

*NEWS RELEASE*

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For immediate release

**Hysan Chairman Irene Lee Takes Top Role in Promoting Gender Diversity**

Ms. Irene Lee, Chairman of Hysan Development, has been appointed Chair of 30% Club HK, an organisation which promotes gender balance at all levels of organisations, including board representation.

“Gender diversity has been an issue close to my heart,” said Ms. Lee. “I believe at the board level, more diversity does lead to increased board effectiveness and better business performance. The 30% Club HK’s approach, through collaborative, concerted business-led efforts, can help bring more progress to better gender balance at all levels of corporations and other organisations.”

“I look forward to the opportunity to partner with Hong Kong corporations to drive change. We need to build for the future. This is critical to help Hong Kong stay competitive,” said Ms. Lee.

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### **About Irene Lee**

Ms. Lee is the executive chairman of Hysan Development Company Limited. Ms. Lee is an independent non-executive director of Cathay Pacific Airways Limited, CLP Holdings Limited, HSBC Holdings plc, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited and Hang Seng Bank Limited. She has held senior positions in investment banking and fund management in a number of renowned international financial institutions. Previously, Ms. Lee was an executive director of Citicorp Investment Bank Limited in New York, London and Sydney; head of corporate finance at Commonwealth Bank of Australia and chief executive officer of Sealcorp Holdings Limited, based in Sydney. She was also the non-executive chairman of Keybridge Capital Limited (listed on Australian Stock Exchange), a non-executive director of ING Bank (Australia) Limited, QBE Insurance Group Limited, and The Myer Family Company Pty Limited, an independent non-executive director of Noble Group Limited (listed on Singapore Exchange Limited); and a member of the Advisory Council of JP Morgan Australia. Ms. Lee was formerly a member of the Australian Government Takeovers Panel, a Trustee of the Art Gallery of New South Wales and a non-executive director of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Lee holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Smith College, United States of America, and is a Barrister-at-Law in England and Wales and a member of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn, United Kingdom. She was appointed a non-executive director of Hysan Development Company Limited in March 2011, non-executive chairman in May 2011, and executive chairman in March 2012.

### **About Hysan**

Hysan Development Company Limited is a leading property investment, management and development company in Hong Kong with an investment property portfolio of over 4 million square feet of high quality office, retail and residential space. With roots in the district since the 1920s, Hysan is one of the largest commercial landlords in Causeway Bay.

### **About 30% Club HK**

The 30% Club HK (<http://30percentclub.org/about/chapters/hong-kong>), was launched in March 2013, three years after the inaugural chapter was established in the UK. With 55 members from listed Hong Kong companies, together with other senior multinational, advisory and statutory members, it is set up as a volunteer organisation run by a Steering Committee of men and women who are leaders in the Hong Kong business community. The 30% Club believes gender balance on boards not only encourages better leadership and governance, but diversity further contributes to better all-round board performance, and ultimately increased corporate performance for both companies and their shareholders. The 30% Club aims to develop a diverse pool of talent for all businesses through the efforts of its Chair and CEO members who are committed to better gender balance at all levels of their organisations. Business leadership is key to its mission, taking the issue beyond a specialist diversity effort and into mainstream talent management. The 30% Club approach – collaborative, concerted business-led efforts – can help accelerate progress towards better gender balance at all levels of organisations. The 30% Club does not believe mandatory quotas are the right approach. Instead, it supports a voluntary approach to realise meaningful, sustainable change. 30% Club efforts are complementary to individual company efforts and existing networking groups, adding to these through collaboration and the visible and voluntary commitment of senior business leaders.

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