

Ian Johnston

Year of Call:

Direct Access: No

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Ian Johnston has recently been re-appointed as Chief Executive of the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA), having formerly obtained this role from 2012-2018. Ian previously joined the DFSA in November 2006 as a Managing Director heading the Policy and Legal Services Division.

He was admitted to practise law in Australia in the early 1980s where he spent most of his career in the private sector – with a number of notable and senior positions within the financial world.

Additionally, he was the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of one of Australia’s major trustee companies.

In 1999, Ian joined the Australian Securities and Investments Commission where he became Executive Director, Financial Services Regulation, and spent several terms as an Acting Commissioner. Several years later he took up a position as a Special Advisor with the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (HKSF).

Ian is also a past Chairman of the Joint Forum, made up of representatives of the major international regulatory standard-setters IOSCO (International Organization of Securities Commissions), IAIS (International Association of Insurance Supervisors) and the Basel Committee.

November 2013 saw Ian elected to the Steering Group of IOSCO’s Growth and Emerging Markets Committee.

He is also a past member of the Financial Stability and Technical Committee of the IAIS, the global standard-setting body for insurance regulation, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Financial Planning Standards Board from 2011 to 2016.

Following retirement from the DFSA, Ian will continue as a consultant there, combining this with his work as a Professional Associate at Outer Temple Chambers. This will involve the provision of strategic or specific technical advice to both regulators and institutional or individual clients on financial regulatory issues arising in the UK – or internationally.

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