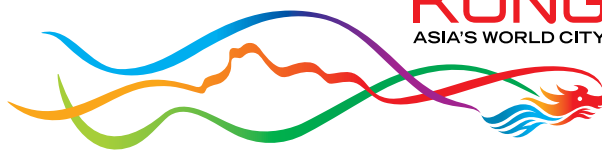


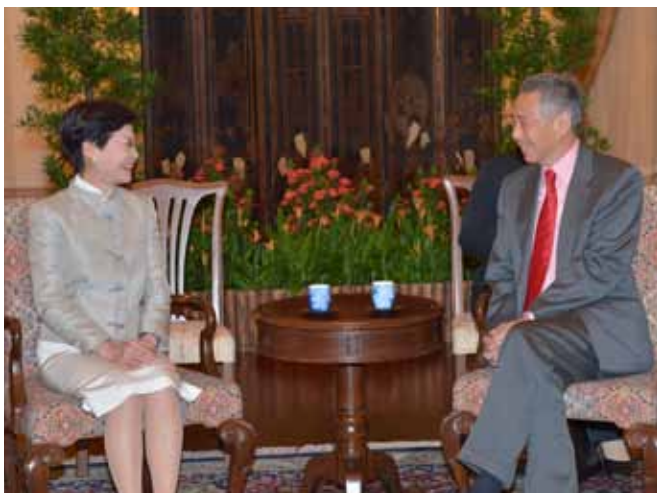
# HONG KONG FILES

**HONG  
KONG**  
ASIA'S WORLD CITY



NO. 3/2013 ISSUE

## *High-level visit boosts Hong Kong-Singapore ties*



*The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mrs Carrie Lam (left), calls on the Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Hsien Loong (right).*

**T**he Chief Secretary for Administration, Mrs Carrie Lam, visited Singapore from July 30 to August 2 to strengthen the bilateral relationship between Hong Kong and Singapore.

During the stay in Singapore, Mrs Lam met with top officials, including Singapore's Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong; the

Emeritus Senior Minister, Mr Goh Chok Tong; the Deputy Prime Minister, Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Teo Chee Hean; the Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ms Grace Fu; and the acting Minister for Social and Family Development, Mr Chan Chun Sing, to brief them on the latest developments in Hong Kong and exchange views on issues of common interest.

She toured community, tourism, education, housing and cultural facilities to better understand Singapore's latest developments on various fronts. She also took the opportunity to attend a luncheon gathering with Hong Kong people living and working in Singapore and paid a courtesy call on the Chinese Ambassador to Singapore, Mr Duan Jielong.

Mrs Lam also spoke on "socio-economic issues faced by Asian economies from a Hong Kong perspective" at a luncheon talk co-organised by the HKETO(ASEAN) and the Singapore Institute of International Affairs.



*Mrs Lam (left) calls on the Emeritus Senior Minister of Singapore, Mr Goh Chok Tong (right).*

### HIGHLIGHTS



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# Financial Secretary promotes HK-ASEAN bilateral ties



The Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang (left), calls on the Prime Minister of Cambodia, Mr Hun Sen.



Mr Tsang (right) calls on the President of Myanmar, Mr Thein Sein.

The Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang, led a high-level delegation of some 20 members from Hong Kong's business, professional and financial services sectors to visit Cambodia and Myanmar in June to promote trade flows and economic development between Hong Kong and these two countries with a view to further tapping into the emerging Southeast Asian market.

The Financial Secretary started the visit in Phnom Penh from June 24 to 26. Apart from calling on the Prime Minister of Cambodia, Mr Hun Sen, Mr Tsang met with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance, Mr Keat Chhon; and the Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Dr Cham Prasidh. He also met with the Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Cambodia, Ms Neav Chanthana; the President of the Cambodia Chamber of Commerce, Mr Kith Meng; and the Chairman of the Association of Banks in Cambodia, Mr Pung Kheav Se.

Mr Tsang attended a breakfast reception with the China, Hong Kong and Macau Expatriates and Business Association of Cambodia to better understand the work and life of Hong Kong people in Cambodia. Mr Tsang also called on the Chinese

Ambassador to Cambodia, Mr Pan Guangxue. He and the business delegation later visited a manufacturing factory specialising in knitted wear operated by a group of companies headquartered in Hong Kong.

Mr Tsang continued to visit Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar from June 26 - 29. In Yangon, Mr Tsang met with the President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mr Win Aung. Mr Tsang also paid a courtesy call on the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Yang Houlan.

In Nay Pyi Taw, Mr Tsang called on the President of Myanmar, Mr Thein Sein; the Minister of Finance and Revenue and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC), Mr Win Shein; the Central Bank Governor, Mr Than Nyein, the Deputy Minister of Commerce, Dr Pwint San; and the Minister of National Planning and Economic Development and Secretary of MIC, Professor Kan Zaw. Mr Tsang and the Hong Kong business delegation then paid a visit to the Myanmar International Terminals Thilawa in Yangon.

Mr Tsang also spoke at a business luncheon in Phnom Penh and Yangon respectively to update the local business community on Hong Kong's business and investment environment.



Mr Tsang (fourth left) meets with Hong Kong people living and working in Cambodia to better understand their business and life there.



Mr Tsang (third left) meets with Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance, Mr Keat Chhon (fourth left).



Mr Tsang (second right) and the business delegation visit a manufacturing factory in Phnom Penh specialising in knitted wear.

## Secretary visits transport and housing facilities in Singapore



The Secretary for Transport and Housing, Professor Anthony Cheung (second right) tours the Urban Redevelopment Authority City Gallery.

The Secretary for Transport and Housing, Professor Anthony Cheung, visited Singapore from May 13 to 15.

Besides calling on Singapore's Minister for National Development, Mr Khaw Boon Wan, and Minister for Transport, Mr Lui Tuck Yew, Professor Cheung met with the Chairman, Mr James Koh and the Chief Executive Officer, Dr Cheong Koon Hean of the Housing and Development Board; and the Chief Executive Officer of the Urban Redevelopment Authority, Mr Ng Lang.

Professor Cheung also met with the Chairman, Mr Michael Lim and the Chief Executive, Mr Chew Hock Yong of the Land Transport Authority; the Director-General of Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, Mr Yap Ong Heng; and the Chief Executive Officer of Changi Airport Group, Mr Lee Seow Hiang.

He visited a Mass Rapid Transit-Bus service interchange, the Port Operations Control Centre, the PSA Pasir Panjang Terminal and the Singapore Aviation Academy.

Professor Cheung paid a courtesy call on the Chinese Ambassador to Singapore, Mr Duan Jielong, and had a gathering with Hong Kong people working and living in Singapore.

## Ministerial exchanges on green environment



The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing (right) meets with the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan.

The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, led a delegation to Singapore from May 15 to 17 to study its latest developments in green building, energy efficiency and waste management. The delegation comprised members of the Steering Committee on the Promotion of Green Building.

Mr Wong and the delegation visited the Building and Construction Authority in Singapore, and toured the Zero Energy Building, which is retrofitted from an existing building and produces enough renewable energy to run itself. Mr Wong and the delegation met with the President of Singapore Green Building Council, Mr Ng Eng Kiong, and toured various buildings and facilities with green certification.

Mr Wong also called on the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan and the Chairperson of the National Environment Agency, Ms Chew Gek Khim. Mr Wong and the delegation toured an e-waste recycling plant, Cimelia Resource Recovery and a waste-to-energy facility, Keppel Seghers Tuas Waste-to-Energy Plant, which is the first of its kind built under the Public-Private-Partnership in Singapore.

## Education chief tours Singapore schools



The Secretary for Education, Mr Eddie Ng Hak-kim (second right) meets with Singapore's Minister for Education, Mr Heng Swee Keat (first right). Also attending the meeting are the Chairman of the Committee on Free Kindergarten Education, Dr Moses Cheng (third left), the Director of HKETO (ASEAN), Mr Fong Ngai (second left) and the Deputy Secretary for Education, Mrs Betty Ip (first left).

The Secretary for Education, Mr Eddie Ng Hak-kim, led a delegation to Singapore in July to learn about the latest developments on kindergarten education, teacher training and the use of information technology in education.

During the visit, Mr Ng met with the Minister for Education, Mr Heng Swee Keat, the Director-General of Education, Ms Ho Peng, and other officials to exchange views. The delegation also visited a variety of schools ranging from kindergartens to post-secondary institutions.

Mr Ng took the opportunity to meet with a group of Hong Kong university students undertaking internship in Singapore. He also paid a courtesy call on the Chinese Ambassador to Singapore, Mr Duan Jielong.

Other members of the delegation include the Chairman of the Committee on Free Kindergarten Education, Dr Moses Cheng, and conveners of its sub-committees; and the Deputy Secretary for Education, Mrs Betty Ip.

## Creative minds converge in Hong Kong



The Director of HKETO(ASEAN), Mr Fong Ngai, welcomes the participants of the AOTE 2013.

Some 100 creative entrepreneurs and arts practitioners from ASEAN countries converged in Hong Kong for a four-day conference from July 4 to 7 with an aim of incubating new ideas and exploring opportunities.

Asia On The Edge (AOTE) 2013 was co-organised by the Old Parliament House Limited (Singapore), the HKETO(ASEAN), Intermedia Global (Singapore) and the Hong Kong Fringe Club.

AOTE is an annual event first initiated in 2008 by the Old Parliament House Limited. With the support of the HKETO(ASEAN), the event was brought to Hong Kong for the first time this year.

The event provides a platform for creative leaders in the region to exchange and share experience and ideas and to explore business

opportunities. The delegates attended a line-up of programmes including a keynote speech, trade talks and panel discussions, as well as visits to cultural facilities in Hong Kong.

The Director of HKETO(ASEAN), Mr Fong Ngai, said, "We are excited to bring together some 100 delegates from ASEAN countries to Hong Kong. Through AOTE 2013, these innovative minds can exchange ideas, enkindle interests and explore opportunities in Hong Kong."

"Hong Kong and ASEAN are unique and attractive in culture and heritage, and are full of innovative ideas. Together we stand to gain more from creative collaboration like AOTE 2013, riding on the world's shifting of focus to the East," Mr Fong noted.

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Gregory So, officiated at the opening ceremony of the event on July 5. The Chairman of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council and the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society, Mr Wilfred Wong, delivered the keynote address. Speakers at AOTE 2013 were experts in their fields from Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Myanmar.

The delegates came from creative industries spanning across the media, film, publishing and design.



The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Gregory So (left) and Mr Fong at the opening ceremony of the AOTE 2013.

## Musical exchanges celebrated in Singapore



*Cheers!*

The Director of HKETO(ASEAN), Mr Fong Ngai (second right) proposes a toast at the joint reception with the Founder and Artistic Director of the AYO, Mr Richard Pontziou (centre); Executive Director (Property Sales) of Far East Organization, Mr Augustine Tan (first right); the Regional Chief Executive of Bank of East Asia in Southeast Asia Region, Mr Gary Cheng (second left); and the General Manager - South East Asia of Cathay Pacific Airways Limited, Mr Wilson Yam (first left).

Some 400 guests enjoyed a memorable performance by the Asian Youth Orchestra (AYO) in Singapore on August 13.

Speaking at a joint reception held before the performance, the Director of HKETO(ASEAN), Mr Fong Ngai, said he was glad to be given the opportunity to support the AYO outside Hong Kong and to be involved in such a good cause.

Mr Fong said people-to-people exchanges are important in any relationship between two places. The AYO started its exchanges 23 years ago when it conducted its inaugural tour in 1990.

The AYO, which is based in Hong Kong, started its concert tour in Asia on August 10 and was performing 15 concerts in nine cities. The orchestra is made up of 98 young musicians from different parts of Asia who gathered in Hong Kong for three weeks of training before starting the tour.

The joint reception was co-organised by key sponsors for the performances in Singapore, namely the HKETO(ASEAN), Far East Organization, Bank of East Asia and Cathay Pacific Airways Limited, and provided cross-sector networking opportunities for the guests.

# HK Ani-Com Summer 2013

Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) launched in July a series of spectacular summer events for the public to experience the magical world of animation and comics and to showcase the endless creativity of local talents.

Officiating at the opening ceremony, the Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang, said, "The Government is committed to supporting the comics and animation industry to maximise its growth potential."

"Since 2009, CreateHK has sponsored HK\$55 million for over 40 projects that are conducive to the development of the industry through the CreateSmart Initiative," he said.



The Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang (second left), officiates at opening ceremony of Hong Kong Ani-Com Summer 2013.

The summer festival opened with the Comics and Animation Summer Carnival on July 6, featuring a wide range of interactive activities, including game booths, animation screenings, comics painting demonstrations, a cosplay show and an animation and live music show.

Core programmes of Hong Kong Ani-Com Summer 2013 include:

- ▶ The mascot design competition;
- ▶ The Greatest Animated Commercials from Hong Kong;
- ▶ Opening Events of Comix Home Base;
- ▶ International Animation Festival 2013;
- ▶ Comics x Figures - Hong Kong Ani-Com Figure Show;
- ▶ Comix Home Base: "Tribute to Masters" Series (i) - "The Birth of a Hero - Exhibition of Ma Wing-Shing's Comics Works" and Master Class; and
- ▶ Closing Ceremony of Hong Kong Ani-Com Summer 2013 and Prize Presentation Ceremony of Mascot Design Competition at Kowloon Park.

Hong Kong Ani-Com Summer 2013 is presented by CreateHK, with Comix Home Base as Creative Partner and the Hong Kong

Animation Filmmaker Society, the Hong Kong Arts Centre, the Hong Kong Comics and Animation Federation and the Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Association as co-organisers.



The champions of the Mascot Design Competition with the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Gregory So (second right), at the closing ceremony on August 31.

## Comix Home Base

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Gregory So, visited Comix Home Base on September 12 to learn how this new creative landmark in Wan Chai helps drive the development of the local comics and animation industry.

Comix Home Base, which opened in July this year, is one of the key

projects to promote the development of comics and animation in Hong Kong. It comprises work studios for comic and animation artists, venues for events and exhibitions, a resource centre library that collects print and digital comic books and magazines as well as comic art-related retail stores on the ground floor.

# *Inaugural berthing of Mariner of The Seas at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal*

The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal in Hong Kong received the first cruise liner Mariner of the Seas on June 12, marking the maiden call to Hong Kong by the cruise ship. A ceremony was organised featuring lion and dragon dances, and drum performances to welcome the more than 3 000 passengers.

With the addition of this important tourism facility, Hong Kong is in full gear to receive mega cruise ships, and to offer homeport service to more and bigger cruise ships in the future.

Speaking at the welcome ceremony of inaugural berthing by Mariner of the Seas, the Commissioner for Tourism, Mr Philip Yung, said Kai Tak was the site of our legendary airport, and it is now turning a historic page by connecting Hong Kong with the rest of the world through the seven seas.

He said, "There is of course a lot more we should and could do to make this new terminal a success. The Government, the terminal operator and our travel industry will work hard together to achieve this goal."



*The first cruise liner, Mariner of The Seas, berths at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal.*



*An artistic impression of the night view of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal.*

## *Big-hearted project in Cambodia*



*Guests and students at the opening of the joint training session of the Capacity Building Project in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.*

The Director of HKETO(ASEAN), Mr Fong Ngai, gave words of encouragement to some 80 students from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) and the Asia Human Resources Development Institute of Cambodia at a joint training session for the PolyU's Capacity Building Project in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on June 13.

Mr Fong said he was very impressed with the design of the project and the kind thoughts and serving hearts behind it when he learned the details from PolyU.

He said while Hong Kong and Cambodia enjoyed close economic ties, he believed that a stronger people-to-people interaction and exchange was most important in making the relations sustainable. He looked forward to more similar endeavors in furthering the exchanges between Hong Kong and Cambodia.

In the project, the students helped install a mobile computer laboratory at a primary school and conduct computer workshops at an orphanage and a hospital. They also helped paint walls at a community centre.

# A new chapter: CEPA on 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary



The Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang (front row, left), and Vice Minister of Commerce, Ms Gao Yan (front row, right), sign Supplement X to CEPA at Central Government Offices, Tamar.

The 10th anniversary of the landmark Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) has heralded a new chapter for fostering economic and trade co-operation of the

two places with the signing of Supplement X to CEPA on August 29.

The Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang, and the Vice Minister of Commerce, Ms Gao Yan, signed Supplement X which includes 73 services liberalisation and trade and investment facilitation measures that further relax market access conditions in the sectors already covered under previous supplements to CEPA. Besides, there are additional liberalisation measures on duplicating and after-death facilities services. This takes the total number of liberalisation measures for trade in services under CEPA to 403.

Supplement X is the supplement which contains the greatest number of measures since CEPA was signed in 2003. Some measures are more liberalised than those contained in recent years' supplements and some have been much sought-after by the trade for years.

Supplement X opens up new opportunities for services liberalisation in key areas including legal services, financial services, testing and certification, audiovisual and telecommunications. It also identifies financial co-operation and trade and investment facilitation as specific areas for further collaboration between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

The new measures relating to the liberalisation of trade in services under Supplement X will take effect from January 1, 2014.

To find out more about CEPA and how it can benefit your business, please visit [www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/index.html](http://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/index.html).

## Implementation of New Companies Ordinance

The new Companies Ordinance (CO), expected to come into operation in the first quarter of 2014, provides a modernised legal framework for the incorporation and operation of companies in Hong Kong. It aims to enhance corporate governance, improve regulation, facilitate business and modernise the law with a view to strengthening Hong Kong's status as a major commercial and financial centre.

The new CO was passed by the Legislative Council on 12 July 2012. Over 10 pieces of subsidiary legislation which set out the administrative, technical and procedural matters required for the implementation of the new CO are made and all of them will commence operation together with the new CO.

Major initiatives under the new CO are:

### Measures for enhancing corporate governance

- ▶ Strengthening the accountability of directors
- ▶ Enhancing shareholder engagement in the decision-making process
- ▶ Improving the disclosure of company information
- ▶ Fostering shareholder protection
- ▶ Strengthening auditors' rights

### Measures for ensuring better regulation

- ▶ Ensuring the accuracy of information on the public register
- ▶ Improving the registration of charges
- ▶ Refining the scheme for deregistration of companies
- ▶ Improving the enforcement regime

### Measures for facilitating business

- ▶ Streamlining procedures
- ▶ Facilitating simplified reporting
- ▶ Facilitating business operations

### Measures for modernising the law

- ▶ Abolishing par value for shares
- ▶ Removing the power to issue share warrants
- ▶ Better protection of personal data
- ▶ Clarifying the rules on indemnification of directors against liabilities to third parties

A dedicated thematic section on Companies Registry's website ([http://www.cr.gov.hk/en/companies\\_ordinance/index.htm](http://www.cr.gov.hk/en/companies_ordinance/index.htm)) has been set up to provide information and updates on the implementation of the new CO.



# Internship for University Students to promote HK-ASEAN relations



During a visit to Singapore in July, the Secretary for Education, Mr Eddie Ng Hak-kim (centre, front row), meets a group of university students from Hong Kong undertaking internships in Singapore. He also announced the launch of the ASEAN Internship for University Students of Hong Kong Scheme at the event.

As part of the efforts to enhance bilateral relations between ASEAN and Hong Kong, the HKETO(ASEAN) has developed an ASEAN Internship for University Students of Hong Kong Scheme (the Scheme) to be officially launched in summer 2014. HKETO(ASEAN)

now invites organisations/companies in ASEAN region to be part of the Scheme.

Through the Scheme, not only can the host organisations play a part in cultivating the young minds, they can also build relations with some of the leaders of tomorrow.

The Scheme aims to:

- ▶ provide opportunities to university students of Hong Kong to take up summer internship in ASEAN member countries;
- ▶ enable students to be exposed to the work of the relevant industry and operation of the concerned host organisation, as well as the economic and socio-cultural environment of the host country in ASEAN; and
- ▶ cultivate students as the ambassadors of Hong Kong in the host country in ASEAN and vice versa upon return to Hong Kong, thereby enhancing mutual understanding and strengthening ties between Hong Kong and ASEAN.

Please email us (Email: [broadcast@hketosin.gov.hk](mailto:broadcast@hketosin.gov.hk)) if you wish to learn more about or join the Scheme.

## Experience sharing

Edwin Au (Year 3 university student, joining an internship program in Singapore this summer.)

“Working in an ASEAN country enables me to have a better understanding of the region and their people. As the ‘early bird catches worm’, a better understanding of these emerging markets in ASEAN, which is also our second-largest trading partner, at an early stage will be beneficial to us for any business opportunities in the future. Therefore, I think the internship experience in HKETO (ASEAN) is the most valuable and fruitful internship I’ve ever had.”

Carol Pun (Year 3 university student, joining an internship program in Singapore this summer.)

“I gained satisfaction through contributing to the office with my knowledge and skills. Meanwhile, working with people from different backgrounds is fascinating to me, especially in a country with cultural diversities and a multi-lingual environment. With all these, I gained a fruitful and unforgettable internship in Singapore.”



The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mrs Carrie Lam (far right), meets with university students from Hong Kong who are undertaking internship programmes in Singapore.

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