Cover Story | 封面故事



Leaders of HKGCC and international chambers in Hong Kong were given a comprehensive overview of the latest developments in the Mainland on a two-day business trip to the capital

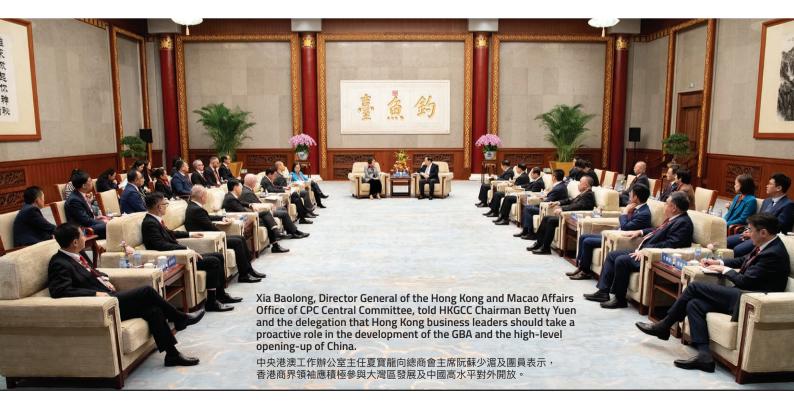
總商會及駐港國際商會的領導在為期兩天的訪京行程期間, 全面掌握內地的最新發展

The Central Government's strong support of long-term development in Hong Kong, China's future policy direction, and recognition of the Chamber's role in the city's economic growth were the key takeaway messages from HKGCC's high-level mission to Beijing on 9-10 November.

Led by HKGCC Chairman Betty Yuen, the delegation of Chamber leaders as well as heads of international chambers in Hong Kong called on various government ministries and departments in the capital.

Welcoming the delegation at the historic Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, a diplomatic complex in the city's western suburbs, Xia Baolong, Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of CPC Central Committee, acknowledged the Chamber's important role in promoting Hong Kong's economic and trade development over the past 162 years. He also recognized its contributions to the city's prosperity and stability.

To support Hong Kong in better integrating into the overall national development, he encouraged the full and faithful implementation of the principle of "one country, two systems." He also emphasized that business leaders should take a proactive role in the development of the Greater Bay Area (GBA) and the high-level opening-up of China.





Chamber Chairman Betty Yuen (left) with Wang Ping, Director General of the Third Bureau of the United Front Work Department of CPC Central Committee and Secretary General of the China Overseas Friendship Association.

總商會主席阮蘇少湄 (左) 與中央統戰部三局 局長、中華海外聯誼會秘書長王萍會晤。

> Leaders of international chambers in Hong Kong also joined HKGCC's trip to Beijing, which included meetings, site visits and networking sessions.

多位外國駐港商會領導亦有隨總商會代表團 赴京訪問,期間參加了多場會議、實地考察 活動和聯誼聚會。

Xia said the Central Government recognizes the immense added-value that Hong Kong as a financial hub generates for the nation, especially with its international expertise and professional services such as finance, law, logistics and talent, among others.

Expressing optimism about Hong Kong's future development, Xia said he had utmost confidence in HKSAR Chief Executive John Lee and his governing team, as well as the advantages of "one country, two systems," which the wider business community in Hong Kong has always supported, and which foreign firms in the city leverage for long-term growth. He also reiterated that there was no need for foreign investors to worry about any changes to the business environment in Hong Kong. Last, but not least, the Central Government was positive about the outlook for Hong Kong and would continue to provide unwavering support for the growth and prosperity of the city. Speaking at the meeting, Yuen said that as a highly open and externally oriented economy, Hong Kong was vulnerable to factors such as geopolitical tensions, economic







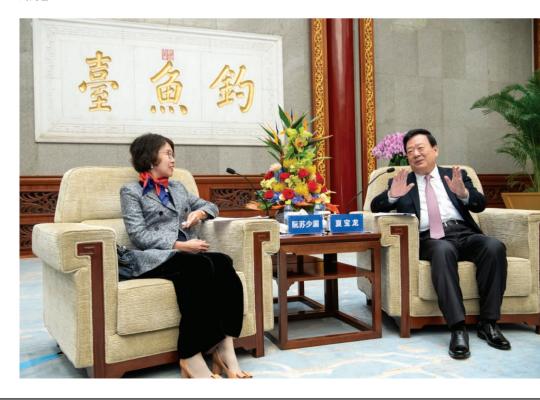
uncertainty, inflation and rising interest rates, which have impacted recovery. Coupled with intense global competition and acute talent shortage, Hong Kong was indeed facing a hard time, she added. Yuen also emphasized that China's stable development served as a strong and reliable backing for Hong Kong. "As such, the business

community agrees that we should dovetail with the country's strategy of high-quality development to integrate into the overall national development by actively taking part in the development of the GBA and the Belt & Road," she said.

Shared Future to Benefit All

Although the world had seen all kinds of challenges throughout its history, overall development was on an upward spiral, said

The delegation with Xia Baolong at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse. Below, in an exchange with the Chamber Chairman, Xia acknowledged HKGCC's historic role in Hong Kong's economic development. 夏寶龍在釣魚臺國賓館接見訪問團。下圖:夏主任與總商會主席交流期間,肯定總商會長久以來在香港經濟發展中







Delegates enjoyed a first-hand experience of the state-of-the-art technology at Zhongguancun Plaza Exhibition Center, and learned about the innovative achievements of local tech companies based there.

團員在中關村展示中心體驗 頂尖科技,並了解當地科技 企業的創新科研成果。

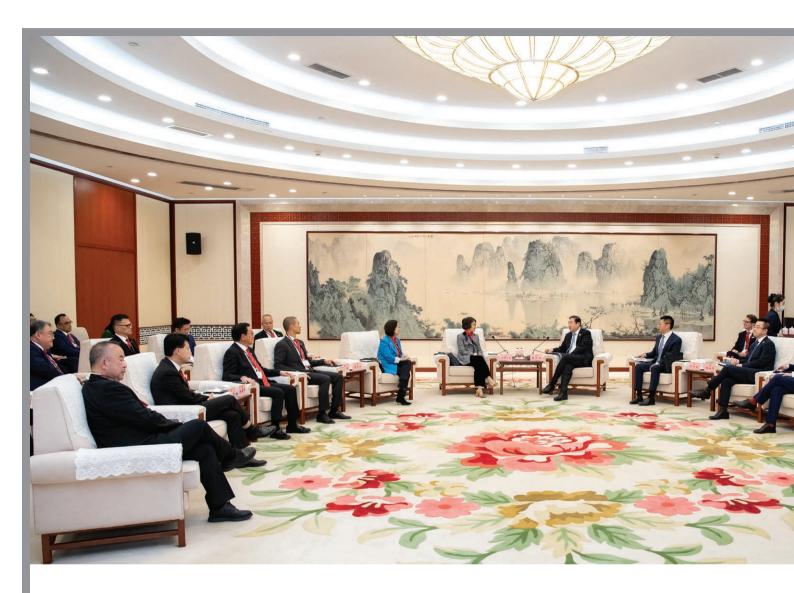


Wang Ping, Director General of the Third Bureau of the United Front Work Department of CPC Central Committee and Secretary General of the China Overseas Friendship Association. She added that the Chamber's position echoed President Xi Jinping's idea of building a common community with a shared future for mankind, which requires the removal of various barriers in terms of system, economy, culture and nature. This would facilitate the flow of people, goods and capital, and ultimately, economic and trade development around the globe.

She also noted that interconnectivity via the internet was essential to building a community with a shared future in cyberspace, and therefore integral to socioeconomic development and international cooperation. She said China would continue to pursue high-level opening-up to create new opportunities for the world. Meanwhile, we should keep sharing good stories of Hong Kong and the country to Asia and the world for a win-win outcome.

Important Player in Global Supply Chains

With China recording 5.2% GDP growth year-on-year in the first three quarters, the economy is continuing to improve, and is on track to reach its annual growth target of 5%. Zhang Shaogang, Vice Chairman of China Council for the



Promotion of International Trade, said all 39 major industries had experienced growth, especially high-tech manufacturing, which was sustaining very rapid growth. As the world's second-largest economy and consumption market, China is a major player and advocate of the global industrial supply chains, facilitating the flow of capital, industrial capacity and technology. Zhang explained that supply chain interconnectivity would pave the way for a bright future of "Chinese-style modernization" and contribute to the prosperity of the world.

Livelihood Projects in B&R

Pan Jiang, Deputy Director-General of the Department of International Cooperation of the National Development and Reform Commission said President Xi was highly invested in the socioeconomic development in Hong Kong.

Pan referenced the report of the 20th National Congress last year, which indicated the Central Government's full support for Hong Kong to better integrate into national development. Plans to foster socioeconomic growth would strengthen Hong Kong's global status in areas such as finance,

trade, maritime, innovation and technology.

As this year marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative, Pan said China had not only taken forward many "highend" international projects in its process of opening up, but had also participated in many "small yet smart" livelihood projects. The country would work to expedite the development and implementation of these "small yet smart" projects to further enhance the role of the Belt & Road to promote growth in various areas, from livelihood to green development.



At a meeting with Zhang Shaogang, Vice Chairman, the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, the two sides discussed China's role as an important player in global supply chains and interconnectivity.

代表團會見中國國際貿易促進委員會副會長張少剛,雙方討論中國在全球供應鏈 及國際聯通方面的重要角色。

> and application of low-carbon technologies and products, as well as international cooperation in green development to achieve sustainable growth.

> Long said the transition to a green and low-carbon economy has presented tremendous opportunities in green services, technology and development for countries around the world.

The business community in Hong Kong should proactively grasp new opportunities arising from the green economy by accelerating the development of a robust green and low-carbon economic system.

Easing Market Access for Foreign Investment

Appreciating the important contributions that Hong Kong entrepreneurs have made to the country's social and economic growth despite the challenging global landscape, Fan Shijie, Director General, Department of Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, Ministry of Commerce, said foreign trade in China would be on the uptick in the long term, given its solid foundation. China will further ease market access for foreign investors and ramp up efforts to lure investment to areas such as manufacturing, digital economy and green development, with a view to driving high-quality development in commerce and trade for mutual benefits.

Upon returning from the mission, Yuen expressed gratitude to the Central Government for its strong support for Hong Kong's development and emphasis on the city's international status. The "one country, two systems" principle, which has remained unchanged, served to instill confidence in the business community in Hong Kong. Meanwhile, China's steady progress, with investment focusing on green and digital economic development, would create significant business opportunities. Hong Kong businesses have to seize these opportunities by integrating with national development.

During the mission, the delegation also met Yuen Wai Yin, Deputy Director of the Office of the Government of the HKSAR in Beijing. Both sides discussed and shared views on current economic issues in Hong Kong and the Mainland. They also attended a networking dinner with the Hong Kong Professionals (Beijing) Association, and met members of the Hong Kong Association of China Business in Beijing.

The trip included a tour of the Exhibition Center at the Zhongguancun National Innovation Demonstration Zone — a major technology hub that is home to nearly 22,000 companies — and a lunch meeting with various enterprises operating in the zone.

Robust Green, Low-carbon Economy

Long Guoqiang, Vice President, the Development Research Centre of the State Council, pointed out that the country has witnessed obvious changes in the structure of its export products. In the past, China mainly exported low-end products. With its manufacturing sector expanding rapidly thanks to improving skill levels, high-tech industries have become a key direction for China's exports.

Going forward, China will step up efforts to promote green trade, green investment, the development 總商會於11月9至10日率領高層代表團訪 問北京,行程期間接收到的主要訊息,是 中央政府將全力支持香港的長遠發展、 堅定貫徹中國未來的政策方向,以及充 分肯定總商會在香港經濟發展中的角

是次高層訪問團由總商會主席阮蘇少湄 率領,成員包括總商會領導及駐港國 際商會的主管,先後拜訪了多個國家 部委機構。

中央港澳工作辦公室主任夏寶龍在位 於北京西城的釣魚臺國賓館接見訪問 團。會上,夏寶龍充分肯定總商會在 過去162年來在推動香港經貿發展方 面發揮的重要作用,以及長期以來對 維護本港繁榮穩定作出的積極貢獻。

他勉勵專員繼續全面準確貫徹「一國 兩制」方針,支持香港更好融入國家 發展大局,又強調商界領袖應積極參 與粤港澳大灣區 (大灣區)建設及中 國高水平對外開放。

他談到香港作為金融中心,中央政府 看重本港為國家創造的龐大附加價 值,尤其是在金融、法律、物流和人 才等領域的國際視野和專業服務。

夏寶龍看好香港的未來發展:首先是 對香港特區行政長官李家超及其管治 團隊充滿信心;其次是「一國兩制」



Constructive meetings were held with the National Development and Reform Commission. 代表團與國家發展和改革委員會會晤。

帶來的優勢——香港廣大商界一直予 以支持,而外國企業亦視之為留港長 遠發展的有利條件, 因此海外投資者 無需擔心香港的營商環境出現任何變 化;最後是中央政府對香港的前景有 信心, 並將繼續堅定不移支持本港繁 榮發展。

阮蘇少湄在會上指出,香港是高度開 放的外向型經濟體,面對當前地緣政 局複雜緊張,全球經濟動盪不穩,以 及通脹和加息等因素,以致復蘇進度 緩慢。加上全球競爭加劇,人才嚴重 短缺,香港確實舉步維艱。

她強調國家穩步發展,是香港強大可 靠的後盾,「因此商界都認為要配合 國家的高質量發展戰略,透過深入參 與大灣區和『一帶一路』建設,從而 融入國家的發展大局。」

構建人類命運共同體、 官現互利共贏

中共中央統戰部三局局長、中華海外 聯誼會秘書長王萍表示,儘管在人類 及世界發展歷史上會經歷很多風浪, 但整體發展是螺旋上升的。她又稱, 總商會的定位體現了習折平主席所宣 導的人類命運共同體,而構建人類命 運共同體需要打通各種壁壘,包括制 度、經濟、文化及自然等限制,讓人 流、物流及資金流都能流通,進而促 進全球經貿發展。

她還提及推動互聯網互聯互通是構建 網路命運共同體的重要舉措,對促進 經濟增長、社會發展和深化國際交流 合作至關重要。她表示,中國將繼續 推進高水平對外開放,為世界開創新 機遇。與此同時,我們應繼續向亞洲 以至全球各地説好香港和國家故事, 實現互利共贏。

全球供應鏈重要參與者

中國首三季度國內生產總值(GDP) 按年增長5.2%,經濟持續恢復向好, 有望實現5%左右的全年增長目標。中 國國際貿易促進委員會副會長張少剛



Officials at the Ministry of Commerce forecast that China's foreign trade would see an increase in the long term.

商務部官員預測中國對外貿易長遠將繼續增長。

指出,內地全部39個工業大類均實現 增長,高技術製造業維持快速增長。

中國作為世界第二大經濟體和消費市 場,一直是全球產業供應鏈的重要參 與者和維護者,有助聯通全球資金 流、產業流及技術流。張少剛解釋, 供應鏈互聯互通將把國家帶往中國式 現代化,為邁向全球共同繁榮的美好 未來鋪路。

「一帶一路」民生項目

國家發展和改革委員會國際司副司長 潘江表示,習主席高度重視香港的社 會經濟發展。

他引述去年堂的二十大報告, 説明中 央政府明確支持香港更好融入國家發 展大局。該報告對推動香港社會經濟 發展作出了重要的部署,這將提升本 港在金融、貿易、航運及創新科技等 領域的國際地位。

今年是共建「一帶一路」倡議十周 年,潘江表示中國在對外開放的過程 中不僅推進了許多大型國際基建項 目,也參與了不少「小而美」的民生 工程。國家未來將加速推進落實「小 而美」項目建設,進一步提升「一帶 一路」對改善民生和推動綠色發展等 方面的促進作用。

建立健全綠色低碳經濟體系

國務院發展研究中心副主任隆國強談 到出口產品結構變化顯著。過去,中 國出口主要集中在低端製造業;隨着 國家製造技術水準不斷提高,帶動業 界急速發展,高端技術產業已成為中 國出口的主要方向。

未來,中國將大力推動綠色貿易、綠 色投資及低碳技術和產品的發展應 用,同時加強綠色發展的國際合作, 實現可持續增長。

隆國強認為,綠色低碳轉型為世界各 國帶來了重大機遇,包括綠色服務、 綠色技術及綠色發展方式。





The delegation also enjoyed networking events with representatives from Hong Kong Professionals (Beijing) Association and the Hong Kong Association of China Business in Beijing.

團員與駐京的香港專業人士(北京)協會和香港內地經貿協會的代表聯誼交流。

香港商界應積極把握綠色經濟的新 機遇,加快建立健全的綠色低碳經 濟體系。

放寬外資市場准入

國家商務部台港澳司司長樊世傑讚 揚香港企業家對內地社會經濟發展 作出的重要貢獻。他也談及內地外 貿產業基礎雄厚,將維持長期向好 的態勢。中國將進一步放寬外資市 場准入,並加大力度引導外資投向 先進製造業、數碼經濟和綠色發展 等領域,以推動經貿高質量發展, 實現互惠共贏。

阮蘇少湄結束訪京之行回港後表示, 感謝中央政府一直以來對香港的支

持,重視香港的國際地位。「一國兩 制」維持不變,給予香港商界莫大信 心。與此同時,中國不斷進步,尤其 集中投放資源推動綠色及數碼經濟發 展,這將帶來龐大的商機。香港商界 務必抓緊機遇,融入國家發展。

此行,團員亦拜會了香港特區政府駐 北京辦事處副主任阮慧賢,雙方就當 前香港及內地的經濟議顯深入探討交 流。他們還出席香港專業人士(北 京)協會的聯誼晚宴,又與香港內地 經貿協會的代表會面。

代表團一行亦參觀了北京中關村國家 自主創新示範區展示中心。該科技園 區有近22,000家高新技術企業進駐, 團員藉機與區內企業共膳交流。