



The Business Councils Charging Scheme: Objectives and Guidelines

This document sets out the Business Councils Charging model arrangements for the Business Councils of the European Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, following discussion at the General Committee Meeting of the European Chamber on 3rd July 2020, and approved by its General Committee on the same day.

The European Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong (EuroCham) operates several sectorial Business Councils (BCs) which serve as a safe platform for corporates and individual contributors from a variety of industry sectors to exchange information, discuss topics of interest and formulate lobbying & advocacy strategies for European businesses to the Government.

The EuroCham provides support to its BCs by facilitating its efforts in research, advocacy and liaison with the Government and other stakeholders in Hong Kong and Macao.

Background and governance objectives

The new charging model plays a vital role in underpinning the BCs' sustainability in the medium and long term. It provides a stable source of income for building more comprehensive infrastructure and further resources to support councils' research and lobbying efforts, among others.

The charging model aims at attracting diverse voices from different sectors and encouraging the participation of European businesses of all sizes. It is crucial in facilitating more wide-ranging information exchange, augmenting contributors' opinion within the sector, as well as towards the Government, and enhancing the advocacy work with more targeted and sector-oriented strategies. It also attracts contributors who appreciate and would like to actively engage in direct dialogue with the Government.

The BCs' Charging Model is approved and adopted by the Board of the EuroCham, with its implementation effective from 1st January 2021 onwards, in accordance with the arrangements set out below.



MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COUNCILS:

- Corporates and individuals who wish to become a contributor are required to be a member of an EuroCham Member Chamber.
- Each Business Council shall have a minimum of 3 members.

Corporate members:

- a) Eligibility: Case-by-case assessment; European and relevant company players in respective Business Council's sector
- b) Annual fee: Corporates are required to pay an annual contribution fee according to their size. The combined categorisation criteria is used: i) publicly listed corporations (including but not limited to NYSE, LSE, NASDAQ, SEHK, SSE), and ii) total number of employees, thus:
 - **“Big”**: Company which is publicly listed and/or has 100+ employees is required to pay an annual fee of 20,000HKD.

Companies which are not listed and have less than 100 employees are categorised as follows:

- **“Medium”**: Company which has 50+ employees is required to pay an annual fee of 10,000HKD.
- **“Small/Start-up”**: Company which has less than 50 employees is required to pay an annual fee of 5,000HKD.

Individual members:

- c) Eligibility: Case-by-case assessment
- d) Annual fee: First year contribution fee is waived; 2,500 HKD annual fee will be required thereafter.