



Dr Aron Harilela, JP, Chairman, The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Aron Harilela, was elected Chairman of The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce (HKGCC) on 18 May 2018. He first joined HKGCC's General Committee in 2008, and was elected as Vice Chairman in 2014, and Deputy Chairman in 2016.

Dr. Aron Harilela is the Chairman & CEO of Harilela Hotels Limited, with responsibility for overseeing operations in hotels within S.E. Asia and Europe. He is also in charge of acquisitions for The Harilela Group.

Established in 1959 and still wholly owned by the Harilela Family, The Harilela Group is a Hong Kong based private company with extensive experience in hotel investment and management. The Group owns and operates some 15 properties across Hong Kong, China, the Far East, Europe and U.S. The Group recently launched its own hotel brand, The Hari London, which opened in August 2016, while The Hari, Hong Kong is scheduled to open in early 2020. The Group's hospitality portfolio includes alliances with The InterContinental Hotels Group, Onyx Hospitality Group and Two Roads.

Dr. Harilela is the non-executive Chairman for Burson Marsteller in Hong Kong. He served on The Court of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology for over 10 years and is now an Honorary Court Member. He served as a member on The Court of The University of Hong Kong from 2006 and is the Honorary Patron of The Hong Kong University Foundation. In September 2015, he was conferred with an Honorary University Fellowship by The University of Hong Kong. Earlier in January 2012, he was

conferred with a University Fellowship from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, which is ranked number two amongst the world's top hotel and tourism schools. He is also an Honorary Life Vice President of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Foundation.

On 1 July 2014, The Government of Hong Kong SAR appointed him as a Justice of the Peace. He was also appointed as an Investment Promotion Ambassador (IPA) for InvestHK in 2011. He is a Board Member of The Hong Kong Community Chest. He is also the Honorary Secretary for the Business and Professional Federation. He is a Voting Member of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

Dr. Harilela graduated with an honours Bachelor degree in Law and Politics, and a Ph.D. in Political Philosophy, both from the University of Hull, England. He has written and published several articles on contemporary social political thought.

Despite a tight schedule to meet his business, professional, civic and social commitments, Dr. Harilela manages to find time to devote to recreational activities. He plays a fair game of tennis, is proficient at horseback riding and heads the Harilela team in polo – a game he loves and at which he has won several trophies.

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