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Panel on Commerce and Industry
Panel on Economic Development
Panel on Financial Affairs
Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

Minutes of joint meeting
held on Tuesday, 19 March 2019, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Members of the Panel on Commerce and Industry

- * @ Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS (Chairman of the Panel on
Commerce and Industry)
- *#@ Hon Alvin YEUNG (Deputy Chairman)
- *# Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
- *#@ Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP
- *# Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
@ Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
@ Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
- *# Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, SBS, JP
- *#@ Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
- *#@ Hon CHU Hoi-dick
- * Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP
- *# Hon SHIU Ka-fai
- *#@ Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH

Members of the Panel on Economic Development

- ^ @ Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan (Chairman of the Panel on
Economic Development)
- ^ # Hon WU Chi-wai, MH (Deputy Chairman)

- #@ Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP
- @ Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
- @ Hon Claudia MO
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
- # Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
- # Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho

Members of the Panel on Financial Affairs

- ^ Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP (Chairman of the Panel on Financial Affairs)
- * Hon Kenneth LEUNG (Deputy Chairman)
- @ Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

Members of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

- * Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP (Chairman of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting)
- ^*# Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan
Hon HUI Chi-fung

Members absent : Members of the Panel on Economic Development

- # Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Members of the Panel on Financial Affairs

- Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
- @ Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP

- ^ Also members of the Panel on Commerce and Industry
- * Also members of the Panel on Economic Development
- # Also members of the Panel on Financial Affairs
- @ Also members of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

Member attending : Hon CHENG Chung-tai

Public officers attending : Agenda item II

Mr Patrick NIP, JP
Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Mr Nicholas W YANG, GBS, JP
Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Mr James Henry LAU Jr., JP
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Dr Bernard CHAN, JP
Acting Secretary for Commerce and Economic
Development

Mr Roy TANG, JP
Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs

Ms Erica NG, JP
Deputy Secretary for Commerce and Economic
Development (Commerce & Industry)

Ms Maisie CHAN, JP
Deputy Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Mrs Millie NG, JP
Deputy Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Ms Estrella CHEUNG
Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the
Treasury (Financial Services)

Ms Pecvin YONG
Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the
Treasury (Treasury)

Miss Drew LAI
Principal Assistant Secretary for Commerce and Economic
Development (Communications and Creative Industries)

Miss Sharon KO
Principal Assistant Secretary for Education

Ms Queenie WONG
Principal Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and
Mainland Affairs

Clerk in attendance : Mr Desmond LAM
Chief Council Secretary (1)3

Staff in attendance : Mr Joey LO
Senior Council Secretary (1)8

Mr Terence LAM
Council Secretary (1)3

Ms May LEUNG
Legislative Assistant (1)3

Miss Zoe YIP
Clerical Assistant (1)3

Action

I. Election of Chairman

Members noted that Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Chairman of the Panel on Economic Development, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Chairman of the Panel on Financial Affairs and Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Chairman of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting had agreed that the joint meeting be chaired by Mr YIU Si-wing, Chairman of the Panel on Commerce and Industry. In accordance with rule 22(k) of the House Rules, members agreed that Mr YIU should chair the joint meeting.

II. Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

(LC Paper No. CB(1)697/18-19(01) -- Administration's paper on "Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area"

LC Paper No. CB(1)697/18-19(02) -- Paper on the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (background brief))

Presentation by the Administration

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs ("SCMA") briefed members on the key areas set out in the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area ("Outline Development Plan") promulgated by the Central Government on 18 February 2019 and the related work of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("SAR") Government in taking forward the Outline Development Plan. SCMA said that the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area ("Greater Bay Area") was a key development strategy in the country's reform and opening up in the new era. Through further deepening cooperation among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, the objective was to promote coordinated economic development in the Greater Bay Area, leverage the complementary advantages of the three places, and develop an international first-class bay area for living, working and travelling. Secretary for Innovation and Technology ("S for IT"), Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury ("SFST") and Acting Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development ("SCED(Atg)") then separately briefed members on the work in their respective policy areas as per the Outline Development Plan. Details were set out in the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(1)697/18-19(01)).

Discussion

Attracting and nurturing talents

3. Mr Charles Peter MOK raised concern that the Administration might focus all its effort on formulating policies and measures pertaining to the Outline Development Plan and put less emphasis on taking forward other initiatives which could be equally important to the development of Hong Kong. In particular, Mr MOK was worried that the Outline Development Plan could cause a brain drain of Hong Kong's talents who might choose to pursue a career in the Greater Bay Area. He urged the Administration to put Hong Kong's interest first in taking forward the development of the Greater Bay Area.

4. SCMA advised that the Outline Development Plan was an important document guiding the development of the Greater Bay Area. Detailed policy measures would be formulated. While understandably the nine Greater Bay Area cities in Guangdong Province and the two SARs of Hong Kong and Macao would

each endeavour to capitalize on the Greater Bay Area Development to enhance their own competitiveness under the Outline Development Plan, Hong Kong should seize the opportunity and give priority to implement policies which were conducive to its development and competitiveness. In fact, the Outline Development Plan had set out the positioning of the cities with a view to avoiding vicious competition and homogenization. As for the concern on talents, SCMA said that talents would be attracted to where opportunities abound. There were a number of measures in place for attracting and retaining talent. The Administration would regularly review such measures to ensure their effectiveness.

5. Dr Elizabeth QUAT opined that the Administration should be more proactive in attracting overseas talents by offering more competitive incentive schemes, as Hong Kong's accommodation cost was prohibitive to those who wished to set up a foothold or pursue a career in Hong Kong. She said that Hong Kong was facing a shortage of innovation and technology ("I&T") talents at the mid-tier, particularly in the areas of artificial intelligence ("AI") and financial technology. Nurturing of talents had become all the more important in the face of the I&T brain drain. As such, she urged the Administration to include AI coding in the regular science, technology, engineering and mathematics curricula of primary schools in order to groom local I&T talents at an early age, so that they could embrace the opportunities offered by the development of the Greater Bay Area. Dr QUAT enquired about the measures the Administration would take to promote healthy competition among Hong Kong and Greater Bay Area municipalities while attracting and nurturing talents for Hong Kong. She also urged the Administration to formulate an I&T industrial policy to facilitate the commercialization of research and development ("R&D") outcomes.

6. S for IT considered that the development of the Greater Bay Area into an international hub for I&T would create a larger market and provide more opportunities for both talent and capital. Through a wide range of measures to enhance Hong Kong's I&T ecosystem including the establishment of innovation clusters, the Administration aimed to attract top-notch scientific research institutions and talent around the world to Hong Kong which, in turn, would contribute to the nurturing of Hong Kong's local I&T talent.

Taxation issues

7. Mr Kenneth LEUNG enquired whether the determination of the 183 days for individual income tax residents announced by the Leading Group for the Development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area ("Leading Group") would apply to the whole country or the Greater Bay Area only. Mr LEUNG urged the Administration to confirm with the Mainland tax authorities the definition of "available accommodation" when amending the Comprehensive Double Taxation Agreements ("CDTAs") with the Mainland later this year, and

whether such a definition would have a bearing on the interpretation of other CDTAs which Hong Kong entered into with other cities/region. He also urged the Administration to clarify with the Mainland authorities the requirement for social security contributions for Hong Kong people pursuing a career in the Mainland. In this regard, Mr Holden CHOW suggested devising an online platform for individual income tax residents to check their eligibility for tax exemption.

8. SFST advised that the necessary amendments to Hong Kong's CDTA with the Mainland arose from the proposed inclusion of a Teachers and Researchers Article which provided special tax arrangement for eligible cross-boundary teachers and researchers. Other CDTAs which Hong Kong entered into with other jurisdictions would not be affected. SFST added that according to the Administration's understanding, the relaxed determination of the 183 days for individual income tax residents would apply across the country and not just to the Greater Bay Area. As for the interpretation of "with domicile", SFST said that it was the Administration's understanding that a Hong Kong or Macao resident without household registration in the Mainland would normally not be deemed to have domicile in the Mainland even if he/she held a property in the Mainland or a Mainland residence permit. SFST added that the Administration had been following up with the Mainland authorities on the new taxation arrangements. The Administration currently saw no need for an online platform for Hong Kong residents to check their number of days of stay in the Mainland in a year as it could be easily calculated.

9. Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan noted that in accordance with the arrangement for providing financial subsidies to non-Mainland talents for individual income tax differential, the municipal governments would provide subsidies to non-Mainland high-level and high-demand talents working in the nine Mainland municipalities of the Greater Bay Area, with a view to offsetting the individual income tax differential between the Mainland and outside the Mainland. Mr CHUNG enquired about the definition of "high-level talents" and urged for expansion of the initiative to cover all talents without discrimination.

10. SFST advised that the financial subsidies for individual income tax differential for non-Mainland talents working in the Greater Bay Area were selective without being discriminatory as municipal governments had to pay for the subsidies. Different municipal authorities might have different views on the definition of "high-level talents" which would be announced by the authorities in due course.

Finance

11. Noting that under the Outline Development Plan, the Administration would steadily expand the channels for Mainland and Hong Kong residents to invest in financial products in each other's market, Mr CHAN Chun-ying enquired whether

the Administration would consider establishing a closed-loop system cross-boundary financial channel to address the Mainland authorities' concern about the outflow of funds. Mr CHAN also enquired how the Administration would widen the scope of use of Hong Kong's e-wallets in the Mainland, and whether it would implement measures to help Hong Kong and Macao residents who sought to purchase properties in the Greater Bay Area take out mortgages in Hong Kong.

12. SFST advised that existing cross-boundary channels in stocks and bonds such as the Stock Connect and Bond Connect were closed-loop systems which could effectively manage cross-boundary flow of funds. The Government would continue to explore new cross-boundary financial channels which could be established on similar basis. Meanwhile, the Administration would continue to pursue the widening of the scope of use of Hong Kong's e-wallets in the Mainland, and the expansion of the scale and scope of the cross-boundary use of Renminbi ("RMB") in the Greater Bay Area.

13. In response to Mr Holden CHOW's enquiry about the timetable of enabling Hong Kong insurance companies to set up insurance service centres and facilitating cross-boundary sale of Hong Kong insurance products in the Greater Bay Area, SFST said that the Insurance Authority had been liaising with the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission on the matter.

14. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan urged the Administration to seek clarification from the Mainland authorities on Hong Kong peoples' eligibility for purchasing properties in the Greater Bay Area, including the number of residential/commercial properties they could purchase in each of the municipalities. She also urged the Administration to seek to redress the imbalance between the amount of cash an individual was allowed to carry on exit from the Mainland (RMB 20,000) and on entering Hong Kong (HK\$120,000), by raising the limit on the amount of cash an individual was allowed to carry on exit from the Mainland.

15. SCMA advised that the policy for non-locals to purchase properties varied from place to place. On the policies for enhancing the inflow and outflow of funds, SFST would continue to liaise with the Mainland authorities with a view to identifying further areas of improvement.

Trade and investment

16. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan said that the development of the Greater Bay Area was met with enthusiasm by entrepreneurs in Europe who suggested that help desks be set up in Hong Kong to provide one-stop service to overseas entrepreneurs looking for business opportunities in the Greater Bay Area. She also urged the Administration to strive for relaxation of the restrictions on the issue of cross-boundary vehicle licences to facilitate businessmen to travel to and from the

Mainland, and to introduce measures to better protect Hong Kong enterprises' interests in patent, trademarks and intellectual property ("IP").

17. SCMA advised that apart from the work of Invest Hong Kong, the Chief Executive ("CE") and other principal officials would also take the opportunity of their overseas visits to promote the Greater Bay Area. The Guangdong, Hong Kong SAR and Macao SAR governments would also conduct joint-promotion of the Greater Bay Area overseas, such as the promotion in France attended by CE in June 2018. CE would embark on another visit to Japan in April 2019 to further promote the Greater Bay Area together with Guangdong and Macao SAR governments.

18. SCMA added that the eight policy measures introduced by the Central Government for taking forward the development of the Greater Bay Area, including the method for calculating the 183 days for paying individual income tax on the Mainland, and the tax relief by municipal governments to non-Mainland high-end talents, aimed to facilitate Hong Kong residents to develop, work and reside in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area, as well as strengthen the convenient flow of people and goods within the Greater Bay Area. He also noted that the Mainland authorities were considering to set up one-stop service centres to facilitate people living, working or looking for business opportunities in the Greater Bay Area to have easy access to the public counter services.

19. SCED(Atg) said that IP rights were territorial in nature. Hong Kong companies might take legal actions in the Mainland or seek help from the local enforcement agencies, if their IP rights were infringed there. If necessary, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in the Mainland would offer assistance as appropriate. The IP authorities of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao had jointly developed a website to provide handy access for the public to online resources on the IP regimes in the three places. In addition, the Administration would continue to promote the resolution of IP disputes through arbitration and mediation, and encourage Hong Kong companies engaging in cross-border businesses to stipulate in their commercial contracts that Hong Kong law be used as the governing law and that Hong Kong's dispute resolution services be used in case of any disputes arising out of or in connection with the contracts, so as to better protect their interests.

20. Mr WONG Ting-kwong suggested setting up a liaison office of the Hong Kong SAR Government in each of the nine municipalities of the Greater Bay Area to facilitate trade and investment, and provide support to the Hong Kong people and enterprises in the Greater Bay Area. He also enquired whether a dedicated website had been set up to promote the various aspects of the Greater Bay Area to Hong Kong and vice versa.

21. SCMA noted Mr WONG's suggestion and advised that in order to promote the Greater Bay Area, the Administration had set up a dedicated website

"www.bayarea.gov.hk" with rich resources on various policy areas of the Greater Bay Area. A dedicated Facebook page entitled "拾壹城話", Instagram and WeChat Official Accounts were also set up to promote the Greater Bay Area to different sectors.

Cross-boundary flow of data

22. In response to Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan's enquiry about the measures to facilitate cross-boundary data flow in the Greater Bay Area, S for IT advised that the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer had been discussing with the Cyberspace Administration of China matters relating to the development of Hong Kong into an international data hub. An Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation was signed in June 2017 between the Hong Kong SAR Government and the Mainland authorities under the framework of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement ("CEPA") to strengthen exchanges between the two places regarding cross-boundary data flow, and form a joint working group to study feasible measures and arrangements. The cross-boundary use of medical data was one of the areas being explored.

Aviation hub and maritime centre

23. Mr Holden CHOW enquired about the measures to promote high value-added maritime services, in particular, whether the Administration would encourage overseas providers of maritime services, including ship management and leasing, ship finance, marine insurance, maritime law and dispute resolution services, to build up a community in Hong Kong with a view to developing Hong Kong into a high-end maritime centre. Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether the Administration would implement any measures to monitor and maintain Hong Kong's comparative advantages in its maritime services and logistics to prevent Hong Kong from being taken over by its regional competitors.

24. SCMA said that whilst the Administration would continue to leverage Hong Kong's comparative advantages in striving for excellence and achievements, and enhance its influence in the development of nearby regions, it would not be self-complacent but rather would stay vigilant in face of keen global competition. While Hong Kong would build on its traditional strengths, such as its position as an international financial centre and maritime centre, it would also adjust its competition strategies to keep up with the times. For example, the Administration had shifted its focus to the provision of high value-added services for the development of the logistics industry and CE had announced in the 2018 Policy Address a number of new initiatives to attain such a goal. On the other hand, the Administration would strive to remove the entry barriers posed by Hong Kong's

regulatory framework and shortage of land to investors, R&D institutions and talents from overseas and the Mainland.

25. Noting that the Outline Development Plan had proposed various strategic directions to develop a world-class airport cluster in the Greater Bay Area, including the development of cross-boundary helicopter services, Mr Jeremy TAM urged the Administration to formulate strategies to overcome Hong Kong's limitations, such as the shortage of land for a centralized helicopter hub with customs, immigration and quarantine facilities.

Tourism

26. Noting that the Hong Kong SAR Government jointly established the Tourism Federation of Cities in the Greater Bay Area with the tourism authorities of the 10 other Greater Bay Area cities in December 2017 and co-organized the Hong Kong International Tourism Convention with the Hong Kong Tourism Board ("HKTB") and the Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong ("TIC") in December 2018, the Chairman enquired about the future collaborations among the 11 Greater Bay Area cities, and the Administration's financial commitment and timetable for implementing the initiatives concerned. He urged the Administration to be more forward-looking in mapping out the future strategies in this respect.

27. SCED(Atg) advised that since the release of the "Development Blueprint for Hong Kong's Tourism Industry" in October 2017, the Administration had been pursuing the development strategies therein to formulate different tourism initiatives and measures in order to develop Hong Kong into a world-class premier tourism destination. In this regard, the Administration would continue to strengthen exchanges and collaborations with the Mainland tourism authorities, including the Tourism Federation of Cities in the Greater Bay Area, with a view to facilitating the trade in developing more multi-destination tourism products and itineraries. In the 2019-2020 Budget, the Administration had suggested allocating an additional sum of around \$353 million to enable HKTB to step up promotion of Hong Kong's image as a premier tourism destination. Additional funding would continue to be allocated to TIC to encourage the development of more thematic tourism products, and to organize business forums or business cooperation and exchange activities outside Hong Kong, including the Greater Bay Area.

Professional services

28. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok opined that the development of the Greater Bay Area would provide a lot of opportunities to Hong Kong people, and should not be viewed in a negative light. He enquired about the progress of lifting the restriction on Hong Kong construction and engineering enterprises undertaking construction

projects in the Mainland by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development by way of CEPA.

29. SCMA said that the Development Bureau had been actively pursuing the matter with the Mainland authorities. Meanwhile, the Administration would welcome any proposals from the professional services sector on the facilitation measures for Hong Kong enterprises looking to develop the Mainland market.

30. In response to Ms YUNG Hoi-yan's enquiry about the measures to be taken to help the professional services sector tap the Mainland market, SCMA advised that Section 3 of Chapter Six of the Outline Development Plan highlighted the way forward for expediting the development of modern service industries, including deepening the implementation of liberalization measures for service sectors of Hong Kong and Macao under the respective CEPAs with the Mainland; encouraging Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao to work together in establishing professional services institutions; and further developing professional services including legal and dispute resolution services. Regarding the facilitation measures for the legal profession, the Department of Justice had been working with the Ministry of Justice which had recently expanded the geographical scope of partnership associations of Mainland law firms and Hong Kong or Macao Law firms. Starting from 1 March 2019, Hong Kong and Mainland law firms were allowed to set up law firms in the form of partnership associations in the entire Mainland.

Quality medical services

31. Ms Claudia MO raised concern about the Administration's plan to meet the demands for quality medical services in Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area when its own public health system was facing a manpower crisis.

32. SCMA advised that while the Administration was fully aware of the concern about the tight manpower situation in Hong Kong's public health system, it was also mindful of the increasing number of Hong Kong people studying, working and retiring in the Greater Bay Area who would need the medical service that would be of similar quality in Hong Kong. The Administration would strive to address both issues in parallel.

Impact on "one country, two systems"

33. Holding the view that the writing style of certain parts of the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(1)697/18-19(01)) was akin to Mainland official documents, the Deputy Chairman expressed concern on whether the principle of "one country, two systems" could be upheld under the Outline Development Plan. He also enquired how the Administration would ensure

effective implementation of the policies under the Outline Development Plan. Sharing a similar view, Mr WU Chi-wai urged the Administration to maintain Hong Kong's comparative advantage in its legal system.

34. SCMA assured members that the principle of "one country, two systems" would be steadfastly upheld in the process of development of the Greater Bay Area. In fact, similar assurance had been given by the President, Premier and Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China and CE of the Hong Kong SAR time and again, that the Central Government would continue to uphold the principle of "one country, two systems", under which "the people of Hong Kong governing Hong Kong" with a high degree of autonomy; under "one country, two systems". The development of the Greater Bay Area was actually a further step in taking forward the implementation of "one country, two systems", by leveraging Hong Kong's sound legal system and international network. SCMA said that the Administration's paper included a number of quotes from the Outline Development Plan to provide the necessary context.

35. SCMA added that to commensurate with the status of the development of the Greater Bay Area as a national strategy, a top-tier body responsible for coordination was set up in the form of a senior national-level leading group, i.e. the Leading Group which was chaired by Vice Premier Han Zheng, with representatives from the central ministries and CE of the Hong Kong and Macao SAR as members. This would enable more effective coordination and implementation of the policies by driving cities in the Greater Bay Area to complement each other's advantages.

36. Mr CHENG Chung-tai was of the view that the Outline Development Plan was full of paternalism in prescribing the development direction for Hong Kong. He expressed concern about the potential negative effects of the mutual recognition of professional qualifications between Hong Kong and the Mainland. He also urged the Administration to implement measures to protect the interests of Hong Kong people investing, studying, living or retiring in the Mainland.

37. SCMA advised that the Outline Development Plan provided an opportunity for Hong Kong to reinforce its traditional strengths and build on new capabilities in various areas such as I&T. The development directions under the Outline Development Plan, including, inter alia, the positioning of Hong Kong as an international financial, trading, maritime and aviation hub as well as an offshore RMB centre, had gained widespread support among all sectors. The mutual recognition of professional qualifications between Hong Kong and the Mainland was aimed at facilitating those Hong Kong professionals who wished to develop their careers and businesses in the Mainland.

38. In response to Ms Claudia MO's concern about the lack of public consultation on Hong Kong's participation in the development of the Greater Bay

Area, SCMA said that the Hong Kong SAR Government had been actively participating in the development of the Greater Bay Area, and maintaining close liaison with the relevant Mainland authorities and local stakeholders to strive for Hong Kong's interests. As a matter of fact, the establishment of the Leading Group as a top-tier body responsible for coordination at the national-level was a suggestion of the Hong Kong SAR Government.

III. Any other business

39. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:31 pm.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
2 May 2019