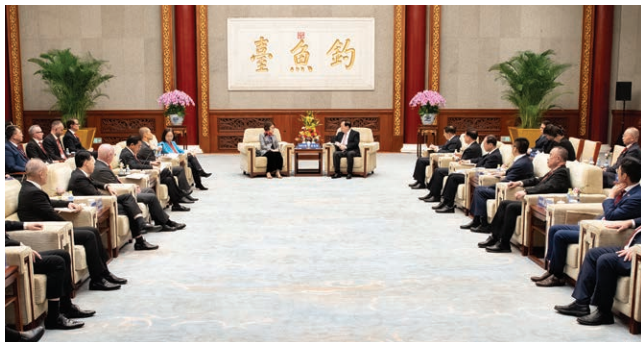




Working Together for a Brighter Future

Hong Kong can continue to leverage its unique advantages for growth under 'one country, two systems'



攜手開創更光明未來

香港應充分發揮在「一國兩制」下獨有的優勢，實現持續增長

我很榮幸在上月率領總商會代表團訪問北京，並受到中央政府官員的熱烈歡迎。

在為期兩天的行程中，我們出席了多場會議，清楚了解到內地全力支持香港邁向高質量發展、繁榮和長遠增長。總商會和商界的貢獻亦受到高度肯定，儘管近年面對疫情、人才短缺和全球經濟不穩等挑戰，我們仍然馬不停蹄，為香港和國家的發展出力。

在國家的堅實支持下，香港作為國際金融中心，一直以金融、法律、物流和人才等領域的專業服務著稱，加上擁有獨立的司法體系和雙語普通法制度，這些優勢有助我們建立強大的國際網絡，為本地經濟蓬勃發展奠定根基。香港在「一國兩制」下可繼續發揮得天獨厚的優勢，擔當內地與世界各地之間的門戶角色。

與此同時，香港必須進一步融入國家發展大局。我認為香港正全力實踐這個目標，除了積極合作推動大灣區發展，亦透過專業服務和文化交流，與「一帶一路」國家加強聯繫。

香港作為通往內地和大灣區的超級聯繫人，以及「一帶一路」建設的重要節點，是區域

經濟合作框架中不可或缺的一部分。

事實上，香港在9月舉行第八屆「一帶一路高峰論壇」時，特首承諾會繼續向更多熱衷與香港和內地建立聯繫的「一帶一路」國家和地區推廣香港。他在上月出席總商會主辦的「商界聯席午餐會」時亦強調，希望能為本地和海外企業打開大門及搭建平台，以促進聯繫和增長。他還打趣道，本年度《施政報告》篇幅較長，是因為商界向他提呈了眾多提振經濟的良策。

中國正朝着全年5%的增長目標穩步邁進。為了實現高質量發展，內地當局正專注推動全球產業供應鏈發展，完善資金和技術流動。我們在北京與當局交流期間，亦談到發展綠色貿易和低碳技術對可持續發展十分重要。為此，中央政府正逐步放寬外國投資者在綠色發展、製造業和數碼經濟等重點產業的市場准入要求。

內地採取多管齊下的發展方式，前景可望一片光明。香港商界定當充分把握這些機遇，為香港和國家建設更美好的未來。

It was truly an honour to lead HKGCC's delegation to Beijing last month, where we received a warm welcome from Central Government officials.

During our many meetings over the two-day mission, it became extremely clear that the Mainland is strongly supportive of the high-quality development, prosperity and long-term growth of Hong Kong. Great appreciation was also shown for the Chamber and our business community, whose contributions to Hong Kong and the country have not slowed down despite the lean pandemic years, talent shortage and current global economic uncertainty.

As an international financial hub enjoying the unwavering backing of the Mainland, Hong Kong is renowned for its top-tier professional services in finance, law, logistics and talent, as well as an independent judiciary and a bilingual common law system. This has helped to forge the strong global connections through which the city has flourished. Under "one country, two systems," Hong Kong can continue to highlight its unique advantages while serving as a gateway between the Mainland and the world.

At the same time, Hong Kong must continue to strive for integration into overall national development. I believe that the city is already on track to achieve this goal through active collaboration in the development of the Greater Bay Area (GBA) as well as strengthening ties with Belt & Road countries through professional services and cultural exchanges.

In its role as a super-connector to the Mainland and the GBA, and as a key city for the Belt & Road Initiative, Hong Kong is integral

to the framework for regional economic cooperation.

In fact, at the Eighth Belt & Road Summit in Hong Kong in September, the Chief Executive vowed to continue promoting Hong Kong to more B&R nations and regions that want to establish links with Hong Kong and the Mainland. He also stressed at the Joint Business Community Luncheon organized by the Chamber last month that he wants to open doors and set the stage for local and overseas firms to connect and grow. He joked that his Policy Address was so long because he received so many good proposals from the business community to boost the economy.

China is on track to reach its annual growth target of 5%. In the pursuit of high-quality development, Mainland authorities are focusing on facilitating global industrial supply chains for the better flow of capital and technology. During our exchanges in Beijing, we also discussed the necessity of developing green trade and low-carbon technologies, which are important for sustainable growth. To that end, the Central Government is easing market access for foreign investors in green development, alongside important sectors such as manufacturing and the digital economy.

All these multi-pronged development plans in the Mainland will create a host of favourable prospects. The Hong Kong business community would do well to seize and build on these opportunities as we work towards a better future for our city and the nation.

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