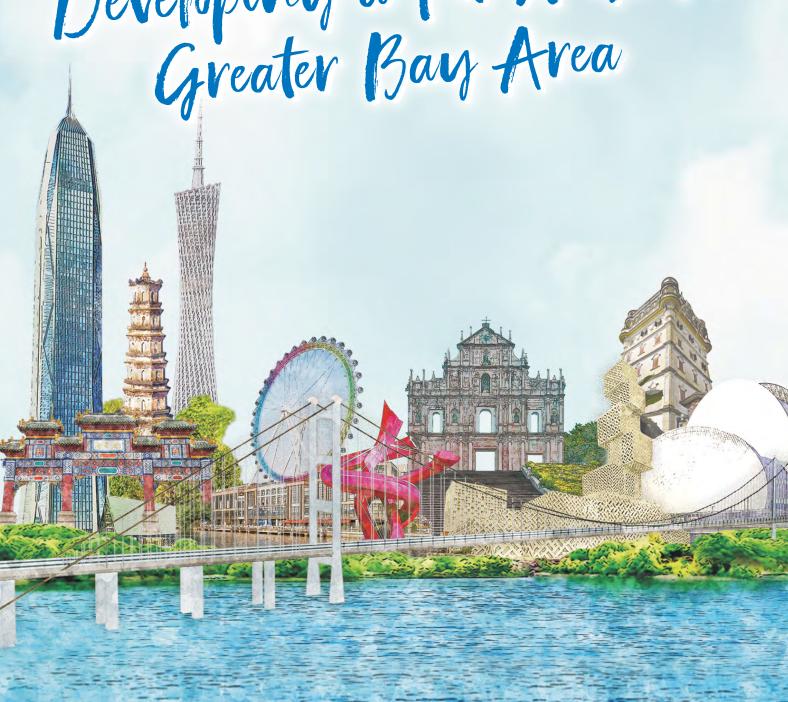


Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Office Issue July 2025

## everaging Hong Kongs Strengths.

Developing a First-class

Greater Bay Area





Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Office Newsletter

Issue July 2025

Message from Commissioner

for the Development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area



#### Ms Maisie Chan | Commissioner for the Development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

Time flies, and we are already halfway through 2025. The development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area) is in full swing. "Telling good stories of the Greater Bay Area" remains one of the core tasks of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Office (the Office). Given today's turbulent geopolitical climate and profound changes in the global economic landscape, the Office has been proactively reaching out to global talents and enterprises through duty visits and promotional events in the Mainland and overseas, and promoting the enormous opportunities in the Greater Bay Area and the distinctive strengths of Hong Kong to local, Mainland and overseas stakeholders through diversified means and channels.

Over the past two months, I visited Laos, Hungary, Egypt and Portugal, having in-depth exchanges with the local political and business leaders and representatives. Particularly, at a business luncheon in Lisbon of Portugal, jointly organised by the Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Brussels, I promoted the boundless business opportunities in the Greater Bay Area to over 130 attendees, and encouraged them to leverage Hong Kong's unique advantages of having strong support from the motherland and close connection with the world under "one country, two systems", so as to actively seize the opportunities of Greater Bay Area development and reap the benefits of China's high-quality development. This overseas visit has yielded remarkable results, not only enabling the international community to better understand the Greater Bay Area's strategic position and highlighting Hong Kong's important roles as a "super connector" and "super value-adder" between the Mainland and the rest of the world, but also laying a solid foundation for future collaboration.

Further, the Office has continued to deepen exchanges and co-operation with various Greater Bay Area cities, and strengthen domestic ties by actively promoting development opportunities in the Greater Bay Area to different Mainland cities. On 10 July, we organised a seminar on Creating Business Value through Intellectual Property in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in Guangzhou, which focused on the protection and use of intellectual property (IP) rights to help Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises strengthen international competitiveness and create greater business value in the Greater Bay Area and global markets. On 18 July, the Office held the Greater Bay Area via Hong Kong luncheon seminar in Xi'an, attracting over 260 participants. This marked the Office's first promotional event in a Mainland city outside the Greater Bay Area, signifying a pivotal step in the Greater Bay Area's "northbound empowerment" and an important initiative to connect with the Silk Road Economic Belt and explore regional synergistic development.

In addition, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Promotion Centre (Promotion Centre) under the Office has been making proactive efforts to, by organising luncheons, workshops, study missions, exchange activities and others, strengthen support for Hong Kong people, enterprises and youngsters, and develop platforms for exchanges and interaction, with a view to providing substantial support for their entrepreneurial and career pursuits in the Greater Bay Area.

The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area development is the best entry point for Hong Kong's integration into the overall national development. The HKSAR Government will continue to do our best to fulfil the new positioning and historic mission of the Greater Bay Area as "a strategic fulcrum of the new development pattern, a demonstration zone of high-quality development, and a pioneer of Chinese modernisation", thereby serving the country's needs with Hong Kong's strengths, taking forward the high-quality development of the country and Hong Kong, and contributing to the development of Chinese modernisation.





## Synergy of "One Plus One is Greater than Two" Achieved by "One Institute, One Center" in the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Loop

In February this year, the Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, visited the Greater Bay Area International Clinical Trial Institute (GBAICTI) in the Hong Kong Park of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone (Hetao Co-operation Zone). As a key co-operation platform in the Greater Bay Area, the Hetao Co-operation Zone is gaining tremendous momentum for development. The GBAICTI, established and wholly owned by the HKSAR Government, was opened in November last year as one of the pioneer institutions moving into the Hong Kong Park. The GBAICTI and the Greater Bay Area International Clinical Trials Center (Trials Center) opened in the Shenzhen Park on the same day have established the "one institute, one center" paradigm.









Professor Bernard Cheung, a leading expert in clinical pharmacology, serves as the inaugural Chief Executive Officer to steer the GBAICTI, an institution of immense significance for the biomedical development in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area. Professor Cheung said that the GBAICTI has co-ordinated clinical trial resources from both public and private sectors in Hong Kong, including public hospitals, private healthcare institutions and universities, and provided a one-stop clinical trial support platform for wider participation by pharmaceutical companies and biomedical institutions in Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas. Moreover, the GBAICTI's biobank features liquid nitrogen storage systems and ultra-low temperature freezers for hospitals and related enterprises etc. to store various biological samples, such as tissues, blood and cells. This not only facilitates the development of clinical trials in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area, but also enables the general public to benefit from scientific research outcomes.

The "one institute, one center" in the Hetao Co-operation Zone is more than a clinical trial platform. It indeed performs the functions of "going global" and "attracting foreign investment", achieving the synergy of "one plus one is greater than two". This exactly epitomises the collaborative efforts of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in developing the Greater Bay Area. Professor Cheung pointed out that under the paradigm of "one institute, one center", the Trials Center of Shenzhen serves people in the Greater Bay Area and the Mainland, while the GBAICTI of Hong Kong acts as a connector with the world. Hence, the GBAICTI aims to attract overseas pharmaceutical companies and biomedical institutions to use Hong Kong as a hub for tapping into the vast and fast-growing Greater Bay Area and Mainland markets, while at the same time helping Mainland enterprises obtain, through Hong Kong, international accreditation for their medicine products as a way to explore the overseas markets such as Europe and United States, thereby serving as a bridge for the biomedical development in the Greater Bay Area.





## Synergy of "One Plus One is Greater than Two" Achieved by "One Institute, One Center" in the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Loop

Professor Cheung remarked that with its unique advantages, Hong Kong not only plays an indispensable role in Greater Bay Area development, but is also crucial to the GBAICTI's work to advance the development of biomedical industry in the region. Hong Kong has various distinctive strengths, including its close connection with both the Mainland and the world making it the international gateway to the Greater Bay Area; its five local universities ranked among the world's top 100 and combined with the Greater Bay Area's growing research capabilities can serve as a "magnet" to attract overseas pharmaceutical companies and biomedical institutions; as a leading international financial centre, Hong Kong can provide financing support for related enterprises; and with a comprehensive electronic



health record system, Hong Kong can greatly contribute to the development of clinical trials and biomedical industry. In recent years, the HKSAR Government has introduced many facilitative policy initiatives, such as collaborating with Shenzhen to develop the Hetao Co-operation Zone and promoting cross-boundary use of medical data and biological samples. Hong Kong is now well positioned to forge ahead. The GBAICTI can join hands with Shenzhen's Trials Center to vigorously develop new quality productive forces tailored local conditions, and foster the development of clinical trials and biomedical industry, thereby serving the country's needs with Hong Kong's strengths.



In May this year, the GBAICTI signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the LKS Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong and the Faculty of Medicine of the Chinese University of Hong Kong to strengthen clinical trial collaboration, marking a significant milestone in the development of clinical research in Hong Kong. Besides, the GBAICTI will move into the wet laboratory buildings in the Hong Kong Park to provide more diverse and comprehensive clinical trial facilities and service platforms. All conditions are favourable for the GBAICTI to set sail under the development of "one river, two banks" and "one zone, two parks" in the Hetao Co-operation Zone, charting a new course for collaboration in the Greater Bay Area.



## Building Hong Kong into an International Hub for High-calibre Talents by Leveraging its Unique Advantages



The National 14th Five-Year Plan explicitly supports Hong Kong's development as an international innovation and technology (I&T) centre. To further leverage Hong Kong's unique advantages of having strong support from the motherland and close connection with the world, the HKSAR Government established Hong Kong Talent Engage (HKTE) in October 2023, which aims to promote Hong Kong's opportunities, advantages and policy initiatives, attract international high-calibre talents, and provide full-range support services for talents coming to Hong Kong. The Director of HKTE, Mr Anthony Lau, said that as at end-June 2025, a total of over 490 000 applications have been received under various talent schemes, and nearly 220 000 talents have arrived in Hong Kong, far exceeding the original three-year targets. These impressive numbers clearly demonstrate that Hong Kong is welcoming talents from across the globe with an open and embracing mindset, and striving to build itself into an international hub for high-calibre talents.

As at end-May 2025, the HKTE has organised over 140 events in 11 overseas countries and major Mainland cities. Through establishing close co-operation networks with local universities, chambers of commerce and industry associations, the HKTE has precisely disseminated information on the latest talent policies to target groups, and invited talents settling in Hong Kong to share their experience, so as to strengthen the international community's understanding of and confidence in Hong Kong. Additionally, the HKTE has actively made use of diversified social media platforms to provide information about development opportunities and daily life in Hong Kong, thereby drawing global professionals' attention to Hong Kong and encouraging them to pursue development here.

On another front, the HKTE has expended great efforts to promote collaboration with other Greater Bay Area cities, so as to deepen co-operation among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in talent development. According to the Director, Mr Anthony Lau, in May 2024, a memorandum of understanding on promoting talent services co-operation in the Greater Bay Area was signed by "9+2" cities of the Greater Bay Area at the Second Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High-quality Talent Development Conference; in December of the same year, with the support from the Ministry of Human Resources and



Social Security, the Ministry and the governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao signed a memorandum of understanding on jointly developing a high-calibre talent hub in the Greater Bay Area. The HKTE has also promoted talent exchanges and co-operation in the Greater Bay Area through major events, such as the Global Talent Summit • Hong Kong, and the Forging a National High-calibre Talent Hub Symposium. In April this year, the HKTE co-organised with other Greater Bay Area cities the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Talent Development Showcase in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which aimed to attract more international high-calibre talents to establish presence in the Greater Bay Area.



## Building Hong Kong into an International Hub for High-calibre Talents by Leveraging its Unique Advantages



With the support of our country, Hong Kong is accelerating its development as an international I&T centre. The HKTE has specifically recruited talents in the I&T sector while continuously promoting to overseas countries the scientific research landscape and support measures for start-ups in Hong Kong. In early July this year, under HKTE's co-ordination, 60 representatives from European, American and Southeast Asian venture capital organisations conducted a field visit to Qianhai, Shenzhen. In September this year, 12 young German entrepreneurs will visit Hong Kong and other Greater Bay Area cities. Under the new industry pattern of "South-North dual engine (finance-I&T)", the Northern Metropolis will be developed into a "new international I&T city", providing extensive development opportunities for I&T talents, and creating synergy with the Greater Bay Area's high-end manufacturing industries. This will undoubtedly attract more international high-calibre talents to Hong Kong.

Apart from actively recruiting talents, the HKTE has also strived to provide full-range support services. Over 5 000 quality job vacancies are posted on its online platform (www.hkengage.gov.hk) daily, and consultation and support services are offered through more than 90 designated partners. As at end-May 2025, the platform has handled over 43 000 enquiries and referred more than 13 000 cases for support services. Furthermore, the HKTE has organised, co-organised or participated in over 90 online and offline events on various themes, helping talents promptly settle in Hong Kong.

Amid intense global competition for talents, the HKTE will continue to enhance various talent policies, including expanding the list of eligible universities under the Top Talent Pass Scheme (TTPS), extending the validity period of the first visas of Category A applications under the TTPS to three years, and streamlining the application process of the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme, so as to strengthen Hong Kong's competitiveness. In addition, the HKTE will continue to deepen its co-operation with other Greater Bay Area cities to promote collaboration in attracting, sharing and nurturing talents, achieving the interconnected flow of talents and co-ordinated development. This will help establish a high-quality and diverse talent pool for the country, the Greater Bay Area and Hong Kong, driving high-quality economic development of the country.



#### Telling Good Stories of

#### the Greater Bay Area









The Promotion Centre organised a lunch gathering for Hong Kong people and enterprises in Dongguan, so as to foster exchanges among Hong Kong people and enterprises in Guangdong and learn about their situations in living, working and doing business in the Greater Bay Area. Around 60 Hong Kong residents and business representatives attended the gathering. At the gathering, the Head of the Promotion Centre, Ms Fiona Lee, introduced the work of the Promotion Centre and encouraged Hong Kong people and enterprises to actively participate in the Promotion Centre's activities. The event also featured thematic presentations on "one-stop cross-boundary financial services", "BUD Fund" and "Dongguan-Hong Kong Tech100+ empowerment scheme", which enabled attendees to better understand the relevant policy initiatives.





16 May



The Promotion Centre and the Guangzhou Haizhu Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hong Kong and Macao Youth Service Center organised a workshop on "personal IP building" in Guangzhou, which aimed to empower Hong Kong youths in their career development and help them create distinctive personal IP images. At the event, the Head of the Promotion Centre, Ms Fiona Lee, introduced the work of the Promotion Centre and encouraged participants to actively participate in the Promotion Centre's activities. The event also featured thematic presentations on "personal IP business opportunities: from 'knowing you' to 'following you'" and "account monetisation: theory and practice of creating viral IP", introducing participants to the principles and steps of building personal IP.



The award presentation ceremony of "Dreams to GBA Come True" Itinerary Design Competition, jointly organised by the Office and the Education Bureau, was successfully held on 23 May. The competition attracted nearly 2 000 secondary school students participating in teams, and received more than 500 itinerary proposals with Greater Bay Area cities as destinations. The champion of Junior Secondary Students Division, CUHK FAA Thomas Cheung Secondary School, designed an itinerary to Zhaoqing to explore its intangible cultural heritage and history, while the champion of Senior Secondary Students Division, Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School, planned a route covering Guangzhou and Foshan to acquire an in-depth understanding of their history, culture and 1&T development. At the award presentation ceremony, the Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, said that the competition not only broadened students' horizons but also cultivated their affection for the country, helping them better understand Hong Kong's active integration into the overall national development. The Senior Secondary Students Division completed a three-day study tour to Guangzhou and Foshan on 11 July, joined by the Assistant Commissioner, Miss Cathy Li, while the Junior Secondary Students Division departed for Zhaoqing on 16 July for a three-day cultural and historical exploration tour. A total of more than 140 teachers and students participated in these two trips, following the champion-designed itineraries to experience the latest developments and boundless opportunities in the Greater Bay Area. The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, saw off teachers and students of the Junior Secondary Students Division at the Hong Kong West Kowloon High Speed Rail Station, encouraging students to experience the cultural heritage and vibrancy of the Greater Bay Area with their hearts and minds.







#### 25 May

The Head of the Promotion Centre, Ms Fiona Lee, participated in the 35th Jinan University Hong Kong Cultural Festival held at the Jinling student cultural plaza of Shipai Campus of Jinan University, Guangzhou. Under the theme of "MTR connects the Greater Bay Area • new journey together", the Cultural Festival enabled students to deeply experience the cultural charm of Hong Kong's close connection with the Greater Bay Area through diverse activities. The Promotion Centre, as a supporting organisation, fully facilitated the smooth implementation of the Cultural Festival.





#### 26 May

The television programme "Hello GBA, Hello Nansha!" launched by the Office aired on RTHK TV 31 from 26 May to 10 June. The programme consists of six episodes plus a special feature, each of approximately three minutes long. It provides in-depth analysis of Nansha's development as a key co-operation platform in the Greater Bay Area, covering various areas such as youth entrepreneurship, I&T, education, pharmaceutical industry, and healthcare and elderly care. The programme aims to help the public understand the opportunities brought by the development of Greater Bay Area and Nansha.

#### 2 June

The Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (SCMA), Mr Erick Tsang Kwok-wai, officiated at the unveiling ceremony of the Greater Bay Area Aircraft at Hong Kong International Airport. The Greater Bay Area Aircraft, featuring the promotional design livery "Leveraging Hong Kong's Strengths, Developing a First-class Greater Bay Area", operates flights between Hong Kong and Mainland and overseas cities, promote the Greater Bay Area and Hong Kong to the world. SCMA expressed his hope that the aircraft would serve as an "ambassador in the sky" to promote the Greater Bay Area, raising awareness of the latest developments of the Greater Bay Area and Hong Kong's role in connecting with both the Mainland and the world. He encouraged all sectors to capitalise on Hong Kong's distinctive strengths to seize the enormous opportunities brought about by Greater Bay Area development, thereby promoting the high-quality development of the Greater



Bay Area. Following its earlier promotional efforts to reach out to the community through means of transportation such as buses, trams and ferries, the Office is using an aircraft for the first time as a mobile display platform to further promote the Greater Bay Area to a global audience.

(This issue comes with the "Greater Bay Area Aircraft" poster.)









The Promotion Centre hosted a lunch gathering for Hong Kong people and enterprises in Jiangmen, introducing approximately 100 local Hong Kong residents and enterprises to the significant opportunities presented by Greater Bay Area development and learn about their current business operations. At the gathering, the Head of the Promotion Centre, Ms Fiona Lee, encouraged talents and enterprises in the Greater Bay Area to fully leverage Hong Kong's unique advantages and position under "one country, two systems" to actively explore the global markets, thereby contributing to mutual benefits of Hong Kong and Jiangmen, and the high-quality development of the Greater Bay Area. The lunch gathering also featured three thematic presentations on cross-boundary banking services for enterprises and individuals, BUD Fund (including E-commerce Easy) and related Hong Kong policies, as well as the "China-Latin America" trade co-operation service platforms, with the aim of facilitating the export of Jiangmen products.



#### 11 June

The Promotion Centre organised an innovation tour for Hong Kong and Macao youngsters to the Huawei (Songshan Lake) developer village at Songshan Lake, Dongguan. The event introduced around 50 participants to the practical application of artificial intelligence (AI) in industrial manufacturing and the empowering effects of smart transformation, while elucidating cutting-edge AI technologies and application solutions. The participants visited the exhibition hall of Hong Kong-Macao Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurial Base at Songshan Lake, and Huawei's research and development headquarters—Huawei European Town, gaining a deep understanding of Hong Kong-invested enterprises' operation in Dongguan and the Base's dedicated policies and one-stop business services for Hong Kong and Macao. They also listened to a presentation by Huawei representatives on the digital transformation and upgrading of the manufacturing industry and the application of large AI models. During an open discussion session, representatives from various enterprises actively interacted with Huawei experts to explore digital transformation in different fields.



The SCMA, Mr Erick Tsang Kwok-wai, delivered a speech at an event organised by a film and television enterprise in Guangzhou. The SCMA said that the cultural and creative industries are not only a driving force for economic growth, but also an essential vehicle for promoting cultural exchanges and strengthening people-to-people bonds. They also demonstrate the country's "soft power" in high-quality development. With its close connectivity with both the Mainland and the world, Hong Kong can further promote cultural innovation and talent exchanges to deepen regional cultural integration, and support quality film and television works, artistic creations and cultural brands in "going global", thereby enabling Chinese culture to demonstrate its captivating charm and exert greater influence on the world stage.







#### 19 June

The Acting Deputy Commissioner, Miss Cathy Li, attended the "GBA Switzerland Economic Forum 2025", and delivered a keynote speech in both Chinese and English on the topic of converging business in the Greater Bay Area—leveraging connectivity with both the Mainland and the world, actively promoting Hong Kong's distinctive edge of connecting the Mainland and the world to over 300 political and business leaders from the Greater Bay Area and Switzerland. She remarked that under "one country, two systems", Hong Kong is the only world-class city that can capitalise on both the China advantage and the international advantage. Hong Kong possesses a business environment that is highly internationalised and market-oriented, underpinned by the rule of law, a free flow of capital, a robust financial regulatory regime, a simple and low tax regime, and a global pool of professional talents. Miss Li encouraged Swiss enterprises to establish their Asia-Pacific headquarters in Hong Kong or make use of the "sea-air intermodal cargo transshipment" mode of Hong Kong International Airport and Dongguan's logistics park to enhance freight efficiency and facilitate the entry of Swiss premium products into the Greater Bay Area market. Furthermore, Hong Kong's mature capital market provides comprehensive and internationalised financing and professional services, which can help Mainland enterprises in going global and expand into the global markets.













The Promotion Centre, in collaboration with the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Guangdong) Innovation and Entrepreneurship Incubation Base, the Hong Kong Power Youth Association and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP), organised a talk on global expansion of I&T enterprises at the "lighthouse navigator" training camp for Hong Kong and Macao talents, attracting around 40 participants. The event focused on enterprises' strategic planning for global expansion, and provided in-depth analysis of Hong Kong's business advantages, subsidy policies on scientific research, as well as HKSTP's I&T ecosystem and supporting facilities. The event aimed to help entrepreneurs in the Greater Bay Area grasp global expansion pathways, particularly leveraging the connectivity between Hong Kong and the Mainland to actively explore the international markets through Hong Kong and achieve global business expansion.





#### 26 June

The Deputy Commissioner, Ms Aubrey Fung, attended a pre-tour meeting for "enriching lives—Lingnan cultural tour 2025" organised by the Women Affairs Committee of Kowloon Federation of Associations, introducing around 30 participants to the latest developments of the Greater Bay Area and the HKSAR Government's efforts in taking forward Greater Bay Area development. The Deputy Commissioner encouraged the participants to personally experience the diverse opportunities in the Greater Bay Area through this Lingnan cultural tour.



#### 10 July

To actively support Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises to generate benefits in the Greater Bay Area and global markets through effective protection and use of IP rights, the Office organised a seminar on Creating Business Value through Intellectual Property in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in Guangzhou. Over 250 business representatives from Hong Kong and various Mainland cities attended the event. The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, said that the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area highlights the need to fully leverage the advantages of Hong Kong in IP protection and related professional services to support the development of Hong Kong as a regional IP trading centre. The seminar attracted a large number of participants and fostered lively discussions, fully reflecting the industry's strong enthusiasm for the effective use of IP rights to generate economic benefits and foster the development of the national and international dual circulation economy. Hong Kong will continue to strengthen its role as a regional IP trading centre and contribute to the high-quality development of the Greater Bay Area.





18 July

The Office, the Shaanxi Liaison Unit of the HKSAR Government and the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the Shaanxi Provincial People's Government held the GBA via Hong Kong luncheon seminar in Xi'an to promote the vast opportunities brought about by the development of the Greater Bay Area and the growth potential of Hong Kong's Northern Metropolis to enterprises in Shaanxi. Over 260 participants attended the event. The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, delivered a video speech at the seminar, saying that the Office not only expends efforts on overseas publicity and promotion, but also strengthens domestic ties by actively promoting development opportunities in the Greater Bay Area to different Mainland cities. Commencing the visit in Xi'an signified a pivotal step in the Greater Bay Area's "northbound empowerment" and its connection with the Silk Road Economic Belt. She encouraged enterprises to establish presence in Hong Kong and leverage the city as an internationalised platform to go global. The Deputy Commissioner, Ms Aubrey Fung, delivered a keynote speech at the seminar, saying that the Greater Bay Area is of immense strategic significance in national development, presenting boundless business opportunities for Shaanxi and global enterprises. With further deepening of co-operation between Shaanxi and Hong Kong, the city's unique strengths and Shaanxi's solid industrial foundation and vibrant technological innovation would create synergy, thereby fostering a win-win outcome and resource complementarity between the two places, and injecting new impetus into the country's high-quality development.

] 独特优势和地位

#### **Overseas**

**Publicity and Promotion** 

The Office has continued to proactively reach out to talents and enterprises in different places through overseas duty visits and collaboration with the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices as well as partnering organisations overseas. It promotes the enormous opportunities arising from Greater Bay Area development, and encourages them to grasp such opportunities by leveraging Hong Kong's distinctive advantages of having strong support from the motherland and close connection with the world under "one country, two systems".





6 to 8 May

The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, visited Vientiane, Laos, and attended the "Business and Investment Opportunities in Hong Kong-Gateway to Greater Bay Area" seminar hosted by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Singapore. She said that the Greater Bay Area offers vast markets and opportunities, and as an international gateway and core city in the Greater Bay Area and with its unique advantages under "one country, two systems", Hong Kong is an ideal base for Lao enterprises and talents to tap into the Greater Bay Area and Mainland markets. At a luncheon with representatives of the Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Lao Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the Commissioner encouraged them to establish presence in Hong Kong and explore the vast markets of the Greater Bay Area. During the visit, the Commissioner also called on the Ministry of Industry and Commerce of Laos, and the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Laos, Ms Fang Hong, with a view to learning about the business environment and developments in Laos, and conducting in-depth exchanges on strengthening economic and trade co-operation between the two places.













The SCMA, Mr Erick Tsang Kwok-wai, and the Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, visited Budapest, Hungary and Cairo, Egypt to attend the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Economic and Trade Cooperation Exchange Conferences, co-organised by the People's Government of Guangdong Province, the HKSAR Government and the Macao SAR Government, to jointly promote the latest developments and growth potential of the Greater Bay Area, as well as Hong Kong's unique advantages under "one country, two systems". The conferences attracted around 300 and over 400 guests respectively. Speaking at the two conferences, the SCMA said that with the full support from the Central Authorities, the HKSAR and other Greater Bay Area cities complement each other's strengths and work closely together to promote the Greater Bay Area's high-quality development. As an important gateway of the country and an international metropolis, Hong Kong possesses a business environment that is highly internationalised, market-oriented and underpinned by the rule of law, as well as a pool of world-class professional talents. Moreover, Hong Kong plays the important roles as a "super connector" and "super value-adder". He encouraged European and African enterprises and talents to capitalise on Hong Kong's unique advantages of having the staunch support of the motherland and being closely connected to the world by establishing a foothold in the city and tapping into the huge market of the Greater Bay Area.

During the visits, the SCMA met with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Arab Republic of Egypt and Representative to the League of Arab States, Mr Liao Liqiang, the Chinese Ambassador to Hungary, Mr Gong Tao, the State Secretary for Bilateral Relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, Ms Boglárka Illés, and the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Hungary, Dr Lajos Oláh, and exchanged views with political and business representatives from Europe and Africa who attended the conferences. The SCMA introduced the latest developments of Hong Kong and highlighted Hong Kong's determination to further deepen international exchanges and co-operation, telling good stories of the Greater Bay Area and Hong Kong.





#### 1 to 4 July

The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, visited Lisbon, Portugal, during which she attended a business luncheon titled "Unlocking New Horizons: Affordable Housing and Opportunities in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area", co-organised by the Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Brussels and attended by around 130 guests. She delivered a keynote speech to promote the enormous business opportunities brought about by the Greater Bay Area to the Portuguese business community and how Hong Kong can play its important functions as a "super connector" and "super value-adder" between the two places. During the visit, the Commissioner met with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Portuguese Republic, Mr Zhao Bentang, learning about the latest developments in Portugal and Sino-Portuguese culture, and introducing the HKSAR Government's work on taking forward Greater Bay Area development; and attended the International Forum on Urbanism there. She also exchanged views with the attendees and encouraging the local construction sector to strengthen exchanges and co-operation with related Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises.



#### **Greater Bay Area Cities**

The Office has actively visited different cities of the Greater Bay Area, with a view to enhancing Hong Kong's high-level co-operation with Guangdong and other Greater Bay Area cities, thereby strengthening connectivity and integrated development within the Greater Bay Area.

#### 17 April

The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, attended the launch ceremony of GoGBA Business Support Centre (Macao) cum Macao-Hong Kong enterprise exchange conference in Macao, jointly organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) and the Macao SAR's Commerce and Investment Promotion Institute. She engaged in interaction and exchanges with Hong Kong and Macao enterprises to explore ways to further promote Hong Kong-Macao co-operation and advance Greater Bay Area development. Currently, the GoGBA Business Support Centres established by the HKTDC and relevant partners have already covered Macao and the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area, providing policy and market consultation services for Hong Kong businesses.























#### 24 April

The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, visited the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Huizhou, Guangdong) Green Agricultural Products Production and Supply Base and related enterprises in Huizhou, learning about the operations of the entire food industry chain, from fresh agricultural and livestock products to pre-made dishes, as well as the development of supporting facilities and the business of supplying food to Hong Kong. The Commissioner first visited the green agricultural products base in Taimei Town, Boluo County, Huizhou, taking a look at the facilities that ensure food supplies to Hong Kong meet the market requirements in terms of quality and quantity, including cold storage facilities, grain warehouses, and testing laboratories for Hong Kong-bound products. During her stay in Huizhou, the Commissioner also visited four enterprises that supply food to Hong Kong to understand their operations and encourage the local enterprises to leverage Hong Kong's international trade networks and its status as an international shipping centre to expand into the Southeast Asian and global markets.

#### 19 to 23 May

The Head of the Promotion Centre, Ms Fiona Lee, visited Dongguan, also known as the "Capital of Art Toys". She visited art toy enterprises and centres as well as gashapon centres in Shipai Town, Dongguan, and attended a Greater Bay Area (Dongguan) brand development conference to learn more about the latest developments in local art toy culture, innovative designs and exquisite craftsmanship. Thereafter, the Head went to Guangzhou to attend the closing ceremony of Hong Kong I&T dark horse camp organised by the China Hong Kong Culture Exchange Association, which aimed to nurture young I&T talents for Hong Kong and deepen technological exchanges and co-operation among young people in the Greater Bay Area.









#### 3 to 6 June

The Deputy Commissioner, Ms Aubrey Fung, joined the delegation on "revisiting the Greater Bay Area, embracing new business opportunities" organised by the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the HKSAR. The delegation, comprising consular officials in Hong Kong and business representatives, visited the Greater Bay Area to study its development. The delegation visited Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Zhuhai, and explored four key co-operation platforms in the Greater Bay Area, namely Qianhai, Hetao, Nansha and Hengqin,

gaining an in-depth understanding of the development of various sectors, including I&T, financial services, pharmaceuticals, and

high-end manufacturing.









The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, and the Acting Chief Executive Officer and Chief Technology Officer of the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, Dr Huang Ying, visited Jiangmen to study the successful cases of high-tech applications, and the facilities for technological research and development as well as outcome transformation, with a view to promoting I&T collaboration in the Greater Bay Area. The delegation also visited Jiangmen Central Hospital to observe and discuss the clinical application of capsule endoscopy technology, and explore the application and demand for digital health technologies in Jiangmen's medical institutions. The hospital, which has been included in the Elderly Health Care Voucher Greater Bay Area Pilot Scheme in May this year, is expected to accept the vouchers starting from the third quarter. The Commissioner also met with the Vice-Chairman of the Jiangmen Municipal Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Ms Tang Huihong, to exchange views on further promoting high-level co-operation between Hong Kong and Jiangmen. The Commissioner said that there is extensive scope for co-operation between Hong Kong and Jiangmen in different areas. While Hong Kong possesses strong research capabilities and global technology transfer networks, Jiangmen, as a hub and gateway city in the western part of the Greater Bay Area, is experiencing rapid development in advanced manufacturing. The two places can complement one another in multiple areas for mutual benefits.

#### 24 June

The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, visited Shipai Town in Dongguan to learn about its latest developments in the art toy industry. The Commissioner first listened to Dongguan officials' presentation on the strategies and experiences in developing the art toy industry cluster and building the city as "China's Capital of Art Toys". Thereafter, the Commissioner visited two art toy enterprises in Shipai Town and the "China Art Toy Capital. Art Toy Center". She said that Shipai Town, on the basis of the traditional original equipment manufacturing (OEM) production of toys, is committed to extending the production chain both upstream and downstream, and creating a comprehensive ecosystem from original IP incubation to e-commerce of art toy products. This will enable industrial diversification in Dongguan, increase the share of service sector in the city's gross domestic product, and achieve economic restructuring and upgrading. Hong Kong can leverage its advantages in character creation, financial services, professional services, and connectivity with both the Mainland and the world, and enhance collaboration with enterprises in Shipai Town, so as to support emerging industries and jointly contribute to high-quality development of the Greater Bay Area.

















#### Meetings

#### and Exchanges



The Office conducts meetings and exchanges with Mainland and overseas stakeholders to elucidate the recent work of the Office, and the latest progress of HKSAR Government's efforts in taking forward Greater Bay Area development.

The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, had a luncheon with the Deputy Director of the Hong

Kong and Macao Affairs Office of Shenzhen,

Ms Li Lirong, on 12 May.

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• 12 May

27 May



The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan (fourth right), attended the opening ceremony of the 3rd "FC Lo Greater Bay Area Study Tour" and joined the sponsor, Mr Lo Foo-cheung (fourth left), and other officiating guests in the ribbon-cutting ceremony on 27 May.





**→** 26 June



The Assistant Commissioner, Miss Cathy Li (right), met with the Chief Executive Officer of Pacific Hawk, Ms Ann Cooley (left), on 26 June to exchange views on how to highlight Hong Kong's advantages in mediation services, so as to attract more Mainland and overseas enterprises to utilise such services.







The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, and the Deputy Commissioner, Ms Aubrey Fung, respectively gave interviews to TVB and a number of media outlets in Xi'an, elucidating the key policies and latest information about the Greater Bay Area to local and Mainland stakeholders.



The Commissioner, Ms Maisie Chan, gave an interview to TVB on 3 June, which was broadcast on 27 July. (Photo: TVB)



#### 18 July

The Deputy Commissioner, Ms Aubrey Fung, gave interviews to a number of media outlets in Xi'an on 18 July.



#### **Policies and Measures**



The HKSAR Government collaborates closely with Guangdong and other Greater Bay Area cities under the principle of complementarity with a view

to enhancing the efficient and smooth flow of essential factors of production such as people, goods, capital and information. At the same time, the HKSAR Government has been continuously promoting high-level collaborations with other cities of the Greater Bay Area, thereby strengthening connectivity and integrated development within the Greater Bay Area. Since April, various major measures have been rolled out and a number of high-level meetings smoothly held.

#### 8 April •

The Secretary for Environment and Ecology, Mr Tse Chin-wan, and the Vice Mayor of the Shenzhen Municipal People's Government, Ms Zhang Hua, leading officials of the HKSAR Government and the delegation of the Shenzhen Municipal Government respectively, held the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Joint Working Group on Environmental Protection meeting in Hong Kong. At the meeting, the two parties discussed various topics of collaboration between Hong Kong and Shenzhen, including landfill management, water quality improvement, marine ecological protection and sectoral co-operation of resources recycling, and presented their work progress and shared experiences to continuously deepen exchanges and co-operation on environmental protection.



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#### 25 April and 27 June

The Digital Policy Office set up Hong Kong Cross-boundary Public Services self-service kiosks and "iAM Smart" self-registration kiosks in Zhongshan and Jiangmen, enabling residents and enterprises in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area to access public services of Hong Kong without the need to travel to Hong Kong in person. The Hong Kong Cross-boundary Public Services self-service kiosks are also available in Guangzhou, Shenzhen (Qianhai and Futian), Zhuhai, Foshan, Huizhou and Dongguan.

#### 26 April

The Ministry of Commerce, in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Administration of Customs, State Taxation Administration, and Civil Aviation Administration of China issued the Notice Concerning Further Optimising Departure Tax Refund Policy to Boost Inbound Consumption. The notice announced the lowering of the purchase threshold for departure tax refunds from RMB500 to RMB200. Foreign visitors can apply for departure tax refunds if tax-refundable goods purchased at the same store and on the same day reach RMB200 and other relevant requirements are met. The notice also specified the optimised payment services for departure tax refunds. In addition to raising the cash refund limit from RMB10,000 to RMB20,000, refunds can be processed through various means, including mobile payments, bank cards and cash, under risk-controlled conditions, so as to better meet the diverse payment service needs of foreign visitors.





#### 28 April

Representatives of the Department of Health participated in a launching seminar organised by the Center for Drug Evaluation of the National Medical Products Administration in Shenzhen for representatives of Hong Kong's Chinese medicine enterprises to understand about the reporting requirements for Hong Kong-registered proprietary Chinese medicines for oral use to be registered on the Mainland. To help the industry grasp the new policies, the Chinese Medicine Regulatory Office of the Department of Health will conduct seminars on a monthly basis, offer advisory services and set up a dedicated webpage to provide updates on the development of Chinese medicine in the Greater Bay Area.





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#### 30 April

The Social Welfare Department announced that the New Home Association Limited has been commissioned to provide Social and Care Support Service under the Residential Care Services Scheme in Guangdong starting from 1 May to provide support to elderly participants and their families. The Social and Care Support Service will also conduct assessments under the Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services and follow up applications for those Hong Kong elderly who have settled in the Guangdong Province and are interested in joining the Scheme at their places of residence.

#### 2 May

The Government announced the extension of the Elderly Health Care Voucher Greater Bay Area Pilot Scheme to include 12 additional medical institutions in the Greater Bay Area, with a view to offering convenience for eligible Hong Kong elderly persons to use Elderly Health Care Vouchers (EHCVs) in the Greater Bay Area. The number of pilot medical institutions under the Pilot Scheme will be increased from 7 to 19, covering all the nine Mainland cities in the Greater Bay Area. Together with the two existing service points operated by the University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital,



a total of 21 service points in the Greater Bay Area will be allowed to use EHCVs, benefitting more than 1.78 million eligible Hong Kong elderly persons. On 14 May, the Department of Health signed service agreements with 12 Mainland medical institutions newly included in the Pilot Scheme. It signifies the achievement of the target announced in the Chief Executive's 2024 Policy Address of extending the Pilot Scheme to cover the nine Mainland cities in the Greater Bay Area. All the 12 medical institutions are Tier III Class A hospitals providing integrated healthcare services (including dental services). They are:

Guangzhou: Guangdong Clifford Hospital, and Guangdong Provincial Hospital of Chinese Medicine Shenzhen (including the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone): Shenzhen Hospital of Southern Medical University, and Peking University Shenzhen Hospital

**Zhuhai:** The Fifth Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University, and Zhuhai People's Hospital

Foshan: The First People's Hospital of Foshan, and The Eighth Affiliated Hospital of Southern Medical University (Previously: Shunde Hospital of Southern Medical University)

Huizhou: Huizhou Central People's Hospital

**Zhongshan:** Zhongshan Hospital of Traditional

Chinese Medicine

Jiangmen: Jiangmen Central Hospital

Zhaoqing: The First People's Hospital of Zhaoqing

#### 23 June

The Government announced two additional service points under the Pilot Scheme in Zhuhai starting from 26 June, which are: The Fifth Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University, and Zhuhai People's Hospital

#### 7 July

The Government announced four additional service points under the Pilot Scheme, which are:

Zhongshan Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and Guangdong Clifford Hospital [starting from 9 July]; The First People's Hospital of Foshan, and The Eighth Affiliated Hospital of Southern Medical University [starting from 17 July]

#### 28 July

The Government announced that the Guangdong Provincial Hospital of Chinese Medicine in Guangzhou will be included as a service point under the Pilot Scheme starting from 31 July.









The Hong Kong/Guangdong Expert Group on Co-developing a Smart City Cluster convened its second meeting to continuously deepen co-operation between the HKSAR and the Guangdong Province in smart city development. At the meeting, both sides reviewed the work progress and achievements of the Expert Group over the past year, and discussed and exchanged views on the work plan for the coming year.

#### 21 May

The Greater Bay Area International Clinical Trial Institute held a collaboration meeting with the LKS Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong and the Faculty of Medicine of the Chinese University of Hong Kong to have an in-depth exchange on advancing clinical trial collaboration. The three parties signed a memorandum of understanding on clinical trial collaboration after the meeting.



#### 24 to 25 May



The Hospital Authority (HA) hosted major medical conferences at the Qianhai International Conference Centre in Shenzhen for the first time, including the 2025 International Conference on Hospital Accreditation and Quality-Safety, International co-organised with the Shenzhen Hospital Accreditation Research Centre and the International Society for Quality in Health Care; and the HA Convention—Shenzhen Session with support from the Public Hygiene and Health Commission of Shenzhen Municipality, attended by around 700 medical experts from Hong Kong, the Mainland and various countries.

#### 22 to 26 May •

The Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency under the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau led the industry to participate in the 21st China (Shenzhen) International Cultural Industries Expo, and sponsored the industry to set up a Hong Kong Pavilion themed "So Stylish, Hong Kong", with a total of about 150 000 visitors recorded in the Hong Kong Pavilion over the four-day fair period, demonstrating Hong Kong's strong cultural influence.



#### 27 May



The Department of Health and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Center for Medical Device Evaluation and Inspection of the National Medical Products Administration organised a seminar on "Greater Bay Area Medical Device Regulations and Registration Process Training" in Hong Kong, attended by over 130 representatives of the local medical device industry. The seminar aims to help the local industry tap into the Mainland market and inject new impetus into healthcare innovation, co-operation and development in the Mainland and Hong Kong.



The Government opened the designated stopping places within the prohibited zones of the Shenzhen Bay Port and the Hong Kong Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge for use by two taxi fleets currently under trial operations (namely Joie and SynCab) to facilitate the fleets in picking up passengers with pre-booked trips. Passengers can book their journeys through the fleets' mobile applications or other online hailing channels, and board the taxis at the designated stopping places.

#### 30 May

The Marine Department has renewed the framework agreement on co-operation in Mirs Bay pilotage with the Transport Bureau of the Shenzhen Municipal People's Government, with the Shenzhen Maritime Safety Administration being a newly added signatory. Coming into effect on 1 June this year with a validity period of three years, the framework agreement is conducive to deepening co-operation between Hong Kong and Shenzhen in pilotage services, and fostering the high-quality development of ports in the Greater Bay Area.



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30 May

The Signing Ceremony of the Convention on the Establishment of the International Organization for Mediation (IOMed) and the Global Forum on International Mediation successfully concluded in Hong Kong. Member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Wang Yi, attended the Signing Ceremony of the Convention in Hong Kong. Mr Wang was the first to sign the Convention on behalf of China. Thirty-three countries, including China and countries from Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe, jointly signed the Convention. With the signing of the Convention, the IOMed will be formally established after signatories' ratification of the Convention and be headquartered in Hong Kong. The IOMed headquarters is expected to be operational by the end of this year or early next year at the earliest, providing friendly, flexible, economical and efficient mediation services to all parties, thereby strengthening Hong Kong's role as an international dispute resolution services centre and a capital for international mediation.

#### 5 June 9

The National Event on the Environment Day 2025 was held in Chongqing. At the ceremony, a relevant official of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment announced that the National Event on the Environment Day 2026 will be jointly organised by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, and handed over the event flag to the government representatives of the three places.





11 June: The Marine Department, in collaboration with the search and rescue agencies in Guangdong and Macao as well as several Hong Kong government departments, including the Guangdong Rescue Co-ordination Centre, the Macao Marine and Water Bureau, the Macao Customs, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Government Flying Service, the Fire Services Department and the Civil Aid Service, smoothly conducted a joint maritime search and rescue exercise in the waters off Ha Mei Wan, Lamma Island. The exercise lasted about three hours, mobilising 17 search and rescue vessels, a helicopter and a total of more than 230 people.

#### 11 June

The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health, in collaboration with the health authorities of Guangdong Province and Macao, conducted a public health exercise, code-named "Jingfeng", to enhance the capacity of the three places to co-operate in preventing and controlling communicable diseases during major sports events. The exercise was held in preparation for the 15th National Games, the 12th National Games for Persons with Disabilities, and the 9th National Special Olympic Games, which will be co-hosted by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao this November and December.



• 20 June

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the People's Bank of China held a launch ceremony for Payment Connect in Beijing, and announced the launch of Payment Connect on 22 June 2025. Payment Connect refers to the linkage between the Mainland's Internet Banking Payment System and Hong Kong's Faster Payment System, which supports secure, efficient and convenient real-time cross-boundary payment for residents and institutions in both places. At present, six institutions each from the Mainland and Hong Kong have participated in Payment Connect. They will roll out the service gradually and more institutions will join over time.

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#### 23 June

The Innovation and Technology Commission invited applications for projects jointly funded by Guangdong and Hong Kong and projects jointly funded by Shenzhen and Hong Kong under the Mainland-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme from 23 June until 22 August, so as to support and encourage collaboration among universities, research institutes and technology enterprises in Hong Kong and the Mainland.



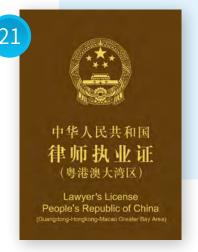
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23 to 28 June

The Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) Week, jointly organised by the Development Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of Guangdong Province, was held in Guangdong and Hong Kong. At the launching ceremony, the unveiling ceremony of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Modular Integrated Construction Industry Alliance was held, and the Guangdong-Hong Kong Modular Integrated Construction Cross-boundary Trading Guidebook compiled by the Development Bureau, as well as the MiC Annual Demand Forecast jointly published by the Development Bureau and the Construction Industry Council, were released. The launching ceremony attracted over 1 000 participants who took part both online and offline.



The Fifth Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Legal Professional Examination will be held on 25 October in Shenzhen and Zhuhai, Guangdong. Eligible applicants can apply to sit for the examination through the website of the Ministry of Justice from 25 June to 4 July. Currently, over 560 Hong Kong and Macao legal practitioners have passed the examination and obtained the Lawyer's License (Guangdong-Hongkong-Macao Greater Bay Area) to provide legal services in the nine Mainland municipalities in the Greater Bay Area on specified civil and commercial matters to which the Mainland laws apply.





#### 27 June

The Education Bureau organised a study tour on Al development in the Greater Bay Area. The tour group, comprising 40 principals and teachers, visited a number of renowned Mainland enterprises in Guangzhou, Dongguan and Shenzhen to better grasp and explore the application and development of Al technologies in the Mainland.

#### 2 July

The HKSAR Government announced the policy direction of Southbound Travel for Guangdong Vehicles (Southbound Travel Scheme). The policy mainly consists of two parts. The "park and fly" arrangements before the Hong Kong control point will be provided at the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)'s automated carparks at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port, offering 1 800 spaces. The AAHK has developed the booking system. For Guangdong vehicles entering the urban area, it will start on a small scale with 100 daily booking quota. These vehicles are required to pass vehicle examination and take out insurance. Upon entry into the urban area, visitors can go sightseeing, attend events, exhibitions and concerts, enjoy shopping and dining, or stay overnight. Guangdong and Hong Kong have made advance planning, and will strive to implement the Southbound Travel Scheme in November.



#### • 10 July

The first Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Entrepreneurship Competition, jointly organised by the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, the Hong Kong and Macao Work Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council, and the People's Government of Guangdong Province and fully supported by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau, was open for application. On the theme of "creating the future in the Greater Bay Area, gathering talents in Guangdong", the competition features five tracks to help Hong Kong and Macao young people better integrate into the overall national development.





The Guangdong working meeting on commercial mediation and Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area mediator accreditation ceremony were held in Guangzhou. The meeting summarised the achievements of Guangdong's commercial mediation work in recent years, with 146 Greater Bay Area mediators attaining accreditation.

#### 18 July

The Mainland and HKSAR, Macao SAR Intellectual Property Symposium 2025 was held in Shenzhen, at which notification letters were presented to the first four Hong Kong pre-examination filing entities. The Party Group Member and Deputy Commissioner of the China National Intellectual Property Administration, Dr Lu Penggi, the Director of Intellectual Property of the HKSAR Government, Mr David Wong, and the Deputy Director of the Economic and Technological Development Bureau of the Macao SAR Government, Ms Cheang Hio Man, attended the event.



#### 23 to 24 July

The Guangdong, Hong Kong, Macao Health, Animal and Plant Quarantine and Food Safety Control Meeting 2025 was held online for two consecutive days. Representatives from the three places shared experiences and exchanged views on various topics within the fields of health, animal and plant quarantine, and food safety control. The three places agreed to further strengthen exchanges and co-operation. The meeting would help take the tripartite collaboration to new heights and build a robust cross-boundary public health protection system, thereby creating a "Healthy Bay Area".



The HKSAR Government delegation led by the Director of Health, Dr Ronald Lam,

met with a delegation led by the Deputy Director of the Public Hygiene and Health Commission of Shenzhen Municipality, Ms Zhou Liping, at the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Clinical Trial Collaboration meeting held in Shenzhen. The meeting provided strategic guidance on promoting clinical trial collaboration between Shenzhen and Hong Kong, co-ordinating joint research efforts, supporting the launch of international multi-centre clinical trials, and addressing the challenges encountered during implementation. Representatives from Hong Kong and Shenzhen also had in-depth exchanges and discussions on the Implementation Plan for Collaborative Advancement of International Clinical Trials in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, with the goal of driving execution of the initiatives.



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#### 30 July

To promote the complementary advantages of arbitration resources and facilitate the interface of the arbitration mechanisms of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, the three places jointly agreed to establish the Panel of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Arbitrators. The Working Guidelines on the Panel of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Arbitrators were jointly promulgated by the legal departments of the three places and came into effect on 30 July. The nomination exercise for Greater Bay Area arbitrators (Hong Kong), conducted according to the Working Guidelines, also commenced on the same day.







Leveraging Hong Kong's Strengths,
Developing a First-class Greater Bay Area





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One-stop Thematic Website on Greater Bay Area



Greater Bay Area Information Station



GoGBA Digital Platform

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