Bio Data of Moderator, Lead Presenter and Panel Speakers

April 11 (Monday), 2011
11:30 to 13:00

Session Moderator:

Liam Fitzpatrick
Writer and Editor, TIME

Liam Fitzpatrick is a writer and editor at TIME and has edited the magazine’s popular travel section, Global Adviser, since its launch in 2003. Prior to joining TIME he wrote on travel and culture for various international publications and also held senior communications positions at the Hong Kong Tourism Board.

He was born in Hong Kong, educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and is a co-author of the bestselling Top 10 Hong Kong travel guide published by Dorling Kindersley, among other titles.

Lead Presenter:

Robert Broadfoot
Founder and Managing Director, Political and Economic Risk Consultancy Ltd
Robert Broadfoot is the Founder and Managing Director of Political & Economic Risk Consultancy, Ltd. (PERC). A US citizen, Bob graduated with honors in economics from Oberlin College in the United States in 1972. He moved to Hong Kong in 1975, when he founded PERC to help banks and multinationals identify and manage country risks in Asia.

Bob coordinates a network of analysts throughout the East and Southeast Asian region whose job it is to monitor those dynamics and keep clients alerted to critical developments, their causes and implications.

He is the editor of PERC’s Asian Intelligence newsletter, its annual Comparative Country Risk Report on Asia, and its monthly Country Risk Monitoring Service. He is a contributing author to a new book called China Into the Future – Making Sense of the World’s Most Dynamic Economy, which has just been published by John Wiley & Sons.

Panel Speakers:

Chanin Donavanik  
Chief Executive Officer, Dusit International

Mr. Chanin Donavanik is continuing the company’s 60 years of heritage as Thailand’s leading international hotel group founded by his mother Thanpuying Chanut Piyaoui. Today, under his leadership with Thanpuying’s aspiration at heart, Dusit International has evolved into a remarkable hotel company, establishing new locations from South East Asia, India through to the Middle East.

At present, Mr. Donavanik is Chief Executive Officer of Dusit International, overseeing the company’s five distinguished brands-Dusit Thani Hotels & Resorts, Dusit’s second generation dusitD2 hotels & resorts, Dusit Princess Hotels & Resorts, Dusit Devarana Hotels & Resorts, and Dusit Residence Serviced Apartments.
Additionally, he was the President of Thai Hotels Association, and held the position for four terms. He was also the president of ASEAN Hotel & Restaurant Association (AHRA) from January 2006 to December 2008. Mr. Chanin Donavanik completed his Master’s Degree in Arts and Business Administration from Boston University, USA.

Marcio Favilla
Executive Director for Competitiveness, External Relations and Partnerships, UNWTO

Marcio Favilla is a Brazilian national, graduated in Economics at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (Belo Horizonte) in 1979 and obtained a Master’s in Development Studies at the Institute of Social Studies (The Hague, Netherlands) in 1986.

He has an extensive experience both at the state of Minas Gerais and at the federal governments in Brazil, especially in development and project finance, investment promotion, public funds policies and management, as well as a member of several public committees and boards.

Brenda Foster  
President, The American Chamber of Commerce Shanghai

Brenda Lei Foster assumed the newly created position of President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai (AmCham Shanghai) in September 2005. She is responsible for overseeing all of the Chamber’s initiatives, as well as representing it and American business interests in China.

Prior to assuming this position she was President & CEO of ULU Group, Ltd., a firm specializing in emerging technologies in the Asia-Pacific region. Ms. Foster has also held the positions of Executive Advisor to the Governor of Hawaii for International and National Affairs, Director of the State of Hawaii’s Office of International Relations, and Executive Director of Hawaii’s World Affairs Council, the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council.

She has also served as President of the National Council of World Affairs Organizations and is a former member of the Staff Advisory Councils for the National Governors’ Association and the Western Governors’ Association of which she also served as chair.

Ms. Foster holds a B.A. and M.A. in Chinese studies from the University of Washington and an M.B.A. from the University of Hawaii. She is married to Dr. Lawrence Foster and they have one daughter.
Jon Huchison  
Chief Executive Officer, Business Events Sydney

As Chief Executive Officer of Business Events Sydney (formerly Sydney Convention & Visitors Bureau), Mr Jon Hutchison draws on more than 30 years experience in the tourism industry gained in some of the country’s leading tourism and travel organisations.

Jon Hutchison took up the position of Chief Executive Officer of Business Events Sydney in November 1996. His focus is on strengthening Sydney and NSW’s position in the high-yield business tourism sector.

Under Jon Hutchison’s stewardship, Business Events Sydney placed Sydney in the top 5 world convention cities, according to the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA). Business Events Sydney has confirmed more than $2 billion worth of meetings’ business for Sydney and New South Wales between 2000 and 2010.

Jon Hutchison is an Adjunct Professor, School of Leisure, Sport and Tourism, Faculty of Business at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), and is Chair of Australian Centre for Event Management Advisory Board UTS, sits on the Tourism Task Force Board of Governors and is a Member of the NSW Tourism Industry Forum.

He holds degrees in commerce and accounting from Melbourne University and is an Associate of the Australian Society of Accountants, a member of the Australian Institute of Management, and has studied Advanced Management at the Melbourne University Business School.
Hans Lerch  
**Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Hotelplan Holding Ltd**

Hans Lerch is Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Hotelplan Holding Ltd. He has spent 35 years with the Kuoni Travel Group. He built up this company’s Far East and South Asia businesses and was stationed in Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore between 1972 and 1986. He later held numerous positions at the Head Office in Switzerland and was President and Chief Executive Officer of Kuoni Travel Holding Ltd. from 1999 to 2005.

Hans Lerch is also a member of the WTTC and was a member of the PATA Board of Directors from 1989 to 1996.

David Scowsill  
**President and Chief Executive Officer, World Travel and Tourism Council**

Prior to joining WTTC in November 2010, David has been a non-executive director, building an extensive network in private equity and venture capital, whilst working on specific deals in the retail, consumer, technology and travel sectors. He has served as chairman of PrivateFly, director of On the Beach Holidays, chairman of Yuuguu.com, non-executive director of ilG Digital, vice-chairman World Hotels AG, and non-executive director Venere.com.
David was CEO of Opodo, the pan-European online travel company owned by nine of Europe’s leading airlines, until 2004. He built the business from start up to a €500mn transaction turnover in two years, before the business was sold to Amadeus, the travel industry technology provider.

He joined the board of Hilton International in 1997 as senior VP sales, marketing and IT, leading the brand re-unification programme between Hilton Group Plc and Hilton Hotels Corporation. He was director of the joint venture companies – Hilton Marketing, Hilton HHonors, and Hilton Reservations Worldwide.

David worked at British Airways from 1993 to 1997 as director Europe/Middle East, with profit responsibility including Deutsche BA in Germany and TAT/Air Liberte in France, and as regional general manager Asia/Pacific. He established the first global airline alliance with Qantas, and negotiated a ‘Joint Services Agreement’ between the two airlines, which has become the model for BA/IB/AA recent agreements.

He joined American Airlines in 1991 as managing director, Europe Middle East and Africa, when it acquired the transatlantic route network from TWA.