

ASX RELEASE 26 MAY 2016

## MELANIE WILLIS JOINS SOUTHERN CROSS MEDIA BOARD AS CHAIR AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

## CHRIS de BOER RETIRES AS DIRECTOR AFTER ALMOST 11 YEARS' SERVICE

The Board of Southern Cross Media Group Limited (ASX: SXL; "Southern Cross Media"; or "the Company") has appointed Ms Melanie Willis as Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Board's Audit and Risk Committee.

Ms Willis's appointment is effective immediately. She takes over the Audit and Risk Committee Chair role from Non-Executive Director, Mr Chris de Boer, who stepped down from the Board today after nearly 11 years' service. Mr de Boer has served as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee since joining the Board and has also been a member of the Board's People and Culture Committee.

A former investment banker and structured finance executive, Ms Willis is currently a Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee for accommodation operator, Mantra Group Limited. She is a Non-Executive Director of specialist consumer credit group Pepper Group Limited, where she is also a member of the Audit and Risk Committee; and she is a non-executive director of the listed entertainment operator, Ardent Leisure. Until March 2015, Ms Willis was Chief Executive Officer of NRMA Investments where she was responsible for NRMA's commercial businesses.

SXL Non-Executive Chairman, Peter Bush, said: "I have seen first-hand Melanie's expertise as a director and in particular, as chair of the audit and risk committee on the Mantra Board and I have a great deal of respect for her business insight and diligence."

"Melanie has extensive strategic, commercial and financial skills in executive and non-executive roles in a wide range of industries and has had significant board-level exposure to international operations and global businesses.

"She will complement the business skills and governance experience of the Southern Cross Media Board," Mr Bush said.

Mr Bush also extended the Board's thanks and deep appreciation to Mr de Boer for his near 11 years' service as a non-executive director. "I personally want to thank Chris for agreeing to stay on the Board and as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee longer than he originally planned, in order to help me settle in as Chairman," he said.

"We extend our sincere appreciation for Chris' contribution as a director and best wishes for his future endeavours," Mr Bush said.

For further information, please contact:

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## **Melanie Willis**

Melanie has extensive financial and professional services experience in both Executive and Non-Executive roles in a wide range of industries, including accounting and financial planning, infrastructure, property investment management, and retail services (including tourism and start-up ventures).

During the last 10 years, Melanie has held non-executive directorship roles at Aevum Limited (including Audit Committee Chair), Hydro Tasmania (including Audit & Risk Committee Member), Rhodium Asset Solutions, Crowe Horwath and Club Assist Limited, as well as senior executive roles with Deutsche Bank (Director), Bankers Trust Australia (Vice President) and NRMA Investments (CEO).

Melanie is currently a non-executive director of Mantra Group, Ardent Leisure Group and Pepper Financial Services Group.

Melanie holds a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Western Australia, a Masters of Law (Tax) from the University of Melbourne and a Company Director Diploma from the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She has completed a leadership course at Harvard Business School and is a member of 'Chief Executive Women' and the Big Issue Women's Advisory Board. Melanie is also a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.