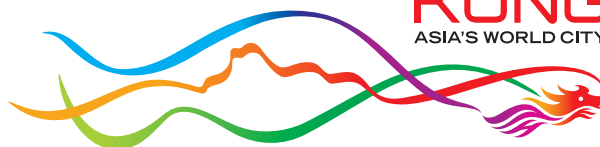


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NO. 1/2017 ISSUE

Chief Executive unveils her Maiden Policy Address



The Chief Executive (CE), Mrs Carrie Lam, revealed details of her maiden Policy Address themed “We Connect for Hope and Happiness” at the Legislative Council on October 11, 2017.

In the last two decades, thanks to the support of the Motherland and with an international vision, Hong Kong has kept its distinct features and strengths. This fully demonstrates that “one country, two systems” is the best institutional arrangement to ensure Hong Kong’s long term prosperity and stability after our return to the Motherland. It is a workable solution and an achievable goal, she said.

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, held a press conference on her 2017 Policy Address on October 11 at Central Government Offices, Tamar. Photo shows Mrs Lam responding to questions at the press conference.

A number of **initiatives of interest** to the **business and** **international communities:**

Economy

- Support SMEs by reducing profits tax to 8.25% for first \$2 million (US\$255,000) profits. Remaining profits to be taxed at current rate of 16.5%;
- Encourage R&D investment with 300% tax deduction for first \$2 million R&D expenditure, and 200% deduction for remainder;
- Increase the number of comprehensive avoidance of double taxation agreements (CDTAs) to 50 within the next few years;
- Sign a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and an Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA) with Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in November; and sign a Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) with Macao by end 2017;
- Open an Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO) in Thailand - the third HKETO in ASEAN;
- Demolish and redevelop the three government towers in Wan Chai to create a new, integrated wing for the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) with 23,000 square metres of convention and exhibition facilities;
- Boost diversified development of tourism sector, including cultural, heritage, green and creative tourism;
- Issue “green bonds” to encourage investment in green projects via HK capital markets;
- Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) will launch a Faster Payment System in 2018 to promote more diversified and flexible payment products.

Innovation and Technology

- Set aside at least \$10 billion in university research funding to further encourage private companies to increase R&D spend;
- Kick-start a \$500 million “Technology Talent Scheme” to train and pool technology talent;
- Inject \$3 billion into the Research Endowment Fund;
- Use \$2 billion of the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund Scheme to co-invest on matching basis with venture capital funds investing in local tech startups;
- Invest \$700 million to take forward Smart City initiatives, including “smart lampposts”; and develop an intelligent transport system (parking meters, payments, real-time parking information).

Creative Industries

- Inject \$1 billion into the CreateSmart initiative to boost support for design and creative industries.

Labour Rights

- Propose a way forward to abolish the offsetting mechanism for Mandatory Provident Fund contributions;
- Increase paternity leave from 3 to 5 days; and study enhancing maternity leave for working women.

Education

- Set up a \$12 billion Hostel Development Fund to provide unit cost subsidy for university hostels.

Arts, Sports, Culture

- Increase resources for local artists and groups to perform outside Hong Kong.

Countryside

- Establish a Countryside Conservation Office and earmark \$1 billion to implement revitalisation and conservation efforts;
- The Policy Address also contains a number of new initiatives on land and housing supply, healthcare, care for the elderly and underprivileged, improving livelihood, and youth development.

Full details can be found at:
www.policyaddress.gov.hk/2017/eng/index.html

Highlights:
www.policyaddress.gov.hk/2017/eng/highlights.html

Director of HKETO briefs HK communities on Policy Address



Photo shows the Director of HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk, briefing the audience on the Policy Address highlights and answering questions regarding the key socio-political and economic development and concerns in Hong Kong.

Some 50 representatives from the Hong Kong communities in Singapore, including key members of the Hong Kong Singapore Business Association, Hong Kong alumni associations, academia and Kowloon Club, attended a luncheon held by the HKETO in Singapore on the Policy Address 2017 and the latest updates of Hong Kong at the National University of Singapore Society, Singapore on November 7.

CE visits ASEAN member states to strengthen closer relations

CE in Singapore and Thailand



Photo shows Mrs Lam (left) calling on the Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Hsien Loong (right), to discuss issues of mutual concern.

CE Carrie Lam visited Singapore and Bangkok in August 2017 to foster closer ties between Hong Kong and the two countries.

During her visit in Singapore, CE met with senior Singapore government officials and visited the Asian Civilisations Museum, the Civil Service College, the GovTech Hive, the National Gallery Singapore and the Urban Redevelopment Authority. She also officiated at the opening reception of the photo exhibition “Lee Fook Chee - Son of Singapore, Photographer of Hong Kong” organised by the HKETO in Singapore, in collaboration with The Photographic Heritage Foundation, to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). She also took the opportunity to call on the Chinese Ambassador to Singapore.



The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, called on the Prime Minister of Thailand, Mr Prayut Chan-o-cha in Bangkok on August 4. Photo shows Mrs Lam (sixth left) with Mr Prayut Chan-o-cha (fifth right) and other officials.

In Bangkok, Mrs Lam paid respect to the late King of Thailand and met with senior Thailand government officials, representatives of the business sector to brief them on the latest developments in Hong Kong and to promote the city's trade and investment potentials. She also witnessed the signing of a Letter of Intent between Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) and the Department of International Trade Promotion of the Ministry of Commerce of Thailand, attended two CEO roundtable forums on collaboration opportunities, and called on the Chinese Ambassador to Thailand.

CE in Myanmar

Mrs Lam attended the 14th World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention (WCEC) held in Yangon, Myanmar and delivered a speech at the event. Held in various cities once every two years since 1991, the WCEC aims to provide a platform for Chinese entrepreneurs and the business and industrial sectors from around the world to enhance economic co-operation and understanding.

Mrs Lam also took the opportunity of the visit to meet with senior officials of the Myanmar Government in the capital city of Naypyidaw on September 15. She also conducted visits during her stay in Yangon.

Myanmar is the third ASEAN country visited by the Chief Executive after her assumption of office, reflecting the importance the HKSAR Government attaches to the strengthening of ties with ASEAN.

Mrs Lam said, "Attaching great importance to co-operation with Myanmar as well as other ASEAN members, Hong Kong expects that the Belt and

Road Initiative and the development plan of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area of China will lead us to a new economic era. With both Hong Kong and ASEAN along the Belt and Road, we hope to co-operate with Myanmar as well as other ASEAN countries to seize the opportunities arising from the Belt and Road Initiative."



Photo shows Mrs Lam (left) presenting an autographed photo taken by renowned photographer Steve McCurry to the State Counsellor, Union Minister in the President's Office and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (right), during their meeting in the capital city of Naypyidaw.



Photo shows Mrs Lam (front row, sixth left); Vice President of Myanmar U Myint Swe (front row, seventh left); Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the Chairman of the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, Mr Wang Qinmin (front row, eighth left), and other officiating guests at the opening ceremony of the 14th World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention in Yangon.

CE in Vietnam

CE Carrie Lam in November spoke at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEO Summit in Da Nang, Vietnam. Accompanied by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, she hosted a lunch for Hong Kong, China's representatives to the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) to thank them for reflecting the concerns of Hong Kong's business sector in ABAC over the years.

She also attended a discussion session of the APEC CEO Summit on new frontiers in trade and spoke on issues including the impact of globalisation on economic development as well as the rising trend of trade protectionism. Speakers of this session also include the President of Peru, Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, and other business leaders.



The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam (right), attends the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEO Summit in Da Nang, Vietnam, on November 9.

HK and ASEAN ink free trade deal and investment pacts

Hong Kong and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and a related Investment Agreement in Pasay City, the Philippines, on November 12. The agreements will bring about legal certainty and better market access for the trade in goods and services as well as investment protection to Hong Kong. They will also help reduce the restrictions in doing business and expand business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises, thus creating a more conducive environment for the development of Hong Kong's economy.

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR, Mr Edward Yau, and the economic ministers of the ASEAN member states, signed the two agreements.

"All ASEAN member states are also economies along the Belt and Road. The agreements will extend Hong Kong's FTA and Investment Agreement network to cover all major economies in Southeast Asia. The closer ties forged will enhance Hong Kong's role as a trading and investment hub and cater for our strategy to tap the business opportunities offered by the Belt and Road Initiative," Mr Yau said.

The agreements are comprehensive in scope, encompassing trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical co-operation, dispute settlement mechanisms and other related areas.



Photo shows Mr Yau (left) and the Secretary-General of ASEAN, Mr Le Luong Minh (right), at the ceremony.

For key features of Hong Kong-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement and Investment Agreement, please visit: www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201711/12/P2017111200313.htm.

The full text of the agreements is available on the Trade and Industry Department's website: www.tid.gov.hk.



Mr Yau (fifth left) with the ASEAN economic ministers at the signing ceremony

Principal Officials in ASEAN to boost stronger bond

Financial Secretary (FS) in Vietnam



The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan (third right, front row), was pictured with other finance ministers attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Finance Ministers' Meeting in Hoi An, Vietnam on October 21.

FS Paul Chan attended the APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting (FMM) and related meetings in Hoi An, Vietnam in October. On the sidelines of the FMM, Mr Chan held bilateral meetings with his counterparts, including the Minister of Finance of Thailand, Apisak Tantivorawong; the Undersecretary of Finance of the Philippines, Gil Beltran; the Deputy Minister of Finance of Malaysia, Dato' Lee Chee Leong; and the Under Secretary for International Affairs of the US Department of the Treasury, David Malpass. Mr Chan discussed with them ways to strengthen economic ties and collaboration.

The FMM sessions this year focused on a range of subjects, including the latest developments on global and regional economic and financial fronts, investment in infrastructure, work to counter base erosion and profit shifting of enterprises, as well as financial inclusion.

Before attending the FMM, Mr Chan met with the Prime Minister of Vietnam, Nguyen Xuan Phuc, along with other participating finance ministers. Mr Chan also took part in the ABAC's Executive Dialogue to discuss further collaboration with the private sector and various sessions of the APEC FMM.

Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (SCED) in Vietnam



The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau (right), had a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Trade of Indonesia, Mr Enggartiasto Lukita (left), in Da Nang, Vietnam, on November 9. They had good exchanges on trade-related issues. Both said they believed that the already close economic ties between Hong Kong and the ASEAN member states would further strengthen once the Hong Kong - ASEAN Free Trade Agreement becomes effective.

SCED Edward Yau attended the APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in Da Nang, Vietnam in November. He met with various trade ministers and representatives of APEC member economies to have useful exchanges on trade co-operation as well as issues of mutual concern. Mr Yau also had bilateral meetings with the Vice Minister of Commerce, Mr Wang Shouwen; the Minister of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed; the Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, Mr Maksim Oreshkin; the Minister of Trade of Indonesia, Mr Enggartiasto Lukita; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, Mr Don Pramudwinai; the Minister for Trade and Export Growth of New Zealand, Mr David Parker; the Secretary of Trade and Industry of the Philippines, Mr Ramon Lopez; and the Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei, Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng. Mr Yau said Hong Kong looked forward to working closely with them in advancing trade liberalisation in various trade fora and fostering even stronger bilateral ties.

Secretary for the Civil Service (SCS) in Singapore

SCS Joshua Law paid an official visit to Singapore in October to get an update on the management and training of the civil service in the Lion City. He paid a courtesy call on Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister in charge of the Civil Service Teo Chee Hean. He met with Singapore's Head of Civil Service Leo Yip and Permanent Secretary (Public Service Division), Prime Minister's Office Yong Ying-I, to exchange views on the overall management, training and development of the civil service. He also met with the Charge D'Affaires ad interim, Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Singapore, Fang Xinwen. During his stay, Mr Law visited the Civil Service College of Singapore and the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy to learn more about their operation.

Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) in Singapore

SFH Professor Sophia Chan visited Singapore in September to meet officials from the Ministry of Health of Singapore and to learn more about primary healthcare services in the Lion City. In addition, she attended the Temasek Foundation International Asia Leaders Connect 2017 programme, during which participants discussed, among other issues, healthcare policies and services and visited Singapore General Hospital.

Secretary for Transport and Housing (STH) in Singapore

STH Frank Chan visited Singapore in August to exchange views with senior government officials on transport and housing-related matters. During his stay, he learned about the latest developments in housing and transport in the Lion City. He also paid a courtesy call on the Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies of Singapore, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam. He met with the Coordinating Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for Transport, Mr Khaw Boon Wan; the Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance of Singapore, Mr Lawrence Wong; and officials of transport and housing-related agencies to exchange views on transport and housing issues.

Secretary for Labour and Welfare (SLW) in Cambodia

SLW Dr Law Chi-kwong and Commissioner for Labour Carlson Chan visited Cambodia in August. They met with senior government officials and representatives of authorised employment agencies, associations and trade unions to exchange views on assisting Cambodians to work in Hong Kong as domestic helpers. Dr Law also called on Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia and attended a gala dinner co-organised by the HKETO in Singapore and the Hong Kong Business Association of Cambodia in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR.

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (SFST) in Singapore

The then SFST Professor K C Chan visited Singapore in June to foster closer ties between the two places. Upon arrival in Singapore, Professor Chan had separate meetings with the Minister for Finance of Singapore, Mr Heng Swee Keat, and the Managing Director of the Monetary Authority of Singapore, Mr Ravi Menon. The Secretary was the Guest of Honour and delivered a keynote speech at the gala dinner organised by the HKETO in Singapore to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. He also visited the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation, a sovereign wealth fund established by the Singapore Government to manage the nation's foreign reserves, and the Singapore Exchange. Before concluding his trip, he met with prominent figures from the Association of Banks of Singapore over lunch to exchange views on financial issues of mutual interest.

Secretary for Education (SED) in Myanmar

The then SED Eddie Ng in June met with the Union Minister of Education of Myanmar, Dr Myo Thein Gyi, at a bilateral meeting in Yangon, Myanmar. Both sides agreed to follow up on and finalise a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on education co-operation, with a view to providing a foundation for further co-operation on the education front. The Secretary met with leaders of Yangon University of Education to exchange views on teacher training and observed lessons at the university's high school for teaching practice. He also visited the Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute, which was established in 2016 to provide skilled labour for key industries in Myanmar.

Secretary for Development (SDEV) in Indonesia



Mr Eric Ma (fifth left) calls on the Director General of Construction Development of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing of Indonesia, Mr Yusid Toyib (sixth left), in Jakarta, Indonesia.

From March 1 to 3, the then SDEV Eric Ma led a Hong Kong delegation to visit Jakarta, Indonesia. Speaking at a networking luncheon co-organised by the HKTDC, the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Indonesian Chinese Entrepreneur Association and Real Estate Indonesia, Mr Ma said Hong Kong has rich experience in infrastructure development and professional services, and can play an active role to further promote the relationship between Indonesia and China to reach new heights under the Belt and Road Initiative.

The delegation paid courtesy calls on the Ministry of Public Works and Housing of Indonesia, the Indonesia-Hong Kong Business Association, the Ministry of National Development Planning of Indonesia and the Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board to exchange views about town planning, infrastructure and real estate development. Members also held discussions with representatives from the local industrial and business sectors as well as Hong Kong business people to learn about the business environment and opportunities for co-operation.

Secretary for Justice (SJ) in Malaysia

From November 6 to 8, SJ Rimsy Yuen, SC, visited Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to foster stronger ties between Hong Kong and Malaysia and led a delegation comprising some 30 legal and dispute resolution professionals to promote Hong Kong's international legal and dispute resolution services.

In addition to addressing the opening ceremony of "In Style • Hong Kong" symposium organised by the HKTDC, Mr Yuen also gave opening remarks at the thematic session on "Legal Risk Management: Key to International Trade and Investment". He highlighted the importance of legal risk management in modern business practice, for which Hong Kong is ready and able to serve as an international and yet neutral legal risk management and dispute resolution hub with its robust legal regime. Mr Yuen also launched "Hong Kong Live in Kuala Lumpur" presented by the Hong Kong Tourism Board to promote Hong Kong tourism experiences.

Mr Yuen took the opportunity to pay a courtesy call on the Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Chinese Embassy in Malaysia, Madam Ma Jia. The delegation also met with the relevant Malaysian officials to exchange views on matters of mutual interest and visited the arbitration centre in Kuala Lumpur.

Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism) (PSCIT) in The Philippines



Mr Philip Yung speaks at the luncheon hosted by the HKSAR Government for participants of the ASEAN Leadership Forum in Manila, the Philippines.

On April 28, PSCIT Philip Yung attended the Ministerial Roundtable of the 14th ASEAN Leadership Forum held in Manila. He provided an update on Hong Kong-ASEAN relations at the Ministerial Roundtable themed “Pushing the Envelope for the ASEAN Economic Community – Partnering for Progress and Prosperity in a New Global Scenario”. Hong Kong has a deep pool of talented professionals from engineers, surveyors, architects to lawyers and financial professionals, and the experience of doing business in Mainland China, partnering with Hong Kong would provide synergy for realising the opportunity brought by the Belt and Road Initiative.

Mr Yung also paid a courtesy call to the Economic and Commercial Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in the Philippines, Mr Jin Yuan, and met with committee members of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines Inc. to learn about the business opportunities for Hong Kong people in the Philippines.



Mr Rimsky Yuen, SC (second right) visits the “In Style • Hong Kong” Expo with the Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department of Malaysia, Datuk Seri Ir Dr Wee Ka Siong (centre); the Chairman of the Trade Development Council, Mr Vincent Lo (second left) and its Executive Director, Ms Margaret Fong (first right), in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



(From second left) Director-General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs, Jakarta, Mrs Do Pang Wai Yee; Mr Rimsky Yuen, SC; the Chairman of the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTb), Dr Peter Lam; and the Executive Director of the HKTb, Mr Anthony Lau, attend the opening ceremony of the “Hong Kong Live in Kuala Lumpur”.

ASEAN ministers and officials visit HK to foster relations

Ministers and professional delegations of Singapore in Hong Kong

In September, CE Carrie Lam hosted lunch for visiting Singapore's Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong at the Government House. They reaffirmed the good relations exemplified by the frequent exchanges of visits between the leaders of Singapore and Hong Kong and exchanged views on future development challenges and opportunities facing both cities. Mr Goh also expressed optimism of Hong Kong's future under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework. He was also hosted to breakfast by the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) vice-chairman and former CE Tung Chee Hwa.

Also in September, Minister, Prime Minister's Office & Second Minister for Manpower & Second Minister for Home Affairs of Singapore, Mrs Josephine Teo, visited Hong Kong. During the visit, Minister Teo called on the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung and met SLW Dr Law Chi-kwong. Both sides affirmed the longstanding and close cooperation between Singapore and Hong Kong, and highlighted the frequent exchange of visits between officials from both sides to learn from each other in overcoming the common challenges faced by the two places. They also discussed issues of mutual interest including population and manpower.

In June, Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Health visited Hong Kong. She met with Professor Sophia Chan, the then Under Secretary for Food and Health, exchanging views on collaborations in healthcare sector and development of community nursing.

In June, a delegation from Singapore attended Vocational and Professional Education and Training International Conference in Hong Kong. The delegation comprised representatives from Institute of Adult Learning, Institute of Technical Education and students from polytechnics in Singapore.

In May, a delegation from the 24th Governance and Leadership Programme (GLP), led by Accountant-General of Singapore Ow Fook Chuen, visited Hong Kong. The GLP is a three-and-a-half week full-time milestone programme organised by Civil Service College, Singapore. The delegates visited and received briefings from various organisations, including Legislative Council, Civil Service Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, Our Hong Kong Foundation, Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce and Hong Kong Science and Technology Park.

In April, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of Singapore, Mr Teo Chee Hean, met with the then CE C Y Leung at Government House to exchange views on issues of mutual concern. Both sides hoped that the two places would strengthen co-operation on all fronts to enhance bilateral ties, and work together to promote the further development of economic and trade co-operation in the region.

Delegation from Myanmar's Parliament in Hong Kong

In June, a delegation from Myanmar attended Dashun Foundation and Belt & Road Global Development Alliance Anniversary Cocktail Reception cum MOU Signing Ceremony in Hong Kong. The delegation comprised Members of Parliament and representatives from trade and industry organisations in Myanmar.

President of the Republic of Indonesia in Hong Kong

In May, the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr Joko Widodo visited Hong Kong and met with the then CE C Y Leung, who briefed him on the latest developments in Hong Kong and highlighted that the country's Belt and Road Initiative would bring about enormous development potential for Hong Kong and ASEAN countries such as Indonesia.

Mr Leung also thanked the Indonesian Government for their support towards assisting the establishment of the HKETO in Jakarta. He hoped that the two places would continue to maintain exchanges and build stronger ties on all fronts.

Mr Leung and the President witnessed the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding on cultural co-operation which aimed at fostering exchanges in culture and arts and strengthening people-to-people ties between the two places, as well as the signing of a joint statement on labour co-operation which underlined both sides' commitment to protecting Indonesian domestic helpers working in Hong Kong.

Ministers of Thailand in Hong Kong

In April, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, Mr Somkid Jatusripitak, met with the then CE C Y Leung at Government House to exchange views on issues of mutual concern. The then CE said that Hong Kong and Thailand had long enjoyed close economic and trade ties and built up strong connections in tourism, culture and education. The then CE-elect Carrie Lam also met with the Deputy Prime Minister to exchange views on issues of mutual concern. She also thanked the Deputy Prime Minister for Thailand's support in Hong Kong's free trade agreement negotiations with ASEAN.

In March, Minister of Culture of Thailand, Mr Vira Rojpojanarat, visited Hong Kong. He met with, among others, government officials and visited different bureaux and departments with a view to enhancing exchanges and understanding between Hong Kong and Thailand.

In January, Vice Minister for Finance of Thailand, Mr Kiatchai Sophastienphong, joined the panel in the plenary session on "Asia: Driving Change, Innovation and Connectivity" of the Asian Financial Forum 2017 in Hong Kong. The then SFST Professor K C Chan chaired the session during which he exchanged insights with panellists on Asia's prospects as well as the implications for sustainable global economic development. Professor Chan also hosted a dinner on Fintech on the same day, attended by, among others, Mr Kiatchai Sophastienphong and Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Economy and Finance of Cambodia, Dr Phan Phalla.

Minister of Cambodia in Hong Kong

In April, Minister of Labour and Vocational Training of Cambodia, Dr Ith Samheng, and his delegation attended the signing ceremony for the Memorandum of Agreement between the Cambodian Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and Cambodian Human Resource Development Association of Hong Kong in Hong Kong. Both sides saw plenty of employment opportunities for Cambodian nationals working in Hong Kong. The visiting Cambodian delegation led by Dr Ith Samheng also exchanged views with the then SLW Stephen Sui about the labour policies and the development of human capital in both places, and how the two governments could foster co-operation and exchanges under the Belt and Road Initiative.

HKSAR 20th anniversary celebration events

The HKETO in Singapore organised and supported a variety of celebration events to mark the 20th anniversary (20A) of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) between March and November this year in Singapore, Thailand and Cambodia. These events ranged from receptions, business seminars and gala dinners, to orchestral performance, dance drama, visual art and photo exhibitions, and sports events.

Kick-off Event Golden Cangue cum Opening Reception

The unveiling event of the series of 20A programmes was the renowned literary and theatrical work *Golden Cangue* staged in Esplanade, Singapore by the Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre for March 31 - April 1.

The event showcased Hong Kong's theatrical artists and entrepreneurs to a substantial audience size in Singapore through three shows on March 31 (Friday night) and April 1 (Saturday afternoon and evening). The performance, conducted in Cantonese with both Chinese and English subtitles, allowed non-Cantonese-speaking audience to appreciate Hong Kong's theatrical performance. It is in line with the Government's objectives to promote HK's soft power in arts and culture overseas, as well as to nurture HK art talents and entrepreneurs.

In the speech delivered by the Director of the HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk, at the opening reception before a 250-strong audience, he threaded the theme of 20A "Togetherness • Progress • Opportunity" by covering a wide range of topics, including the Basic Law, the dual advantages of "One Country" and "Two Systems", Hong Kong's close relationship with Mainland China since the handover through initiatives such as CEPA, Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect, major cross-boundary infrastructure projects, etc.



Golden Cangue staged in Esplanade, Singapore



The art group took the initiative to reach out to the public by organising exchange and appreciation workshop session.

“HK Phil Tour 2017” Orchestral Performance cum Opening Reception

As part of the “HK Phil Tour 2017”, the Hong Kong Phil staged one performance at the Esplanade Concert Hall, Singapore on May 1, performing three orchestral pieces, to celebrate 20A. Some 280 HKETO guests attended the opening reception. The HKETO guests, together with some 1,300 members of the public, attended the concert.

This signature event of the series of 20A programmes arranged by HKETO in Singapore was poured with applause. The performance was spectacular and mind capturing. The audience gave a standing ovation for the orchestra after the performance as a sign of appreciation and gratitude.



Photo on the left shows the Director of the HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk, addressing the guests at the opening reception.

Seminar on Belt and Road Initiative

The Seminar, co-organised by the HKETO in Singapore and the HKTDC, was held in Bangkok, Thailand on May 24. It highlighted the opportunities brought about by the Belt and Road Initiative for Hong Kong and ASEAN. More than 100 business interlocutors and representatives from various trades participated in the seminar. It provided an opportunity for Hong Kong officials to introduce Hong Kong's role in the Belt and Road Initiative as well as the related opportunities to Thailand's business sector.



The Director of the HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk, gives his opening remarks.



At the panel discussion of the seminar (from left), the Director (Thailand) of Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), Mr Sunny Chau; the Vice-chairman of the Thailand China Business Council, Mr Vikrom Kromadit; the then Belt and Road Commissioner of the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Ms Yvonne Choi; the Director of Research of HKTDC, Mr Nicholas Kwan; and the Deputy Secretary General of the Thai-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Mr Prasong Owlarn, exchange views on the Belt and Road Initiative.

HKETO Gala Dinner

The HKETO Gala Dinner was held at Gardens by the Bay, Singapore on June 8. Some 400 HKETO friends from the diplomat, government, business, academic, Hong Kong community and media circles attended the event.

The then Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, Professor K C Chan, spoke at the Gala Dinner under the theme of “Together • Progress • Opportunity”. He said that the relationship between Hong Kong and ASEAN has never been closer. He shared that Hong Kong would want to conclude and sign a Free Trade Agreement with ASEAN within 2017 as the negotiation of the trade pact was in the final stage. He called on Hong Kong and Singapore to establish closer ties with ASEAN on all fronts and to echo the Central Government’s Belt and Road Initiative.

Singapore’s Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance, Mr Lawrence Wong, also addressed the guests at the Gala Dinner. Echoing Professor Chan’s view, he said that greater cooperation between Hong Kong and ASEAN was a key for healthy growth, adding that Asia was the fastest-growing region in the world and the market was big enough for both economies of Hong Kong and Singapore to thrive. The healthy competition between the two spurred both sides to strive to be better and offer more value to investors.

The Gala Dinner featured Hong Kong-style “Poon Choi” and traditional food of Hong Kong presented by the Chinese Culinary Institute of Hong Kong. Many guests, especially the local Singaporeans and foreign diplomats, were impressed by the traditional “Poon Choi”, which is new to most of them. The entire programme of the dinner, together with official promotional videos playing in the background, successfully showed to our guests various facets of Hong Kong and raised Hong Kong’s profile. The event showcased the strengths of Hong Kong as a dynamic Asia’s world city, and strengthened our connections with local contacts.



Guests at the Gala Dinner



Professor K C Chan speaks at the Gala Dinner.



Singapore's Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance, Mr Lawrence Wong

Feature on 20A Events



The stunning energy-filled “Danz Up 2.0”, presented by Hong Kong Arts Festival, featuring some 20 Hong Kong dancers, was the first highlight staged at the Gala Dinner with enthusiastic responses.



Hong Kong-style “Poon Choi” and traditional food of Hong Kong was another highlight presented by the Chinese Culinary Institute of Hong Kong.



The Gala Dinner also screened a short film premiere, “Hong Kong-ASEAN Synergies”, produced by Mr Clifton Ko, a renowned Hong Kong film director. To view: www.hk-aseansynergies.com.



Celebrated Hong Kong photographer Mr Edward Stokes presents a telling, evocative portrait of Hong Kong's natural beauty and his photo book.

Feature on 20A Events



Guests enjoying their mingling at the pre-dinner reception



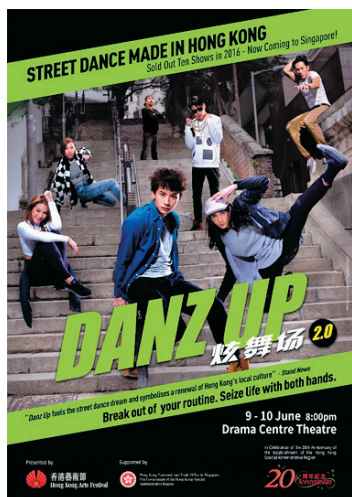
Feature on 20A Events



Guests enjoying at the
Gala Dinner



Dance drama: Danz Up 2.0



Danz Up 2.0 poster

Two performances of the dance drama “Danz Up 2.0” were staged at Drama Centre, National Library, Singapore by Hong Kong Arts Festival June 9-10. A condensed version was shown at the HKETO Gala Dinner on June 8 at Gardens by the Bay, Singapore.

Written by award-winning playwright Matthew Cheng, the Hong Kong production “Danz Up 2.0” is a high-octane, dance drama about a young man torn between a practical career and following his dream to become a street dancer.

Some 500 members of the public enjoyed the energy-filled dance drama with hip hop, jazz funk, urban dance and locking, choreography by Shing Mak (of the hit homegrown dance movie of Hong Kong “The Way We Dance”).

Visual art exhibition “Joy to the Words” cum workshops

The week-long exhibition was jointly presented by the HKETO in Singapore and Artwow’s Chinese Character Artworks. It featured selected artworks of the Father-and-Daughter Art Team, Mr Sun Chan and Ms Hikoko Chan, from their Mirage, Treble and Rainbow series. The artworks can be appreciated purely for their visual appeal, but the embedded Chinese words also engage those viewers who can read Chinese characters in word-guessing games, sparking curiosity and evoking imagination. The exhibition was also a tribute to the late Sun Chan, who just passed away in early 2017.

The Opening Reception, held on July 21 at The Arts House, Singapore, was warmly welcomed by some 100 HKETO friends from the diplomat, arts, media and business circles, as well as Hong Kong communities.



Opening of visual art exhibition “Joy to the Words”

Click here for the video on HKETO website:
https://www.hketosin.gov.hk/events/Joy_to_the_words_Highlights.m4v

and also on the HKSAR20 YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLSsk2xYMcFd93FsKctpaSjACd3n6JiM9C&v=pEfEBcBsPY>

Art exhibition “Tian Tian Xiang Shang” cum workshops



Art exhibition “Tian Tian Xiang Shang”

The HKETO in Singapore, in collaboration with Zuni Icosahedron, presented the “Tian Tian Xiang Shang” project exhibition showcasing conceptual comics “Tian Tian” in Singapore in form of mall museum in public areas inside the mall and right outside the mall entrance of Raffles City, Singapore from July 28 to August 21.

“Tian Tian Xiang Shang” is a well-known Chinese saying encouraging children to work hard and achieve their dreams. It then inspired experimental art pioneer and founder of Zuni Icosahedron, Mr Danny Yung, to create Tian Tian, a cartoon, for adults and kids all around the globe, challenging them to be curious and creative like Tian Tian.

The Opening Reception, held on July 28 at Raffles City, Singapore was warmly welcomed by leading figures in the arts and cultural scene from Hong Kong and Singapore, as well as local celebrities and communities from both places.

The exhibition in Singapore featured some 1,000 pieces of works from artists in Hong Kong, Singapore and other overseas countries, as well as students and teachers of local arts classes, primary and secondary schools.

The 3-week long exhibition attracted attention of the members of the public in Singapore. Also, by engaging local primary and secondary schools and arts classes to participate, the event helped increase the ETO’s profile locally and extend the ETO’s connections with arts communities in Singapore.



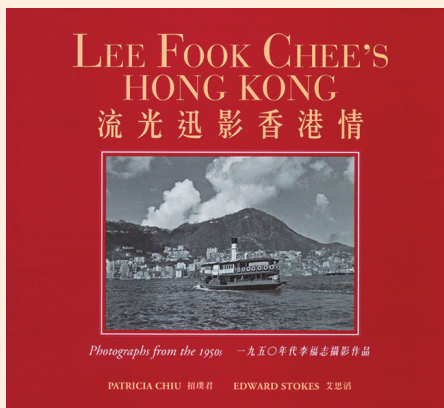
Art exhibition “Tian Tian Xiang Shang” engages people from all walks of life.



Photo Exhibition “Lee Fook Chee: Son of Singapore, Photographer of Hong Kong”



The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, officiates at the opening.



Lee Fook Chee (1927-2012) was born in Singapore and was given over at birth to an adoptive family, and had a hard childhood. In 1947, then a seaman, he came ashore in Hong Kong. During the 1950s, Lee Fook Chee photographed Hong Kong, earning a simple living selling his photos to tourists on The Peak.

The HKETO in Singapore, in collaboration with The Photographic Heritage Foundation, presented the Photo Exhibition “Lee Fook Chee: Son of Singapore, Photographer of Hong Kong” in The Arts House, Singapore from August 3 to September 3. This was the last of the three bundled-exhibitions arranged by HKETO in Singapore to celebrate the HKSAR’s 20th birthday.

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, officiated and spoke at the Opening Reception of the photo exhibition at the Arts House, Singapore on August 2 during her official visit to Singapore.

Some 120 HKETO guests attended and 50 representatives from the local and Hong Kong press covered the event.

The exhibition featured 50 photographs from the book “Lee Fook Chee’s Hong Kong” published by The Photographic Heritage Foundation.



Guests at the opening

Gala dinner in Cambodia



A group picture of attending guests

Some 200 representatives from the China Hong Kong & Macau Expatriate & Business Association of Cambodia and the Hong Kong Business Association of Cambodia, with support from the HKETO in Singapore, came together to celebrate the 20A of the HKSAR establishment at Topaz restaurant, Phnom Penh, Cambodia on August 10. Connecting Hong Kong people, the event aimed to continuously explore new connections and opportunities in Cambodia.

The event was graced by three Guests of Honours: Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia, H.E. Hor Namhong; the Chinese Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, H.E. Xiong Bo; and the Secretary for Labour and Welfare of HKSAR, Dr Law Chi-Kwong.

The short film on “Hong Kong-ASEAN Synergies” (www.hk-aseansynergies.com) produced by HK film director Clifton Ko was shown at the Gala Dinner. The Hong Kong Business Association of Cambodia also filmed a short video in Hong Kong to introduce Hong Kong cuisine in two episodes.

For viewing Episode 1:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3iDpBx87rLaSkstb3FvakpsVUE/view?usp=sharing>;

For viewing Episode 2:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3iDpBx87rLaOG9ndXo4c1c5MTQ/view?usp=sharing>

“Hong Kong Cup 2017” of the 35th Singapore River Regatta

Sportive spirit was in the air when champion paddlers from Hong Kong and Singapore competed the “Hong Kong Cup 2017” of the 35th Singapore River Regatta (SRR) dragon boat races in Singapore River during November 3-5.

Arranged by the HKETO in Singapore, in collaboration with the Singapore Dragon Boat Association, a 34-strong mixed team of women and men from Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association took part in the 35th SRR dragon boat races in Singapore, and the men’s team also joined the “Hong Kong Cup 2017” on November 5.



Photos show the HK team members.

The Hong Kong Team won the “Hong Kong Cup 2017” event co-organised by the HKETO and Hong Kong Tourism Board in Singapore, in collaboration with the Singapore Dragon Boat Association.

The Director of HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk, stressed that the event was a good opportunity to bring closer the people of HK and Singapore through competition and fun-filled atmosphere. He hoped that the dragon boat race would strengthen the bond and friendship between Hong Kong and Singapore.



The Director of the HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk (first left), is pictured with the champion teams after presenting the “Hong Kong Cup 2017” and medals.



A token of appreciation and friendship is received by the Director of the HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk (right), from Member of Parliament for Tanjong Pagar, Singapore, Dr Chia Shi-Lu (left).

The 35th SRR has drawn some 80 teams with 3,788 dragon boat athletes to compete in 230 races in the three-day event which has attracted a large crowd of spectators, both locals and tourists.

The event has helped enhance the visibility of HK in international sports events and thereby promoting HK’s vibrancy and diversity as a sports hub.

Bringing the 20A celebration activities to a close, Mr Bruno Luk said that thanks to all the collaboration parties, by showing the strengths of Hong Kong in different aspects, the 20A events have helped raise Hong Kong’s profile in various ASEAN countries, and extend the HKETO’s connections with diplomats, government officials, business associations, Hong Kong communities, sports organisers, arts scene experts, art critics and media in the region.

Feature on 20A Events

In Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei, the HKETO in Jakarta also organised and supported a variety of celebration events to mark the 20A of the establishment of the HKSAR.

Photo Exhibition in Jakarta, Indonesia

From May 3 to 9, the HKETO in Jakarta participated in the Jakarta Marketing Week 2017 organised by Markplus, Inc. and launched a photo exhibition at Kota Kasablanka Mall to promote Hong Kong's unique business advantages and the values that the city offers, including its roles as an international financial centre, a logistics and service hub, and an ideal business platform for companies doing business with Mainland China. Various activities including a sharing session and cooking demonstration were also arranged during that week to introduce Hong Kong as a shopping and food paradise for leisure travelers. The event, which aimed to promote the brand of Hong Kong, attracted large crowds and interest.



Guest speakers share their pleasant experience about Hong Kong in the sharing session "Hong Kong: Discovering the World City".



Audience participates in the cooking demonstration "Dim Sum Festival".



The photo exhibition attracts large crowd of visitors.

Dragon Boat Festival in Jakarta, Indonesia

To facilitate the cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and Indonesia, the HKETO in Jakarta sponsored the first Jakarta Dragon Boat Festival on May 20 in Baywalk Mall, Jakarta. The event was organised by the Jakarta Paddle Club and the Dayung Bahtera Club. Dragon Boat Festival is a traditional festival originating in China to commemorate the value of unity and filial piety. More than 20 teams competed in the races and it was a fun opportunity for both paddlers and audience to sweat out and bond with people from different cultures.



Dragon boats racing in action



Director-General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs, Jakarta, Mrs Do Pang Wai Yee (centre), poses with participants from different teams on stage.

Business Seminar and Gala Dinner in Jakarta, Indonesia

In Indonesia, the Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, officiated at the Gala Dinner on July 26 at Grand Hyatt, Jakarta. The dinner was organised by the HKETO and the HKTDC in Jakarta to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. The event also signified the official opening of the HKETO in Jakarta.



Dance performances adds to the joy of the Gala Dinner.



At the Gala Dinner, the guests toast to the closer cooperation and continued prosperity of China, Hong Kong and Indonesia. They include (from left) the Director of the HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk; Charge d'Affaires and Minister Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Indonesia, Mr Sun Weide; Mr Oke Nurwan representing the Indonesian Minister of Trade; Mr Paul Chan; Director-General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs, Jakarta, Mrs Do Pang Wai Yee; the Director of HKTDC in Indonesia, Mr Leung Kwan Ho; and the Chairman of the IHKBA, Mr James Budiono.



Mr Paul Chan gives a keynote speech at the business seminar, emphasising the synergy and advantages for Hong Kong and Indonesia to work together to grasp the emerging opportunities along the Belt and Road corridors.



Mr Chan meets with Mr Thomas Trikasih Lembong to exchange views on further enhancing co-operation between the two places.

A business seminar entitled “Belt and Road Initiative: Connecting China, Hong Kong, and Indonesia” was also held in the morning of July 26, highlighting a promising future for Hong Kong and Indonesia under the Belt and Road Initiative. Sitting on a strategic location in Southeast Asia, Indonesia is a fast growing economy with vast human and natural resources, which makes it a key player in the Belt and Road Initiative. Following the seminar, Mr Chan had separate meetings with the Chairman of the Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board, Mr Thomas Trikasih Lembong, and the Deputy Governor of Bank Indonesia, Mr Perry Warjiyo. He also met with leaders in the banking sector in Indonesia.

Business Seminar and Gala Dinner in Manila, the Philippines



Over a hundred business elites and Hong Kong people in the Philippines gathered together to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR at a gala dinner co-organised by the HKETO in Jakarta and HongKong Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines Inc. on June 30 in Manila. A Belt and Road forum was also held in the afternoon, in which participants exchanged their views and explore business opportunities under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Business Seminar and Gala Dinner in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



On August 8, the HKETO in Jakarta and the Hong Kong-Malaysia Business Association co-organised a gala dinner in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, followed by a business seminar entitled "Belt and Road Initiative: Connecting China, Hong Kong and Malaysia" on the next day. The seminar attracted more than 150 businessmen and entrepreneurs in various sectors in Malaysia who were keen to find out more about the Belt and Road Initiative. The Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism) of the HKSAR, Mr Philip Yung underlined the importance of co-operation between Hong Kong and Malaysia.

Reception in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei



The HKETO in Jakarta held a reception in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei on August 28 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. (From left) The Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam, Ms Yang Jian; Director-General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs, Jakarta, Mrs Do Pang Wai Yee; and the Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion at Invest Hong Kong, Mr Francis Ho, promoted closer cooperation between China, Brunei and Hong Kong under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Other HKETO events to boost bond and friendship

70 summer interns from Hong Kong gathered in Singapore

Some 70 higher education students from Hong Kong interned in Singapore during this summer had a gathering hosted by the HKETO in Singapore to share their internship experience and lives in Singapore on July 24. The student interns came from various internship programmes, with more than 50 of them joining the ASEAN Internship Scheme for Hong Kong Higher Education Students 2017 coordinated by the HKETO in Singapore.

The Scheme, first initiated by the HKETO in Singapore in 2014, aims to provide an opportunity for higher education students in Hong Kong to widen their international perspectives by taking up internship in the ASEAN region which, as a bloc, has been Hong Kong's second largest trading partner.

The Scheme has met with very positive responses and a total of some 600 Hong Kong higher education students have interned at some 80 companies in the ASEAN region.

Echoing the Belt and Road Initiative which aims to enhance, among others, people-to-people bonds, starting from the 2016 round, on top of the original eight UGC-funded institutions, the HKETO has extended the scheme to cover three more Hong Kong higher education institutions namely, Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Shue Yan University and Hang Seng Management College.

The Director of the HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk, encouraged students to be the "ambassadors" of Hong Kong in their respective host countries in ASEAN and vice versa upon return to Hong Kong, thereby enhancing mutual understanding and strengthening ties between Hong Kong and ASEAN.



The Director of HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk, speaks at the gathering.



A group picture of the student interns

Other HKETO events



Hong Kong student interns share their insights on internship experiences and seize the moment to enjoy themselves at the gathering.

“Cage is Stage – Stage is Cage” Exhibition

Supported by the HKETO in Singapore, the opening of the exhibition *Cage is Stage Stage is Cage* curated by Hong Kong renowned experimental art pioneer Danny Yung was held at DECK, Singapore in February.

The exhibition, showcasing the work of more than 50 artists from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, U.S. and Europe attracted more than a thousand visitors between February 11 and 26.

The launch of the exhibition was greeted with a warm welcome, with more than 80 distinguished guests from the diplomatic circle and the arts scene participating.

The exhibition was viewed by a wide range of visitors in February at DECK, Singapore. It not only sparked intellectual discussions with close friends but also initiated conversations with the general public.



(From right) The Director of the HKETO in Singapore, Mr Bruno Luk, and Zuni Icosahedron's founder Mr Danny Yung, unveil the exhibition by opening the DECK door.



The art pieces, intricate in design, spark conversation and curiosity as visitors stare into significant parts of the artists' lives.

Chinese New Year Reception 2017 in Jakarta

Jointly organised by the HKETO, the HKTDC in Jakarta and Indonesia-Hong Kong Business Association, a Chinese New Year Reception was held in Jakarta, Indonesia on February 13 to ring in Year of the Rooster.

With the honorable presence of the then Chinese Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Xie Feng, the event was attended by over 150 guests from various sectors, including the Indonesian political and business circles, academia and members from the Hong Kong community in Jakarta.

The fun-filled evening was also accentuated by the appearance of God of Fortune, Chinese lion dance, musical and dance performances from talented youngsters, as well as an exciting lucky draw.



Talented youngsters entertain the guests with brilliant dance and musical performances.



(From third left) Mr Xie Feng; Mrs Do Pang Wai Yee; Regional Director of Southeast Asia and South Asia of the HKTDC, Mr Peter Wong; Chairman of Indonesia-Hong Kong Business Association, Mr James Budiono, and other guests propose a toast on stage.

Drinks reception for visiting Law Society of Hong Kong

On March 8, the HKETO in Jakarta organised a drinks reception to welcome the visiting Law Society of Hong Kong and connect them with Indonesians in the business and legal sectors who are interested in doing business with Hong Kong. The event was a prelude to a seminar held by the Law Society of Hong Kong in Jakarta on March 9, entitled “Hong Kong – Indonesia: Opportunities for the Indonesian Business”. Over a hundred participants attended the seminar and exchanged views and interest on related matters.



Pre-departure briefing for Indonesia students

On August 6, the HKETO and the HKTDC in Jakarta hosted a pre-departure briefing together with Persatuan Pelajar Indonesia - Hong Kong, a student organisation in Indonesia. Over 200 Indonesian students, who will receive tertiary education in universities in Hong Kong, attended the briefing. The briefing gave students a general idea about living in Hong Kong, including the local lifestyle, climate, transportation and other travel tips, which helped them to get ready for the new environment. They also learnt about various affluent and special features of Hong Kong universities.



HKETO's Visits in Indonesia

The HKETO, the HKTDC in Jakarta and the Indonesia-Hong Kong Business Association conducted a market visit to Surabaya from March 20 to 21. The two-day visit aimed to strengthen Hong Kong's connection in Surabaya and East Java region, and to promote Hong Kong's professional services and its unique advantages as an intermediary under the Belt and Road Initiative. The delegation met with various trade and business counterparts in Surabaya, including East Java Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Importer Association Indonesia and Indonesia Chinese Entrepreneur Association to exchange views on matters of mutual interest. The delegation also hosted a seminar and networking luncheon on “Belt and Road Initiative and Hong Kong as a Business Hub in Asia”.



The HKETO and the HKTDC in Jakarta also conducted another market visit and outreach seminar in Bandung from October 4 to 5. During the visit, representatives from the HKETO and the HKTDC established ties with the local government institution. With an aim to explore and promote business opportunities, the delegation also learnt about the industry environment in Bandung by visiting different factories and meeting with the business associations.

