



Capturing Opportunities From the 14th Five-Year Plan

Plans for enhancing Hong Kong's key strengths will pave the way for our recovery from the pandemic and long-term future



At a once-in-a-century time of major change, China's Two Sessions concluded in Beijing last month. Attending the meetings as a member of the CPPCC National Committee, I was very aware of the great attention being paid by both local and foreign media to our national development.

During the meetings this year, proposals for the 14th Five-Year Plan and the Long-Range Objectives through 2035 were passed. The sections concerning Hong Kong and Macao have laid a key foundation for the long-term development of our city.

In addition to the continued support for Hong Kong to enhance its status as an international financial, transportation and trade centre, as well as an international aviation hub, the 14th Five-Year Plan has also proposed to strengthen Hong Kong's role as a global offshore RMB business hub, and a centre for international asset management and risk management.

The plan also includes clear support for Hong Kong to establish itself as a global centre for innovation and technology, a centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in Asia Pacific, and a regional intellectual property trading hub.

It is foreseeable that Hong Kong's services sector will move towards a high value-added development, which will open up a promising future for various professional services including innovation and technology, financial services, insurance, accounting, taxation, auditing, as well as testing and certification.

The coming five years will not only be critical to the development of Hong Kong, but also a challenging period as we figure out how to move forward in a post-pandemic world. We must leverage our advantages of One Country, Two Systems and work towards complementary development with the Mainland, in order to get on board the express train of national development. In particular, Hong Kong can cooperate with other cities in the GBA to tap into international markets.

However, this will only be possible if the pandemic is contained as soon as possible, to enable the reopening of the border between Hong Kong and the Mainland. To this end, at the Two Sessions meetings, I proposed to the Central Government to allow vaccinated Hong Kong residents to travel across the border without quarantine.

Hong Kong has suffered for almost two years with a double whammy of the social unrest and the coronavirus pandemic. Political disputes will only add to the costs for Hong Kong. The Central Government's plan to fully implement the principle of "patriots governing Hong Kong" and to reform the electoral system will help to promote the long-term prosperity and stability of the city. I strongly believe that One Country, Two Systems will be upheld, and Hong Kong will continue to enjoy free trade and remain as the world's most competitive city.

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把握「十四五」機遇

國家提出計劃加強香港的主要優勢，將為本港疫後的經濟復蘇和長遠發展鋪路

正值世界百年未遇的大變局，全國兩會上月於北京閉幕，我以全國政協委員身分參與其中，格外感到中外傳媒對國家發展的高度關注。

今年兩會通過了國家「十四五」規劃及 2035 年遠景目標建議，當中有專門篇幅談及港澳部分，為香港長遠發展奠下重要基礎。

「十四五」規劃除一如既往支持香港提升國際金融、航運、貿易中心和國際航空樞紐地位外，還提出強化香港作為全球離岸人民幣業務樞紐、國際資產管理中心及風險管理中心的功能，更表明支持香港建設國際創新科技中心、亞太區國際法律及解決爭議服務中心及區域知識產權貿易中心。

可以預見，香港的服務業將會朝高增值方向發展，未來本港的多個專業服務行業包括創新科技、金融服務、保險、會計、稅務、審計和檢測認證等，均大有可為。

未來五年不單是香港發展的關鍵時期，更考驗香港如何在疫情後重新出發。我們必須把握「一國兩制」的優勢，與內地實現優勢互補，趕上國家發展的高速列車。尤其是香港未來可與大灣區其他城市合作，共同開拓國際市場。

不過，大前提是香港能盡快控制疫情，恢復兩地的正常通關。因此我在兩會上向中央政府提出建議，容許已接種疫苗的港人可豁免隔離檢疫前往內地。

過去一年多，香港面對社會動盪和新冠疫情的雙重夾擊，已經沒有政治爭拗的本錢。中央政府提出全面落實「愛國者治港」原則，完善香港的選舉制度，有助推動香港長遠的繁榮穩定。我深信「一國兩制」必會得到延續，香港將繼續是自由經貿及全球最具競爭力的城市。