



CE stresses HK's active role in APEC and global fora

The Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang, attended the 17th Economic Leaders' Meeting of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) held in Singapore in November 2009 and participated actively in high-level discussions on regional cooperation in the face of global economic downturn.

APEC leadership urged

Speaking on the first day of the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, the Chief Executive urged a strong show of leadership by APEC to secure the conclusion of the Doha Round in 2010, saying that Hong Kong remained committed to the multilateral trading system while breaking down trade barriers was APEC's mission. He said Hong Kong, China had been working with like-minded World Trade Organisation (WTO) Members, including some APEC economies, to fight protectionism.

Noting that the WTO Ministerial meeting hosted by Hong Kong in 2005 delivered a reasonable declaration with a view to bringing the Doha Round to a satisfactory conclusion, Mr Tsang said like many WTO Members, Hong Kong was frustrated by the lack of progress in Geneva over the past years.

"Few moments in modern history require revitalization of global trade more than now. Global trade has shrunk significantly over the past year. Concluding the Doha Round would be a good stimulus to drive economic recovery," he said.

Exit strategies need coordination

Mr Donald Tsang, speaking on the second day of the Meeting, encouraged economies to work together to map out exit strategy and prevent future crisis. Addressing the subject of sustaining growth from the historical perspective, Mr Tsang noted that

during the Asian financial crisis, the Yen carry trade was utilised to great effect by hedge funds and other speculators.

He said a similar risk was emerging now, with zero or near zero interest rate policies, particularly with regard to the US dollar, leading to rapid carry trades and leveraged capital flows. He emphasised that a deft exit from extraordinary measures was essential and that was not only a question of "how" but also "when" to exit.

Noting that there appears to be a penchant for late exit given the uncertain economic outlook, Mr Tsang pointed out that a late exit could enhance the risk of asset bubbles with extremely loose monetary conditions and is also tantamount to "punishing" the savers by offering them near-zero interest rate for their deposits, while "rewarding" non-viable firms.

Financial regulatory reform supported

The Chief Executive also addressed the APEC CEO Summit 2009 on global economic governance. Mr Tsang said reform of the global financial architecture should remain a top priority on the action agenda of the international community in

the wake of the global financial turmoil.

He said, "We are closely following international discussions on the regulation of hedge funds and credit rating agencies. We also support measures conducive to active due diligence and risk monitoring, and to reducing the risk of financial instability."

Mr Tsang added that as an active member of the Financial Stability Board, Hong Kong would take concrete action to translate high-level principles agreed at the Board into practical guidelines for implementation.

"Hong Kong will maintain steadfast support for international and global fora to improve global economic governance and financial regulatory reform, and will actively participate in their activities," he said. ◇



Mr Donald Tsang (first row, second right) witnessed the announcement of the Leaders' Declaration after attending the second day of the Retreat Session of the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Singapore.



FS shares with APEC HK's strategy for tackling financial crisis

Hong Kong has introduced a series of targeted stimulus measures to tackle the financial crisis, the Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang, said at the 16th APEC Financial Ministers' Meeting held in Singapore in November 2009. The strategy was based on a three-pronged approach: stabilising the financial system; supporting enterprises; and preserving jobs.

Speaking at the plenary one session on "Global Economic Developments and Implications for Fiscal Measures", Mr Tsang told the meeting that Hong Kong's stimulus and relief spending amounted to HK\$87.6 billion (US\$11.3 billion), which was about 5.2% of its GDP.

"We are seeing positive results from the stimulus measures. Our GDP rebounded 3.3% in the second quarter of this year compared to the first quarter. The decline in exports has narrowed. We expect further improvements when our third quarter results are announced," he said.

Noting that the springing of "green shoots" might be partly the result of the stimulus packages launched so far, Mr Tsang said, "We should watch out for the cumulative effect on our financial system of the host of reform measures that are being deliberated in the various international financial institutions in the wake of the financial crisis."

"The last thing that we want to see is a relapse of a credit squeeze in the market as a result of the implementation of the

basket of banking reform measures. There is a need to strike a balance, and definitely, we do not want to nip the 'green shoots' in the bud inadvertently."

Stressing that APEC was the ideal platform to discuss a coordinated and concerted approach to exit strategies as well as a sustainable recovery for the region, Mr Tsang said Hong Kong, China was happy to work with others in the coming year to contribute to the process and to share the experience. In this regard, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority had set up a tripartite working group with Bank Negara Malaysia and the Monetary Authority of Singapore to coordinate the strategy for the scheduled exit from the full deposit guarantee by the end of 2010.

In the plenary two session "Facilitating Finance for Sustainable Growth", Mr Tsang shared with the meeting Hong Kong's strategy for sustainable growth while improving the environment for the community. As Hong Kong had entered a new phase of economic growth and integration with the Mainland, Mr Tsang said its 10 major infrastructure projects would enhance the long-term competitiveness of Hong Kong as well as the region.

Besides the two plenary sessions, Mr Tsang also attended the Ministerial Retreat in which ministers focused discussions on new sources of growth and how APEC could further advance structural reforms to raise the potential output growth rate. ◇



The Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang (second right, first row), in a group photo with his counterparts at the APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting.

SCED meets APEC Trade Ministers

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mrs Rita Lau, attended the 21st APEC Ministerial Meeting held in Singapore on 11 and 12 November 2009. During the two-day meeting, ministers exchanged views on measures to strengthen

the multilateral trading system, accelerate regional economic integration, foster inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and strengthen APEC. ◇



Mrs Rita Lau (third left, second row) with her ministerial counterparts at the Retreat Session of the APEC Ministerial Meeting.



Mrs Rita Lau and the Director-General of the World Trade Organisation, Mr Pascal Lamy, at the Retreat Session of the APEC Ministerial Meeting.



Busy days of CE and FS in Singapore

At the margins of the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, the Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang, had a busy schedule in Singapore holding bilateral meetings, making official calls, attending functions and delivering speeches. The Financial Secretary, Mr

John C Tsang, also held bilateral meetings with his counterparts from Singapore and Brunei during his two-day attendance at the 16th APEC Financial Ministers' Meeting. ◇



Mr Donald Tsang (third left) held a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Mr John Key (third right). After the meeting, Mr Tsang announced that Hong Kong and New Zealand have concluded the negotiations on the Closer Economic Partnership Agreement and would be signing it in the first half of next year. It will be the first free trade agreement between Hong Kong and a economy outside China.



Mr Donald Tsang (second left) had breakfast with President Hu Jintao (second right) in Singapore to update him on Hong Kong's latest development.



Mr Donald Tsang (left) answered questions from attendees after his speech on "The Financial Crisis - Lessons Learnt and the Way Ahead for Asia" at the Singapore Management University's Ho Rih Hwa Leadership in Asia Public Lecture Series. On his left was Chairman of Singapore Management University, Mr Ho Kwon Ping.



Mr John C Tsang (left) met the Singapore Finance Minister, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, to exchange views on stimulus measures in response to the global financial crisis. Both believed it would be premature to withdraw the measures before economic recovery was firmly in place and exit strategies carefully worked out.



Mr Donald Tsang (left) greeted the US Secretary of Commerce, Mr Gary Locke. They two exchanged views on economic and trade issues of mutual interest.



Mr Donald Tsang spoke at the 15th Anniversary Gala Dinner of the Hong Kong Singapore Business Association sharing with businessmen in Singapore new business opportunities in Hong Kong.



Mr Donald Tsang (left) called on Senior Minister of Singapore, Mr Gob Chok Tong.



Mr John C Tsang (left) met Second Finance Minister of Brunei, Pehin Dato Abd Rahman, and briefed him on Hong Kong's plans to develop a platform for Islamic finance. Brunei expressed an interest in concluding a Comprehensive Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement with Hong Kong.



The 2009-10 Policy Address – Breaking New Ground Together

The Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang, in his annual Policy Address delivered in October 2009, set out strategies for Hong Kong to break new ground in economic development and sustainable growth. Below are some of the highlights of the Policy Address.



Mr Donald Tsang at a press conference on the Policy Address.

Economic Development, Our Priority

“Hong Kong must constantly enhance its competitiveness and continue to evolve into a high value-added, knowledge-based economy to maintain its leading edge over global competitors and create more quality jobs.”

Traditional Pillar Industries – Sustain their development by enhancing the flow of relevant people, goods, capital and information.

- ✦ **Financial Services** - Continue to develop Hong Kong as a global financial centre, asset management centre and offshore renminbi business centre attracting capital and talent from within and outside the country.
- ✦ **Tourism** - Press ahead with construction of the new cruise terminal at Kai Tak and attract cruise vessels to homeport in Hong Kong.
- ✦ **Trading and Logistics** - Make available a number of permanent sites around Kwai Tsing for use by the trading and logistics sector to facilitate its shift to high-value goods and services.
- ✦ **Professional Services** - Continue to facilitate access to the Mainland market for Hong Kong’s professional services.

Six Industries with Clear Advantage – Develop six industries where Hong Kong enjoys clear advantages and optimise land use by revitalizing or converting over 1,000 old industrial buildings for use by the six industries.

- ✦ **Education Services** - Reserve two sites for operators providing self-financing degree programmes.
- ✦ **Medical Services** - Reserve four sites for private hospital developments and expedite the setting of standards for Chinese herbal medicines.
- ✦ **Testing and Certification Services** - Draw up a three-year development plan for the industry.
- ✦ **Environmental Industries** - Expand the Government’s green procurement list and actively apply green specifications in procurement procedures.
- ✦ **Innovation and Technology** - Allocate about HK\$200 million (US\$25.7 million) to launch a “R&D Cash Rebate Scheme” to encourage enterprises to invest in research and development.

- ✦ **Cultural and Creative Industries** - Support local cultural and creative industries to further develop the Mainland market.

Cooperation with Guangdong – Work with Shenzhen to promote the development of modern service industries.

Enhancing Exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan – Promote multi-faceted, multi-level exchanges with Taiwan and consider setting up a multi-functional office in Taiwan.

Quality Life

“To support a knowledge-based economy, we must have a rich pool of talent. Only by providing a diverse and dynamic cultural life and a quality living environment can we attract talent from around the world to build a career in Hong Kong.”

Conserving Central – Enhance the appeal of Central as a vibrant district for business and entertainment through a series of revitalisation projects.

Promoting the Use of Electric Vehicles – Launch a electric vehicles leasing scheme to promote their use in Hong Kong.

Air Quality – Adopt the WHO’s interim targets to update Hong Kong’s AQOs in stages.

Solid Waste Management – Adopt advanced incineration technology and construct a recycling centre on phases to process and recycle food waste generated by the commercial and industrial sectors.

Healthcare Reform – Increase healthcare spending from 15% of the Government’s recurrent expenditure to 17% by 2012 and consult the public on a supplementary healthcare financing option based on voluntary participation next year.

Disease Control and Prevention – Provide human swine influenza vaccinations for vulnerable groups.

Democracy and Governance

“We will listen closely to the views of different sectors of the community with an accommodating and open attitude.”

Consultation on Constitutional Development

- ✦ Urge people to focus on the need to amend the electoral methods for electing the Chief Executive and forming the Legislative Council in 2012, in accordance with the decision of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee in 2007, so as to roll forward the democratic development of the constitutional arrangements.
- ✦ Following the Policy Address, public consultation on the 2012 electoral arrangements has commenced on 18 November 2009. The Government proposed to enlarge the membership of the Election Committee for electing the Chief Executive from 800 to 1,200 and increase the number of Legislative Council seats from 60 to 70. It also proposed that a significant proportion of these additional seats in the Election Committee and Legislative Council be returned through election by elected District Council members from among themselves. Further information on the 2009-10 Policy Address and the Consultation Document on “Methods for Selecting the Chief Executive and for Forming the Legislative Council in 2012” can be found online at <http://www.policyaddress.gov.hk/09-10/> and <http://www.cmab-cd2012.gov.hk/>. ◇



East Asian Games open in HK

On 5 December 2009, China's State Councillor Madam Liu Yandong declared the Fifth East Asian Games open in Hong Kong. At a spectacular opening ceremony with Hong Kong's iconic harbour skyline as a backdrop, the Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang, thanked Madam Liu and the President of the International Olympic Committee, Count Jacques Rogge, for officiating at the ceremony and said "a new chapter in Hong Kong's sporting history has opened". Noting that the game is the first large-scale international multi-sports event in Hong Kong, Mr Tsang said it was also the largest ever East Asian Games, with more than 2,300 top athletes from nine countries and regions competing.

The opening ceremony was a unique creation. The cast of a thousand that walked on water - the stage being set on a floating

platform - comprised athletes and officials, mega pop stars, dancers, choir singers, oath-takers, a torch bearer relay that lit the cauldron. The harbour was awash in strob lights and laser beams that waved from side to side like long tentacles. In the background, nine floats, in all their glittering best and representing the nine participating countries - China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei, Macau, Guam and Hong Kong - sailed past. The 90-minute extravaganza went off without a hitch and ended with 15 minutes of the most magnificent display of pyrotechnic sophistication.

Closed on 13 December 2009, the Games awarded 262 gold medals in 22 sports. ◇



Opening Ceremony of the 5th East Asian Games in Hong Kong



Asia Cultural Cooperation Forum 2009

Hong Kong hosted the 6th Asia Cultural Cooperation Forum (ACCF) from 8 to 10 October 2009. The participating cultural minister and senior officials of Asian countries discussed a number of issues pertinent to the development of culture and the arts and the enhancement of cultural cooperation in the region, and agreed on a statement on cultural cooperation.

Joining this year's ACCF were China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. They pledged in the statement to dedicate their efforts in five areas of work – a) provide opportunities for everyone to experience art and develop individuals' potential in culture; b) further emphasise culture as driver of economic growth and provide an environment that is conducive to the development of cultural and creative enterprises and industries; c) continue to support local and global cultural dialogue and promote free

flow of cultural exchanges in the region; d) accord priority to the preservation of cultural heritage; and e) encourage creative endeavours of people, particularly of the younger generation.

The participating cultural minister and senior officials also delivered speeches on "Arts in Living, Living in Arts" at this year's ACCF which carried the theme "The Cultural Asian". The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing, in his speech said, "Leveraging our vibrant and diverse culture and unique location in Asia, we have a vision of positioning Hong Kong as an international cultural hub through the development of a massive

cultural district on a prime harbourfront site. The West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) will be an integrated arts facility spanning 40 hectares. The Government has already committed an upfront endowment of almost HK\$21.6 billion (US\$2.8 billion) to the WKCD project." ◇



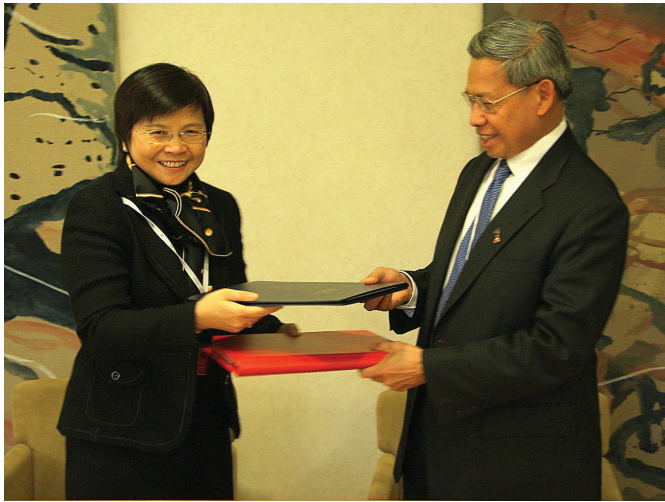
The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing (fifth left), was pictured with the heads of delegations from China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.



HK & Malaysia in closer economic partnership

Joint Declaration on Strengthening Economic Cooperation

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mrs Rita Lau, and the Malaysian Minister of International Trade and Industry, Dato' Mustapa Mohamed, signed a Joint Declaration on Strengthening Economic Cooperation at the margins of the Seventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation



Mrs Rita Lau and Dato' Mustapa Mohamed at the signing ceremony of the Joint Declaration on Strengthening Economic Cooperation.

in Geneva, Switzerland, on 1 December 2009.

"Malaysia is an important trading partner of Hong Kong. The signing of the Joint Declaration signifies the development of closer trade and economic ties between the two sides," Mrs Lau said.

"The Joint Declaration lays the foundation for future discussion of a possible bilateral free trade agreement between Hong Kong and Malaysia," she added.

The Joint Declaration aims to encourage and promote bilateral economic cooperation in areas such as: (a) trade in goods; (b) trade in services; (c) investment; (d) science and technology; (e) creative industry; (f) small and medium enterprises development; and (g) tourism.

Declaration on Mutual Cooperation on Development of Islamic Capital Market and Islamic Collective Investment Schemes

The Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Financial Services), Miss Au King-chi, witnessed the signing of the Declaration on Mutual Cooperation on Development of Islamic Capital Market and Islamic Collective Investment Schemes held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 9 November 2009.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Miss Au said the Declaration represented an important step forward in furthering the cooperation between Malaysia and Hong Kong in Islamic finance. Noting that Malaysia is a well-established hub of Islamic finance and the world's largest "sukuk" issuance centre, she said, "Hong Kong is relatively new to the Islamic finance sector. There is a lot that we can look to and learn from Malaysia."

Hong Kong's credentials as an international financial centre have provided a solid basis for entry into Islamic finance. The city

is also well positioned to bridge the investment needs of Middle East liquidity with the investment opportunities in Mainland China. Yet it also needs to make adjustments to its tax regime to support the development of an Islamic capital market.

"We are preparing legislative amendments to level the playing field for Islamic financial products vis-à-vis conventional financial products," Miss Au said. "We have been pressing ahead with our efforts to encourage product development, promote education and awareness, and raise Hong Kong's profile for the purpose of developing Islamic finance."

Memorandum of Understanding to advance Islamic finance

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) signed in September 2009 a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the development of the financial services industry, particularly in the area of Islamic finance.

Aiming towards a long-term strategic partnership under the MoU, both parties agreed to further strengthen cooperation in a number of key areas:

- capacity building and human capital development;
- facilitating and promoting the development of an effective financial market infrastructure through the exchange of information and experience in developing legal, regulatory and supervisory frameworks for Islamic finance; and
- promoting cross-border financial activities through exploring harmonisation of standards and documentation relating to Islamic finance transactions and promoting the consistent application of Islamic financial contracts for cross-border transactions. ♦



Miss Au King-chi spoke at the signing ceremony of the Declaration on Mutual Cooperation on Development of Islamic Capital Market and Islamic Collective Investment Schemes.



HKETO holds business seminar in Bangkok

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Singapore (HKETO) organised a business seminar entitled "Hong Kong: Seize Now Your Opportunities for Business in China and Beyond" in Bangkok, Thailand on 27 October 2009. The half-day seminar attracted about 100 participants from the Thai business sector and foreign business associations in Bangkok.

In her opening remarks, the Director of HKETO, Ms Subrina Chow, said Thailand and Hong Kong had long enjoyed excellent economic relations and their relations could be further enhanced with Hong Kong's ongoing economic integration with Mainland China, adding that Thailand and Hong Kong were each other's major trading partner, with trade between the two economies growing on an average of 13% from 2004 to 2008. She believed that bilateral trade between Thailand and Hong Kong would continue to expand as economies in Asia and around the world found their way to recovery from the global economic downturn.

The seminar comprised four presentations to illustrate the opportunities offered by Hong Kong to Thai businesses seeking to enter the China market.

Speaking on the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), the Deputy Director of HKETO, Mr Law Kin-wai, said, "CEPA is a win-win agreement, bringing new business opportunities to the Mainland, Hong Kong and all

foreign investors." Noting that companies are "nationality neutral" under CEPA, Mr Law appealed to Thai companies to invest in Hong Kong and enjoy the benefits offered by CEPA.

Partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers Legal and Tax Consultants Ltd, Mr Paul Stitt, briefed the seminar on the major features of the Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement (DTA) between Thailand and Hong Kong and how Thai businessmen could take advantage of it. He said the interaction of the China and Hong Kong tax systems made Hong Kong a favourable location for investment into China.

A pilot scheme was launched in July 2009 to allow the use of renminbi in settling cross-border trade transactions between China and other countries. Director, International Corporates, Commercial Banking, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Mr Nick Levitt, discussed in the seminar how the scheme could work to facilitate companies doing business with China in managing currency risks.

The last presentation was by Regional Director, Southeast Asia and India, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Ms Loretta Wan, who introduced to the audience Hong Kong's attractiveness as a partner to expand their business into China and international market, listing the strategic advantages that Hong Kong offered to overseas companies. ◇



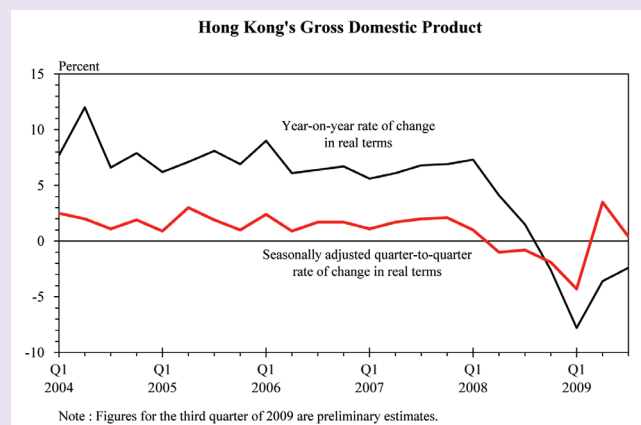
Co-organisers and speakers of the seminar: (From left) Mr Kanoksak Mokkaakul of HSBC, Mr Paul Stitt, Mr Nick Levitt, Ms Subrina Chow, Ms Loretta Wan, Mr Kendy Chan of Thai-Hong Kong Trade Association, and Ms Maggie Yeung of Cathay Pacific Airways.

HK's economic improvement continues in Q3

Hong Kong's economy saw further improvement in the third quarter, with Real Gross Domestic Product growing 0.4% over the second quarter. With both domestic and external sectors likely to show further improvement in the fourth quarter, GDP for 2009 as a whole is now forecast to contract by 3.3% in real terms, up from the previous forecast of 3.5% to 4.5% contraction for the year.

As import demand in the advanced economies remained sluggish, Hong Kong's merchandise exports still declined notably year-on-year in the third quarter, although the pace of decline slowed distinctly towards the end of the quarter. Total exports fell 13.2% in real terms year-on-year in the third quarter. In contrast, exports of services improved more visibly, supported by further revival in financial market activities and a rebound in inbound tourism. On a seasonally adjusted quarter-to-quarter basis, services exports grew 4.6%. Yet trade-related service exports were still weak under the drag of sluggish trade flows.

Local consumer sentiments revived further, as economic prospects got better, the labour market stabilised, the Government's relief measures yielded further results, and asset



markets remained supportive. Business sentiments turned up distinctly, with overall investment reverting to a small increase after three consecutive quarters of double-digit decline. The labour market also showed signs of improvement. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell slightly to 5.3% in the third quarter, the first decline since the onset of the global financial crisis. ◇



Secretary for Justice visits Hanoi

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Wong Yan Lung, SC, made a two-day visit to Hanoi, Vietnam on 23 and 24 November 2009 to attend the Sixth ASEAN-China Prosecutors General Conference. Mr Wong met the Minister of Justice of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Mr Ha Hung Cuong, and members of legal bodies including the Hanoi Bar Association and the Vietnam Lawyers Federation. He briefed them on Hong Kong's latest rule of law situation and development as an international dispute resolution centre. He also met senior representatives of two major foreign law firms in Vietnam to learn more about the country's needs in legal services.

On dispute resolution, Mr Wong said the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre handled over 600 international arbitration cases last year, which puts it, in terms of caseload, No. 2 in Asia. As large international arbitration cases involving Chinese parties are on the rise, some international arbitration bodies, such as the International Court of Arbitration (ICA) of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), has opened in Hong Kong its first branch of Secretariat outside Paris. This is a show of confidence in Hong Kong's position as a centre of dispute resolution.

At the Sixth ASEAN-China Prosecutors General Conference,

Mr Wong spoke on the theme of "Strengthening Cooperation in Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters for Effectively Combating Transnational Crime". He said, "Since the reunification of Hong Kong with China in 1997, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) has actively prosecuted all types of crime, and strengthened its capacity to combat transnational offending. Hong Kong plays an important role throughout the Asia-Pacific Region and beyond, in the promotion of effective cooperation among law enforcers and prosecutors, and in encouraging best practise."

Mr Wong added that the Basic Law of the HKSAR enables Hong Kong, with the approval or assistance of the Central People's Government, to enter into mutual legal assistance agreements with foreign jurisdictions. As at 1 October 2009, Hong Kong had initialled 34 mutual legal assistance agreements in criminal matters with foreign countries, of which 27 have also been signed, and the process is ongoing.

The Conference was organised by the Supreme People's Prosecution Office of Vietnam. During the Conference, Mr Wong paid a courtesy call on the Prosecutor General of Vietnam, Mr Tran Quoc Vuong. ◇



Mr Wong Yan Lung (left) met the Minister of Justice of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Mr Ha Hung Cuong.



Mr Wong Yan Lung (fourth right) met the Hanoi Bar Association and Vietnam Lawyers Federation

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Mail or fax back to the Editor, HK FILES.
Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office,
9 Temasek Boulevard #34-01 Suntec City Tower Two, Singapore 038989.
Tel: (65) 6338 1771, Fax: (65) 6339 2112.

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Invitation for Expression of Interest in Development of Private Hospitals in Hong Kong

Hong Kong is renowned for its high standard of professional healthcare and as pioneer in medical technology. To increase the overall capacity of the city's healthcare system and encourage the growth of our medical services industry, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSARG) now invites expressions of interest (EOI) from interested local and overseas parties to develop private hospitals at sites in Wong Chuk Hang, Tseung Kwan O, Tai Po and Lantau. The deadline for submission is **31 March 2010**. Details of the EOI requirements and relevant information are available at www.fhb.gov.hk/eoi. For enquiries, please e-mail to EOIenquiry@fhb.gov.hk. ◇