



## **UK Names New Ambassador to China**

On August 6, 2014, the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) appointed Barbara Janet Woodward to succeed Sebastian Wood as Britain's Ambassador to China. Woodward, who is experienced in Chinese issues at the FCO, will take up her appointment early next year. She served as a political counselor and later minister and deputy head of mission in Beijing from 2003 to 2009. Woodward joined the FCO in 1994. Since 2011, she has been a member of the Board of the FCO as director general of economic and consular affairs. Woodward said: "I look forward to supporting further dynamic development in our bilateral trade and investment and to accelerating and deepening our cooperation across China." During Chinese Premier Li Keqiang's visit to Britain in mid-June, the two sides reaffirmed their commitment to improving trade and business relations.