director, O'Connell Street Associates; *former Chair, ASPI and Woomera Prohibited Area Advisory Board; former Board Member, Cover-More Group, Australian-American Leadership Dialogue and The Ethics Centre; former Member of the Advisory Board, Crescent Capital and Veolia ANZ; former Senator for NSW; former National President, Australian Labor Party.*



## **Andrew Low**

Chair, Australia British Chamber of Commerce, Cobden Reid, Genea Biomedx, Advance; Director, Trust Bell Shakespeare Company; Member of the Advisory Board, L Capital and Asia Society Australia; *former Director, Hunter Ferdinand Healthcare; former Global Head of Investment Banking, CLSA; former Chair, CLSA Australia and PRP Group; former Head of Asia, Macquarie Capital; former COO and Chair of the Global Operating Committee, Macquarie Capital Advisors; former Co-Head, Global Financial Institutions Group, Macquarie Group; former Member, Australian Government's Takeovers Panel and Australian Government's Finance & Technology Centre Advisory Group.*



## **Andrew McCallum**

Global Manager, Trade and Market Access, Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA); *former Group Manager, Trade Access & Market Information and International Business Manager, Trade & Market Access, Meat & Livestock Australia; former General Manager, Solutions Marketing & Research Pty Ltd; former Marketing Services Manager, North Asia, Middle East, Americas & Europe, Australian Meat & Livestock Corporation (AMLC).*



## **Martin Merrick**

President, Volvo Group Australia; *former Senior Vice President, Retail Development, Volvo Group Australia; former Managing Director, Volvo Trucks UK; former Aftermarket Director, General Manager, Reception Engineer, Volvo Trucks UK.*



## **Taine Moufarrige**

Founder and Advisor, Light Energy Australia; Director, APAC, ility; *former Executive Director and Non-Executive Director, Servcorp; former CEO, Nualight ANZ; former Member, NSW Government Investment and Export Advisory Panel and Multicultural Advisory Panel; former Strategic Business Development Partner, Cutting Edge; former Director and Chair of the Sydney Leadership Group, Youngcare.*



## **Robert Nicholson**

Non-executive Director & Senior Advisor, Herbert Smith Freehills; Director, Port of Melbourne; Non-executive Director, Electro Optic Systems Holdings Ltd; Director, Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute; Director, Alinta Energy; Director, Landcare Australia Ltd; *former Chair, Herbert Smith Freehills; former Director, Nucleus Network; former Partner, Corrs Chambers Westgarth.*

# 07. Board Members



## Andre Noonan

Chief Operating Officer and shareholder, ACCIONA Australia and New Zealand.



## Nick Park

Vice President, Government Relations at BHP Billiton; Manager Government Affairs, BG Group; *former Director Government Affairs, Rowland; former Director Government Affairs, Enhance Group; former Political Staffer for the Hon Peter Dutton and Senator the Hon George Brandis QC, Australian Government.*



## Mark Rigotti

Managing Director & CEO, Australian Institute of Company Directors; Chair, Redkite Children's Charity; Member, Business Council of Australia; Member, Financial Services Institute of Australia; Non Executive Director, Australia Korea Business Council; *former Global CEO HSF; former Managing Partner, Clients & Industries and Head of Corporate and Banking Practice Groups, HSF; former Chair, Open Society and Common Purpose Taskforce, The University of Sydney.*



## Emilio Romeo

CEO & Managing Director, Ericsson Australia & New Zealand; Board Member, Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA); Chair, AMTA Finance & Audit Committee; *former Director across various portfolios, Ericsson Australia & New Zealand; former General Manager across various portfolios, Ericsson Australia & New Zealand.*



## Simon Rothery

CEO, Goldman Sachs Australia & New Zealand; Member, Goldman Sachs Asia-Pacific Management Committee and Asia-Pacific Securities Operating Committee; Board Member, Australian Financial Markets Association, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and Swimming Australia; Member, Business Council of Australia, Great Barrier Reef Foundation; Member, Champions of Change Founding Group; *former Co-CEO, Goldman Sachs & Partners and Goldman Sachs JBWere; former Director, UBS Australia.*



## Xavier Simonet

CEO, Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade); Board Director, Canberra Grammar School; *former Group CEO Kathmandu Holdings; former CEO, Radley London; former International Director, Seafolly Group; former Group General Manager, DBApparel.*



## John Weber

Chair, Airservices Australia; Board Member, Western Sydney Airport, Australian Maritime Systems Group, and DIMEO; *former Chair, Australian Business and Community Network; former Managing Partner Australia and Member International Executive Committee, DLA Piper; former CEO and Managing Partner, Minter Ellison; former External Member, Australian Customs Service Audit and Risk Committee; former Director, Horizons Program and Law Firms Australia Ltd; former Advisory Board Member, RedEye and Elevate Services.*



## David Whiteley

Global Head of External Relations, IFM Investors; Member of the Department of Management and Marketing Advisory Board, The University of Melbourne; *former founding Chief Executive, Industry Super Australia; former Director, HESTA and Superannuation Trust of Australia; former Alternate Director, AustralianSuper.*



## Brett Wickham

Managing Director, ACCIONA Energy Australia; *former Director, Engineering, Construction & Operations, ACCIONA Australia; former Director, Projects Organisation, ACCIONA Spain; former Director, Construction & Operations, ACCIONA South Africa; former Manager, Forecasting & Reliability, Victorian Networks Energy Corporation.*

# 08. Members

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Our members include major European and Australian companies, covering almost every sector of the economy. They are united by the ambition to drive a stronger, smarter, and more sustainable future for both regions, through intensified collaboration.

## Major Partners

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# 08. Members

## Corporate Partners



# 09. Corporate Programme

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## **EABC Annual General Meeting**

**21 November 2023, Sydney** co-hosted by **McKinsey & Company**

**EABC AGM Reception with the Hon Chris Minns MP**, Premier of New South Wales

**21 November 2023, Cocktail Reception, Sydney**

**Senator the Hon Don Farrell**, Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Special Minister of State, and Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate

**22 November 2023, Business Roundtable, Sydney**

**Margaritis Schinas**, Vice President of the European Commission

**1 December 2023, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney**

**EU Delegation to Australia Gala Event - on the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Maria Callas**

**2 December 2023, Gala Concert, Sydney**

**Dr Blair Sheppard**, Global Leader Strategy and Leadership, PwC

**5 December 2023, Boardroom Dinner, Melbourne** co-hosted by **PwC Australia**

**Rachael Falk**, Chief Executive Officer, Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre

**11 December 2023, Business Roundtable (by Videoconference)**

**Dr Martin Parkinson AC PSM**, Chair, Australia's Migration System Review

**21 February 2024, Business Roundtable (by Videoconference)**

**EABC Visit to the Australian Nuclear Science & Technology Organisation (ANSTO)**

**23 February 2024, Sydney**

**EABC Delegation to Parliament House Canberra**

**26 February 2024, Canberra**

**Natasha Smith**, Australian Ambassador-designate to Germany

**27 February 2024, Roundtable Forum, Melbourne** co-hosted by **Siemens**

**EABC International Women's Day Business Forum** hosted by ING Australia **CEO Melanie Evans** with Australian Banking Association CEO and former Queensland Premier the **Hon Anna Bligh AC**, ACCIONA Australia and New Zealand CEO, Bede Noonan and Professor of Political Economy, University of Sydney; Deputy Director, Gender Equality in Working Life Research Institute, **Professor Elizabeth Hill**

**7 March 2024, Sydney** co-hosted by **ING Australia**

**HE Mr Pierre-André Imbert**, Ambassador of France to Australia

**13 March 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney** co-hosted by **National Australia Bank**

**Ambassador Richard Tibbels**, EU Special Envoy for the Indo-Pacific

**14 March 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Canberra**

**Dark Arena by Jack Beaumont**, interviewed by **Stephen Loosley AM**

**27 March 2024, Cocktail Reception, Sydney**

**EU-Australia Ministerial Corporate Lunch & Industry Forum** with **Commissioner Kadri Simson**, European Commissioner (Minister) for Energy; the **Hon Chris Bowen MP**, Australian Minister for Climate Change and Energy; **Brett Wickham**, Managing Director, ACCIONA Energy Australia; **Professor Ross Garnaut AC**, Director, ZEN Energy; **Martin Merrick**, CEO, Volvo Group Australia; and **Stephen Forshaw**, Chief Representative, Airbus Australia, New Zealand and Pacific; **Danny Nielsen**, Senior Vice President and Country Head, Australia and NZ, Vestas; **Daniel Westerman**, CEO, Australian Energy Market Operator

**4 April 2024, Corporate Lunch & Industry Forum, Sydney**

**Commissioner Kadri Simson**, European Commissioner (Minister) for Energy

**4 April 2024, Boardroom Dinner, Sydney**

# 09. Corporate Programme

**Sir David Higgins**, Chair, Unites Utilities; Board Member, Gatwick and Sydney Airports  
**9 April 2024, Boardroom Dinner, Sydney** co-hosted by **PwC Australia**

**HE Mr James Baxter**, Ambassador to the WTO  
**10 April 2024, Roundtable Discussion, Sydney**

**Tony Cook PSM**, Secretary, Department of Education  
**11 April 2024, Boardroom Dinner, Melbourne** co-hosted by **McKinsey & Company**

**Hon Anoulack Chanthivong MP**, Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, Minister for Corrections  
**23 April 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney**

**Jim Betts**, Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts  
**2 May 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Melbourne** co-hosted by **ACCIONA**

**Michael Coutts-Trotter**, Secretary, NSW Treasury  
**3 May 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney** co-hosted by **Herbert Smith Freehills**

**Senator James Paterson**, Shadow Minister for Home Affairs & Cyber Security  
**8 May 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Melbourne**

**EABC Annual Federal Budget Dinner**  
**14 May 2024, Corporate Dinner, Canberra** co-hosted by **National Australia Bank**

**EABC - EU Trade & Investment Forum**  
**23 May 2024, Business Forum, Melbourne**

**Hon Richard Marles MP**, Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and Minister for Defence  
**23 May 2024, Business Roundtable, Melbourne** co-hosted by **Future Fund**

**Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC**, Incoming Chair, EABC  
**23 May 2024, Boardroom Dinner, Melbourne** co-hosted by **Future Fund**

**HE Mr Gabriele Visentin**, Ambassador of the European Union to Australia  
**30 May 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Brisbane** co-hosted by **PwC Australia**

**European Elections Forum** with former European Commissioner (Minister) for **Trade Phil Hogan**, BusinessEurope Deputy Director-General **Luisa Santos** and Brussels Correspondent for Euronews **Dr Stefan Grobe**  
**5 June 2024, Business Roundtable (by Videoconference)** co-hosted by **SEC Newgate**

**EABC Business Mission to Europe**  
**23 June - 28 June 2024** supported by **Etihad Airways**

**Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC**, Treasurer of New South Wales  
**30 July 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney** co-hosted by **Goldman Sachs**

**Gina Cass-Gottlieb**, Chair, ACCC  
**13 August 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Melbourne** co-hosted by **Herbert Smith Freehills**

**Hon John Graham MLC**, NSW Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism  
**23 August 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney** co-hosted by **ACCIONA**

**Senator the Hon Tim Ayres**, Assistant Minister for a Future Made In Australia; Assistant Minister for Trade  
**26 August 2024, Business Roundtable, Sydney** co-hosted by **Thales Australia**

**Joseph Longo**, Chairman, ASIC  
**10 September 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Melbourne** co-hosted by **Future Fund**

# 09. Corporate Programme

**Hon Penny Sharpe MLC**, NSW Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

**11 September 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney** co-hosted by **ACCIONA**

**Meghan Quinn PSM**, Secretary, Department of Industry, Science and Resources

**17 September 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Melbourne** co-hosted by **McKinsey & Company**

**Hon Angus Taylor MP**, Shadow Treasurer

**18 September 2024, Boardroom Dinner, Melbourne** co-hosted by **McKinsey & Company**

**Mike Burgess AM**, Director-General of Security, ASIO

**24 September 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney**

**Delegation of the Spain Australia Council Foundation**

**8 October 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Canberra**

**EABC Delegation to Parliament House Canberra**

**8-9 October 2024**

**Delegation of European Ambassadors to Western Australia**

**14 October 2024, Boardroom Dinner, Perth** co-hosted by **Herbert Smith Freehills**

**George Mina**, Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**15 October 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney**

**Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham**, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate & Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs

**17 October 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Melbourne** co-hosted by the **Group of Eight**

**EABC & The Group of Eight Joint Board Dinner**

**24 October 2024, Boardroom Dinner, Sydney** co-hosted by **The University of Sydney**

**Hon Patrick Gorman MP**, Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Minister for the Public Service

**29 October 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney** co-hosted by **McKinsey & Company**

**Hon Brendan O'Connor MP**, Federal Member for Gorton

**30 October 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Melbourne** co-hosted by **IFM Investors**

**Lynette Wood**, Australian Ambassador-designate to France

**6 November 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney** co-hosted by **Thales Australia**

**Hon Tim Pallas MP**, Treasurer of Victoria, Minister for Industrial Relations, and Minister for Economic Growth

**7 November 2024, Boardroom Dinner, Melbourne** co-hosted by **Herbert Smith Freehills**

**EABC Annual General Meeting & Cocktail Reception** with **Senator the Hon Don Farrell**, Minister for Trade and Tourism, and Special Minister of State and **the Hon Chris Minns MP**, Premier of New South Wales

**12 November 2024, Sydney**

**Annual EU-Australia Trade & Investment Forum**

**14 November 2024, Business Forum, Sydney** co-hosted by **PwC Australia**

**Natalie Hutchins MP**, Victorian Minister for Treaty and First Peoples, Minister for Jobs and Industry and Minister for Women

**20 November 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Melbourne**

**John Lonsdale PSM**, Chair, APRA

**25 November 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Sydney** co-hosted by **National Australia Bank**

**Clr Krista Adams**, Deputy Lord Mayor of Brisbane & Chair, 2032 Olympic & Paralympic Games Committee

**4 December 2024, Boardroom Lunch, Brisbane** co-hosted by **BDO Australia**

# 10. Membership and Structure

## EABC Board

Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC, Chair  
Vicki Thomson, Deputy Chair  
Adam Lai, Treasurer  
Hon Nick Greiner AC, Chair Emeritus  
Alastair Walton, Chair Emeritus  
HE Mr Gabriele Visentin, Hon Member  
Angus Armour  
Graham Bradley AM  
Stephen Brady AO CVO  
Julian Carrigan  
Judith Crompton  
Karine Delvallee  
Melanie Evans  
Stephen Forshaw  
David Gall  
Peter Halliday  
Brett Himbury  
Justin Howden  
Gavin Jackman  
Stephen Johns  
Richard Kirkman  
Stephen Loosley AM  
Andrew Low  
Andrew McCallum  
Martin Merrick  
Taine Moufarrige  
Robert Nicholson  
Andre Noonan  
Nick Park  
Mark Rigotti  
Emilio Romeo  
Simon Rothery  
Xavier Simonet  
John Weber  
David Whiteley  
Brett Wickham

## EABC Corporate Council

Philip Aiken AM  
Yasmin Allen AM  
Hon Bruce Baird AM  
Hon Dr Annabelle Bennett AC SC  
Christian Bennett  
Hon Mark Birrell AM  
Hon Anna Bligh AC  
Joerg Boeckeler  
John Borghetti AO  
Vivienne Bower  
Jillian Broadbent AC  
Professor Ed Byrne AC  
Michael Cameron  
Terry Campbell AO  
Kate Carnell AO  
Joseph Carrozzi AM  
Philip Chronican  
Professor Ian Chubb AC  
Philip Marcus Clark AO  
John Coates AC  
Rt Hon the Lord Sebastian Coe CH KBE  
Jeff Connolly  
Hon Helen Coonan  
Philip Corne  
General the Hon Sir Peter Cosgrove AK  
AC (Mil) CVO MC (Ret'd)  
Caroline Cox

Dr Wendy Craik AM  
Charles Curran AC  
Hon John Dawkins AO  
Paul de Moor  
John WH Denton AO  
Alexis de Pelleport  
Tom Dery AO  
Simone Desmarchelier  
Hon Alexander Downer AC  
David Epstein  
Håkan Eriksson  
Professor the Hon Gareth Evans AC QC  
Dr Stephanie Fahey  
Rachael Falk  
Professor Allan Fels AO  
Stephen Fitzgerald AO  
David Gonski AC  
Peter Grey  
Professor Francis Gurry AO  
Jane Halton AO PSM  
Peter Harris AO  
Dr Ken Henry AC  
Sir David Higgins  
Sue Horlin  
Garry Hounsell  
Air Chief Marshall Sir Angus Houston AK  
AFC (Ret'd)  
Belinda Hutchinson AC  
Professor Duncan Ivison  
Chris Jenkins  
Professor Don Kenyon AM  
Paul Koenig  
Graham Kraehe AO  
Marcus Laithwaite  
Dr John Laker AO  
Ambassador Christophe Lecourtier AO  
John Lydon  
Kevin McCann AO  
Paul McClintock AO  
Rod McGeoch AO  
Ross McInnes  
John McMurtrie AM  
Greg Medcraft  
Russell Miller AM  
Max Moore-Wilton AC  
Bruce Morgan  
Hugh Morgan AC  
Sue Morphet  
David Neal  
Hon Dr Brendan Nelson AO  
Hon Kelly O'Dwyer  
James Palmer  
Dr Martin Parkinson AC PSM  
Andrew Pike  
Elizabeth Proust AO  
Hon Mike Rann AC CNZM  
Pedro Rebelo de Sousa  
Hon Andrew Robb AO  
François Romanet  
Professor Mark Scott AO  
Hon Warwick Smith AO  
David Thodey AO  
Lucy Turnbull AO  
Michael Ullmer AO  
Hon Mark Vaile AO  
Peter van Dongen  
Dr Ian Watt AC  
Peter Woolcott AO  
Peter Young AM

## EABC Major Partners

**ACCIONA**  
**Airbus**  
**BHP**  
**Ericsson**  
**Goldman Sachs**  
**The Group of Eight**  
**Herbert Smith Freehills**  
**IFM Investors**  
**ING Australia**  
**McKinsey & Company**  
**Meat & Livestock Australia**  
**National Australia Bank**  
**PwC**  
**Servcorp**  
**Siemens**  
**Thales Group**  
**Veolia**  
**Ventia**  
**Volvo Group Australia**

## EABC Corporate Partners

**Allianz**  
**ANCA**  
**Astrazeneca**  
**BDO**  
**BNP Paribas**  
**Cyber Security CRC**  
**Fletcher Group**  
**Flying Whales**  
**Frequentis**  
**Future Fund**  
**Goodman Group**  
**HWL Ebsworth**  
**Investment NSW**  
**Kreglinger**  
**Lumination**  
**Monash University**  
**Novartis**  
**Property Council of Australia**  
**QBE Group**  
**Safran Group**  
**Screen Producers Australia**  
**SEC Newgate**  
**Sofico Services**  
**Telix Pharmaceuticals**  
**The University of Sydney**  
**Virgin Australia**  
**Visa**  
**Woolworths Group**  
**ZEN Energy**

## EABC Secretariat

Jason Collins, Chief Executive Officer  
Jo Johns, Chief Operating Officer & Company Secretary  
Caragh Heugh Johnson, Director, Policy & Institutional Affairs  
Carolina Romero, Manager, Programme  
Gigi De Leon, Secretary to the CEO  
Manon Koopman, Policy & Research Officer  
Sarah Kostoglou, Events & Operations Officer

## EABC Charter & Associate Members

Austrade  
Australia-Hungary Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Australian British Chamber of Commerce  
Australian Croatian Chamber of Commerce NSW  
Australian Institute of Company Directors  
Australian Maltese Chamber of Commerce  
ANU Centre for European Studies  
Australian Serbian Commerce Chamber  
British Consulate-General  
Business Council of Australia  
Business France  
Centre for Strategy & Governance  
Consulate-General of Austria  
Consulate-General of the Czech Republic  
Consulate-General of the Republic of Croatia  
Consulate-General of Denmark  
Consulate-General of France  
Consulate-General of Greece  
Consulate of the Republic of Latvia  
Consulate-General of the Republic of Lithuania  
Consulate-General of Luxembourg  
Consulate-General of the Netherlands  
Consulate-General of the Republic of North Macedonia  
Consulate-General of Portugal  
Consulate-General of Romania  
Consulate of the Republic of Slovenia  
Czech-Australian Chamber of Commerce  
CzechTrade  
Danish Connect  
Delegation of the European Union to Australia  
DutchLink  
Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria  
Embassy of France  
Embassy of Georgia  
Embassy of the Republic of Hungary  
Embassy of Italy  
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands  
Embassy of the Republic of Poland  
Embassy of Portugal  
Embassy of the Slovak Republic  
Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia  
Embassy of Sweden  
Export Council of Australia  
Finland Australia Chamber of Commerce  
Flanders Investment & Trade  
French-Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
German-Australian Chamber of Industry & Commerce  
Hellenic Australian Business Council  
Hellenic Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
High Commission of the Republic of Cyprus  
IDA Ireland  
Invest Northern Ireland  
Irish Australian Chamber of Commerce  
Italian Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Australia  
Italian Trade Agency  
Netherlands Chamber of Commerce Australia  
Norwegian Australian Chamber of Commerce  
Polish Australian Business Forum  
Portuguese Australian Chamber of Commerce  
Royal Belgian Embassy  
Royal Danish Embassy  
Slovenian Australian Chamber of Commerce  
Spanish-Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Swedish Australian Chamber of Commerce  
SwissCham Australia  
Trade Council of Denmark  
UK Department for International Trade  
Wallonia Export-Investment Agency





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