



WSC 2001

CHAU Tak Hay

Secretary for Commerce and Industry
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
People's Republic of China

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Mr Chau was born in Hong Kong. He was educated in Hong Kong and graduated from the University of Hong Kong in 1967, when he joined the Hong Kong Government.

During the early part of his career, Mr Chau was involved in the formulation of Hong Kong's external trade policy, the development of Hong Kong's external trade relations and the negotiation of bilateral textiles arrangements between Hong Kong and importing countries under the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA).

In 1979, Mr Chau was appointed as Hong Kong's permanent representative to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Geneva, where he stayed until 1984.

Following his return to Hong Kong in 1984, Mr Chau served in a variety of positions, including those of Regional Secretary for Hong Kong and Kowloon in the City and New Territories Administration, Director-General of Trade and Secretary for Health and Welfare. He was an official member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong from 1988 to 1989.

Mr Chau was Secretary for Trade and Industry from 1991 to 1995; and Secretary for Broadcasting, Culture and Sport from November 1995 to March 1998.

Mr Chau was appointed again as Secretary for Trade and Industry in March 1998. In July 2000, the title of his post was changed to Secretary for Commerce and Industry.