

**Information Paper for
LegCo Panel on Commerce and Industry**

**Report on the Work of
HKSAR Government's Offices in the Mainland and Taiwan**

This paper gives an account of the work undertaken by the Office of the Government of the HKSAR in Beijing, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (Taiwan) between October 2014 and September 2015. Details of the work of these six Offices are set out in Annexes 1 to 6.

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Report on the Work of The Office of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in Beijing

The main functions of the Office of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in Beijing (BJO) are to (a) enhance liaison and communication between the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), the Central People's Government (CPG) and Mainland authorities in the ten provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions under its coverage¹; (b) promote Hong Kong in general and particularly its economic and trade relations with the 10 provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions; (c) handle immigration-related matters; and (d) provide assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress.

Commercial Relations

2. BJO (including its Liaoning Liaison Unit) closely monitored the policies, laws and regulations related to Hong Kong enterprises, at national level as well as in provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions under BJO's coverage, in respect of corporate taxation, social insurance, labour relations and import and export, etc.; and provided timely updates and news to Hong Kong enterprises and relevant bureaux and departments. Moreover, BJO also maintained close contact with a number of Mainland ministries and departments concerning economic and trade affairs, so as to understand the latest development on Mainland's policies, laws and regulations and their impacts on Hong Kong.

3. To enhance the dissemination of information to Hong Kong enterprises, BJO has, starting from June 2013, issued Weekly and Monthly Newsletters providing information on Mainland's economic and trade policies and regulations; and business promotion, investment and economic and trade activities respectively to chambers of commerce in the Mainland and Hong Kong enterprises. These Newsletters reported economic and trade policies, laws and regulations, as well as business promotion, investment and economic and trade activities at the national level and in the provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions under BJO's coverage. These Newsletters were also uploaded onto BJO's website for public browsing.

4. At the same time, BJO compiled a Topical Newsletter with information and analysis on policies related to business operations such as taxation, labour, intellectual property and social insurance etc., which were of ongoing concerns to Hong Kong enterprises. The Newsletters, which also covered in-depth analysis on areas in labour, taxation, e-commerce retailing and intellectual property rights on the internet, were disseminated to chambers of commerce and Hong Kong enterprises from time to time. Moreover, BJO organised workshops in Beijing and invited experts to explain relevant policies, laws and regulations on taxation and trademark laws to Hong Kong enterprises and answered their questions. These workshops were all very well received.

5. In May 2015, BJO organised a seminar on the "Master Plan of the China (Tianjin) Pilot Free Trade Zone" in collaboration with the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office (HKMAO) of the Tianjin Municipal People's Government. Six representatives from the relevant institutions of the municipal government were invited to introduce to Hong Kong businessmen in Beijing and Tianjin on the policies relating to general planning of the Tianjin

¹ The ten provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions under BJO's coverage are Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Liaoning, Jilin, Heilongjiang, Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region and Gansu.

Pilot Free Trade Zone, the further sector liberalisation for investment, trade, shipping, leasing, customs facilitation, inspection and quarantine as well as financial innovation. In August 2015, BJO and the Department of Justice, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), also organised a seminar to promote legal and arbitration services in Hong Kong. Both seminars were well attended, with a participation of 150 and 250 respectively.

6. During the report period, BJO participated in a number of trade activities held in the regions under its coverage. For instance, BJO assisted in organising the “18th Beijing-Hong Kong Economic Co-operation Symposium” held in Beijing in November 2014 to promote trade and economic co-operation between Hong Kong and Beijing. To strengthen the ties with the relevant local authorities, commerce bureaux and enterprises, BJO also participated in the “2015 China-Tianjin Investment and Trade Fair cum PECC International Investment and Trade Expo”, “China (Langfang) International Economic and Trade Fair 2015”, “21st China Lanzhou Investment and Trade Fair”, “2015 Eurasia Commodity and Trade Expo”, “10th China Northeast Expo” and “2015 China Arab States Expo”. This helped promote Hong Kong’s economic advantages and Hong Kong serving as a platform for Mainland enterprises to “go global”. During the report period, BJO continued to establish relevant hyperlinks to BJO’s website on major developments and investment projects in provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions under BJO’s coverage in order to facilitate Hong Kong enterprises to obtain the most up-to-date information on business opportunities in the Mainland at first instance.

7. In addition, BJO maintained a close liaison with the Mainland offices of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) and the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) in order to promote the advantageous position of Hong Kong to the Mainland more extensively.

Work to Strengthen “Homeland Relationship”

8. BJO strived to broaden and deepen the liaison network with the Mainland authorities and organisations, Hong Kong enterprises and residents through various activities. BJO further stepped up the collection and dissemination of information to better support Hong Kong residents living, working and doing business in the Mainland. During the report period, BJO continued to enhance Government-to-Government work. BJO strengthened liaison and established platform for co-operation with the central and local authorities through meetings and participation in the activities organised by such authorities. BJO also liaised with the CPG and other Mainland authorities on relevant laws and regulations and policies, as well as provided regular reports to relevant bureaux and departments of the HKSAR Government to facilitate their timely understanding of the policies and developments in the Mainland and assessment of possible implications on Hong Kong. Examples included the reduction of items subject to administrative examinations and approvals, the latest economic statistics, labour and tax policies and food safety, etc. BJO also provided logistical support to HKSAR Government officials during their visits to the Mainland.

9. Apart from maintaining close contact with Hong Kong associations in Beijing (including the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China, the Hong Kong Professionals (Beijing) Association, the Hong Kong Association of China Business), BJO also took the initiative to meet with representatives of Hong Kong people and enterprises in Tianjin Municipal, Langfang of Hebei Province, Shenyang of Liaoning Province, Harbin of Heilongjiang Province, Yinchuan of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Changchun of Jilin

Province, Urumqi of Xinjiang Autonomous Region and Dunhuang of Gansu Province in order to learn about their situations and concerns, and followed up by referring their concerns to relevant authorities.

10. Moreover, BJO supported Hong Kong students studying in the Mainland to promote Hong Kong in the campus through various activities. BJO provided them with information regarding recruitment of HKSAR Government positions. During the report period, BJO organised the “Employment Seminar for Hong Kong Students in Beijing”. Professionals from relevant fields were invited to brief Hong Kong students studying in Beijing on the prospects and trends of the employment markets. The “Orientation session for Hong Kong students in Beijing” was also organised to provide a platform of exchange for these students. Both events received an enthusiastic response. BJO also encouraged relevant organisations in Beijing to provide summer internship opportunities for Hong Kong students studying in the Mainland.

11. BJO is also committed to promoting the strengths of Hong Kong in various aspects (including Hong Kong’s cultural achievements) in the provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions under its coverage to promote mutual understanding between Hong Kong and Mainland citizens. In celebration of the 18th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR, BJO sponsored the “Beijing Dance Festival” which comprised a dance camp for dancers from the Mainland, Hong Kong and overseas; arts cultural exchange session; performance featuring Hong Kong dancers; and media reception, etc. At the same time, BJO sponsored the performance of the Asian Youth Orchestra in Beijing and Tianjin. With the co-operation of the Ministry of Education and the Beijing Education Commission, BJO has arranged around 300 students to participate in the acoustic rehearsal of the orchestra to provide young people and music lovers of both Mainland and Hong Kong with more opportunities for mutual exchanges.

12. During the report period, BJO issued the “Information on Living in the Mainland” to Hong Kong people in the provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions under its coverage from time to time to provide them with the latest information on living in the Mainland. It contained policies that might be of concern to or might have impact on Hong Kong people living in the Mainland and included information such as the full implementation of Beijing’s anti-smoking legislation, the fare adjustments of Beijing’s public transportation, and the extended pre-sale period of the national railway, etc.

Investment Promotion

13. On attracting Mainland enterprises to invest and establish operations in Hong Kong, the North China Investment Promotion Unit of BJO has endeavoured to liaise with and visit potential enterprises, as well as relevant commercial and industrial organisations, and introduced to them the competitive edges of Hong Kong as a platform for Mainland enterprises to develop their overseas business. Those enterprises interested in setting up businesses in Hong Kong will be offered comprehensive assistance and consultation services. During the report period, the Unit proactively reached out to different organisations 442 times, generated 48 live projects and completed 24 projects through enabling the relevant companies to invest in Hong Kong. In terms of investment promotion events, BJO organised or attended 31 industry-specific or investment seminars and exhibitions, which included investment promotion seminars held in Beijing in October 2014, Dalian of the Liaoning Province in April 2015, Qinhuangdao of the Hebei Province in July 2015, and Lanzhou of the Gansu Province and Beijing in August 2015. These events which aimed to highlight the

strengths and business friendly environment of Hong Kong were well-received.

Public Relations

14. During the report period, BJO held seven roving exhibitions at large-scale trade promotional activities in provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions under its coverage, receiving over 470 000 visitors and achieving good publicity effects. The contents of the roving exhibitions included introducing how Hong Kong utilised its own unique advantages to play an active role in the nation's development, Hong Kong's pillar industries, the "win-win" co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland, and the colourful facets of life in Hong Kong as "Asia's world city". BJO also made use of the new Brand Hong Kong publicity material for placing newspaper advertisements in various provinces and municipalities where the roving exhibitions were held to promote the advantages of Hong Kong.

15. BJO also collaborated with the HKTB in co-organising the "My Time for Celebration" thematic exhibition in Beijing and in carrying out a media publicity campaign in Tianjin and Shenyang. The activities aimed to promote Hong Kong's rich tradition in Chinese culture with a view to building the cultural and emotional bonds between the people in the Mainland and Hong Kong.

16. In June 2015, BJO launched a week-long large-scale publicity campaign entitled "Creative Hong Kong • Tianjin" at Tianjin to assist the industries to tap into Tianjin's market. The series of events included a seminar on creative branding, a Hong Kong film week, and a "Creative Hong Kong" thematic exhibition. BJO collaborated with a number of organisations in co-organising various events. These organisations included the HKTDC, Broadway Cinematheque, the HKMAO of the Tianjin Municipal People's Government, the Tianjin Commission of Commerce, the CCPIT Tianjin Sub-Council and the Tianjin Federation of Industry and Commerce. During the same week, the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong also held a consumer products expo in tandem with the "Creative Hong Kong • Tianjin" exhibition staged at the expo. The combined effort was to promote Hong Kong's products and services and foster closer economic and trade co-operation between Hong Kong and Tianjin.

17. The "Creative Hong Kong • Tianjin" activities were well received with close to 200 Tianjin business representatives attending the seminar on creative branding; some 80 guests and 110 media representatives attended the opening ceremony of the Hong Kong film week cum film show and over 150 people were attracted to the opening film. Moreover, the "Creative Hong Kong • Tianjin" exhibition staged in the Hong Kong Pavilion of Tianjin Meijiang Convention and Exhibition Centre attracted some 300 000 visitors over a five-day exhibition period. In view of the popularity of the exhibition, the exhibition was arranged to move to Beijing and Shenyang as a roving series.

18. To promote Hong Kong's film industry, BJO also collaborated with Broadway Cinematheque to co-organise an annual Hong Kong film festival. Renowned film directors were invited to attend related film activities and interact with the audience with a view to fostering closer co-operation between Mainland and Hong Kong film industry workers.

19. In addition, BJO continued to collaborate with the National China Radio's "Voice of China" and "Voice of Huaxia" channels to introduce the latest development of Hong Kong through weekly radio programmes. The broadcast area of the radio programmes covers 31

provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions in the Mainland. BJO also collaborated with the People's Daily Online on maintaining a dedicated Hong Kong webpage in promoting Hong Kong, where stories on the work and lives of people from Hong Kong and the Mainland living on the other side of the border were featured to further enhance the mutual understanding of people of the two sides.

Liaoning Liaison Unit

20. The Liaoning Liaison Unit (LLU) commenced operation on 29 December 2014 to assist Hong Kong people and enterprises to better capitalise on the opportunities brought about by the rapid development of the northeastern region. The LLU is established under the purview of the BJO and is located in Shenyang of Liaoning Province. The LLU is dedicated to strengthening HKSAR's connection with the northeastern region, especially Liaoning provincial and Shenyang municipal governments, by enhancing Government-to-Government co-operation. It also promotes economic and trade relations between Hong Kong and the province, and provides support for Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the related area.

21. On 27 April 2015, the LLU hosted an unveiling ceremony officiated by Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, the Vice Governor of the Liaoning Province Bing Zhigang, the Deputy Director of the Liaison Department of the HKMAO of the State Council Liu Wenda, the Vice Mayor of the Shenyang Municipality Yang Yazhou, the Director of BJO, and the Director of LLU. Over 200 guests attended the ceremony. At the unveiling ceremony, the LLU promulgated the "Practical Guide for Hong Kong Residents Living in the Mainland (Shenyang)" and distributed a special feature on the LLU published on the Liaoning Daily and the Shenyang Evening News as well as a promotion leaflet on the functions of LLU. Around the time of the unveiling ceremony, the LLU staged the "One Root, One Heart" and "300 Families" joint art exhibition in a big mall in Shenyang to increase local residents' understanding of Hong Kong as well as to foster arts and cultural exchange between the two cities. The joint exhibition attracted almost 10 000 visitors and a number of media agencies to cover the event.

22. Upon its establishment, the LLU called on the relevant departments of the Liaoning Provincial, the Shenyang Municipal and the Dalian Municipal governments to report on the establishment and functions of LLU, and discuss how to enhance liaison in the future with a view to strengthening support for Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the areas.

23. Besides the departments of the Liaoning Provincial and its municipal governments, the LLU also maintained close liaison with the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China (Shenyang) and the Northeast Office of the HKTDC to understand the business environment of Shenyang, strengthen ties with Hong Kong enterprises, and learn about their latest developments.

Immigration-related Matters and Assistance Rendered

24. Immigration matters handled by BJO included processing applications for entry to Hong Kong, liaising and maintaining contacts with counterparts in relevant departments on immigration-related issues and matters relating to applications for Chinese nationality in Hong Kong, conducting negotiations on visa-free access with foreign diplomatic missions in Beijing, handling enquiries on immigration matters, promoting the talent admission schemes

and providing practical assistance to Hong Kong residents who have lost their documents or encountered personal safety problems in the Mainland. During the report period, BJO received a total of 160 requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. Of these, 49 cases involved the loss of travel documents or monies, 95 cases were from persons who were involved in traffic accidents, injured, sick or whose relatives had passed away in the Mainland, etc., and the remaining 16 cases involved the detention of Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. In addition, BJO processed 4 294 entry applications and handled 22 927 enquiries.

25. In addition, BJO received a total of 33 other assistance cases during the report period. BJO made referrals to the relevant Mainland authorities for follow up and monitored the progress.

Looking Ahead

26. BJO will continue to promote Hong Kong in the provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions under its coverage and liaise with the governments of these provinces / municipalities / autonomous regions in respect of economic, trade and other matters with a view to enhancing trade, investment, cultural exchanges and communications, etc. between Hong Kong and the Mainland. BJO will continue to monitor developments in major policies, laws and regulations and initiatives in the Mainland and report to relevant bureaux and departments timely for facilitating assessment on the implications on Hong Kong. BJO will also continue to provide strengthened services, information and other support to the Hong Kong people living, working or studying in Beijing.

The Office of the Government of the HKSAR in Beijing
October 2015

Report on the Work of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong (GDETO) is responsible for handling economic and trade matters between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and the five provinces / region of Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan and Yunnan (the five provinces / region), and seeks to attract investment into Hong Kong. GDETO (including its Shenzhen Liaison Unit and Fujian Liaison Unit) continues to strengthen liaison with local government authorities, non-government organisations, Hong Kong residents in the area, relevant groups as well as trade associations to, on the one hand, assist in disseminating information on relevant Mainland policies and measures to Hong Kong businessmen, and on the other hand, help reflect views of the Hong Kong businessmen to the relevant authorities. Besides, GDETO handles enquiries and request for assistance from Hong Kong residents in the five provinces / region. GDETO also promotes Hong Kong through different media.

2. Representatives from the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB), the Hong Kong Productivity Council, the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited, etc. stationed in the five provinces / region and regional industry and trade associations are GDETO's essential working partners. GDETO maintains close liaison to jointly promote trade and economic co-operation between Hong Kong and the five provinces / region.

3. During the report period, GDETO continued to participate in high-level forums and large-scale trade events held in the five provinces / region, including the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2015 in Hainan Province in March 2015, the 3rd China-South Asia Expo and the 23rd China Kunming Import and Export Fair in Yunnan Province in June 2015 etc. GDETO also assisted government departments on both sides in planning and co-ordinating a number of meetings and mutual visits by senior officials from the two places, including the Chief Executive (CE) and the Chief Secretary for Administration (CS)'s attendance at the 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Regional Co-operation and Development Forum and Trade Fair in Guangzhou in October 2014; their attendance at the 17th Plenary of the Hong Kong / Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference in Guangzhou in November 2014; CE's attendance in the 13th Pearl River Delta Annual Gala Dinner in Huizhou in December 2014.

Commercial Relations

4. GDETO continued its efforts to support Hong Kong enterprises, providing a wide range of services to facilitate their business operation in the five provinces / region, including collecting latest information on trade-related policies, laws and regulations and economic development, disseminating such information through the weekly GDETO Newsletters, continuing to reflect views in relation to their concerns to the relevant local government authorities.

5. GDETO organised a number of activities related to issues of concern common to Hong Kong enterprises to promote their business development in the five provinces / region and enhance their understanding of relevant policies and laws and regulations in the Mainland. These activities covered a variety of topics, including transformation and upgrading of enterprises, liberalisation of trade in services between Guangdong and Hong Kong, customs facilitation measures, intellectual property rights, tax issues and pilot free

trade zones, etc. They included –

- “Workshop on Tax Issues and Trademark Laws” in Kunming in November 2014;
- “2014 Workshop on Tax and Customs Issues” in Guangzhou in November 2014;
- “Seminar on the Customs Clearance Integration and Enterprise Credit Management System” in Guangzhou in January 2015;
- “Workshop on Tax Issues and Trademark Laws” in Nanning in February 2015;
- “Meeting with heads of Hong Kong industry and trade organisations” in Shenzhen in March 2015;
- “Guangdong Pilot Free Trade Zone Seminar” in Guangzhou in June 2015; and
- “Seminar on Liberalisation of Trade in Services between Guangdong and Hong Kong” and the launch of “2015 Directory of Hong Kong Service Enterprises in Guangdong” in Guangzhou in September 2015.

6. Separately, GDETO co-organised with the Dongguan Municipal Government and Hong Kong’s industry and trade associations two meetings of the “Joint Conference on the Transformation and Upgrading of Hong Kong-invested Enterprises in Dongguan” in December 2014 and June 2015 respectively in Hong Kong. The meetings introduced the latest policy measures on facilitating the integrated development of the manufacturing industry and e-commerce and promoting development of trade in services, as well as discussed issues of common concern including industry automation and staff vocational training.

7. To have a better understanding of the latest development and investment opportunities of various regions in the Mainland and to facilitate the exchange with the Hong Kong business community, GDETO assisted in arranging for CE’s attendance at the 13th Pearl River Delta Annual Gala Dinner in Huizhou in December 2014 with nearly 1 000 Hong Kong businessmen attending the event. Moreover, GDETO arranged for the Financial Secretary (FS)’s visit to Foshan in June 2015 to meet with senior officials in Foshan and representatives of Hong Kong-invested banks. GDETO also assisted in FS’s visit to Fuzhou, Xiamen and Pingtan Experimental Zone in July 2015 to understand the development in Fujian Pilot Free Trade Zone and to meet with local Hong Kong businessmen.

8. GDETO also closely monitored the development of Qianhai, Nansha and Hengqin. It reflected the views of the HKSAR Government and Hong Kong business community and also assisted in arranging study missions of various Hong Kong business delegations to these areas. In addition, it kept in view development in respect of the Guangdong State-owned enterprises reform, Guangdong’s participation in the “One Belt, One Road” strategy, as well as the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao services trade liberalisation. It closely monitored the opportunities to Hong Kong service enterprises and professional services in the Guangdong market.

9. GDETO was also actively involved in assisting Hong Kong's creative industry to tap into the Mainland market. It organised the opening ceremony and luncheon for "No boundaries for Movies – Co-operation among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in the Movie Industry" in Guangzhou in May 2015, and participated in the 7th China International Animation Copyright Fair in Dongguan in August 2015, attending the opening ceremony of the Hong Kong Pavilion and related activities.

Investment Promotion

10. One of the major duties of GDETO is to project the positive image of Hong Kong as a good business partner, promoting Hong Kong as an ideal platform for enterprises in the five provinces / region to expand their businesses to overseas markets. Through building up and maintaining strategic working relationship with the relevant local government authorities and local industry and trade organisations, we have continued to contact, attract and assist enterprises to invest in Hong Kong, and to make use of Hong Kong to "go global" to tap into the international market.

11. During the report period, Investment Promotion Division of GDETO conducted 424 meetings with / visits to Mainland enterprises, providing advice and assistance to them for setting up a presence or expanding their existing business in Hong Kong. During this period, Investment Promotion Division of GDETO generated 35 live projects and completed 26 projects. Major investment promotion initiatives of GDETO included –

- In October 2014, GDETO collaborated with Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) and the Trade Office of the Economic Affairs Department of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government (CPGLO) in HKSAR and the Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province to co-organise a seminar and CEO luncheon titled "Hong Kong – Platform to Go Global" in Kunming;
- In November 2014, GDETO arranged and accompanied Director-General of Investment Promotion (DGIP) to attend a seminar organised by Guangzhou Municipal Commission of Commerce to share best practices regarding investment promotion;
- In January 2015, GDETO collaborated with InvestHK and the Economy, Trade and Information Commission of Shenzhen Municipality to co-organise a seminar cum luncheon on investing in Hong Kong for innovation and technology industry in Shenzhen;
- In March 2015, GDETO arranged and accompanied Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion (ADGIP) to visit Guangzhou, Foshan and Dongguan of Guangdong Province and attend the seminar for Dongguan enterprises organised by the Dongguan Bureau of Commerce;
- In April 2015, GDETO arranged and accompanied Head of Financial Services of InvestHK to visit Shenzhen and meet Shenzhen enterprises;
- In May 2015, GDETO collaborated with InvestHK, the Trade Office of the Economic Affairs Department of CPGLO in HKSAR and the Department of

Commerce of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region to co-organise a seminar titled “Hong Kong – Platform to Go Global” in Nanning;

- In June 2015, GDETO collaborated with InvestHK and the Shenzhen Federation of Logistics and Purchasing to co-organise a luncheon seminar for the logistics and supply chain industry in Shenzhen;
- In July 2015, GDETO collaborated with InvestHK to organise the “Go Global” Roadshow Seminar in conjunction with the Department of Commerce of Fujian Province, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Fujian Sub-Council and the Fujian Province Federation of Industry and Commerce in Fuzhou, and the “Go Global” Roadshow Seminar cum CEO Luncheon in collaboration with CCPIT Quanzhou Branch and the Quanzhou General Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Quanzhou respectively;
- In September 2015, GDETO arranged and accompanied ADGIP to attend the “2015 China (Xiamen) International Fair for Investment and Trade” in Xiamen of Fujian Province and during which a seminar titled “Hong Kong – Platform to Go Global” was co-organised with the Hong Kong and Macau Office of Xiamen, the Department of Commerce of Xiamen and CCPIT Xiamen Sub-Council; and
- Organised / participated in 24 seminars / forums in the five provinces / region promoting Hong Kong’s investment environment.

Public Relations

12. CE and other principal officials conducted frequent visits to the five provinces / region which have helped foster connections between the HKSAR Government and the Mainland authorities. Highlights of such visits included CE’s attendance at the 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Regional Co-operation and Development Forum and Trade Fair in Guangzhou in October 2014, a mission led by CE to attend the 17th Plenary of the Hong Kong / Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference in Guangzhou in November 2014, his attendance at the 13th HK-PRD Industrial and Commercial Circle Goodwill Gathering 2014 in Huizhou as well as his visit to the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone in December 2014, his call on the Party Secretary of Guangdong Province in January 2015, his attendance at the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2015 in Hainan in March 2015, his visit to Nansha and attendance at the plaque-unveiling ceremony of the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone in April 2015, and his call on Secretary of CPC Zhuhai Municipal Committee and Mayor of Zhuhai Municipal Government and visit to Henqin New Area of Guangdong Free Trade Zone in August 2015. CS also led a delegation of HKSAR Government officials to attend the 20th Working Meeting of the Hong Kong / Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference in Guangzhou in March 2015. GDETO provided logistical support for the above visits.

13. During the report period, GDETO organised a cocktail reception to celebrate the 18th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR in Guangzhou in July 2015. Around 500 representatives from the government departments in the five provinces / region, trade associations and relevant Hong Kong organisations attended the reception. To promote a positive image of Hong Kong and to enhance the overall understanding of the Mainland people on Hong Kong, GDETO staged exhibitions from October 2014 to September 2015 in

Zhaoqing, Foshan, Jiangmen, Dongguan and Shenzhen of Guangdong Province, Haikou of Hainan Province, Fuzhou and Quanzhou of Fujian Province, Kunming of Yunnan Province, and Nanning of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The exhibitions introduced the latest situations of Hong Kong in various aspects, including economy, trade and business, culture, environmental protection, tourism and creative culture, etc. as well as the participation of Hong Kong organisations in charitable activities in the Mainland, with an aim to foster mutual understanding between the two sides. Echoing with the national “One Belt, One Road” strategy, the above exhibitions also emphasised in promoting the role that can be played by Hong Kong’s financial and other professional services in taking forward the national strategy. In particular, GDETO actively participated in the “3rd China-South Asia Expo” in Kunming in June 2015, and the “12th China-ASEAN Expo” in Nanning in September 2015. A large-scale Hong Kong Pavilion was set up to showcase the strengths of Hong Kong in commerce and trade, finance and professional services, and the comprehensive business network. With such strengths, Hong Kong can act as a “super-connector”, helping mainland enterprises to “go global”, to invest and develop in countries along the belt and road.

14. On promoting arts and culture of Hong Kong, GDETO organised the Opening Ceremony of the “Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau Film Industry Exchange Activity Series” together with the Hong Kong Film Development Council, CreateHK, Guangdong Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television Bureau and the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macau Government in Guangzhou in May 2015, and joined the 7th China International Animation Copyright Fair and attended the Opening Ceremony of the Hong Kong Pavilion in Dongguan in August 2015. Moreover, GDETO complemented performances of major performing arts groups from Hong Kong (including Chung Ying Theatre Company, City Contemporary Dance Company, Hong Kong Philharmonic and Hong Kong Repertory Theatre) in the five provinces / region with general publicity for Hong Kong’s arts and culture, and also helped promote these events.

15. To enable members of the public in the Mainland to have a better understanding of various aspects of Hong Kong, GDETO co-produced with the Radio Guangdong a featured programme series, broadcasted each month on the Radio Guangdong News Station and Pearl Radio, and uploaded to the GDETO website for public review. Themes of the programmes included introduction of voluntary teaching assistance of the Hong Kong Service Corps in Guangdong, co-operation of social services between Guangdong and Hong Kong, Hong Kong’s traditional festivals, etc. During the report period, GDETO also received delegates of the Hong Kong Service Corps and study missions from Hong Kong students and briefed them on GDETO’s functions and work.

16. To enhance the publicity of the business environment and positive image of Hong Kong in the Mainland, GDETO arranged interviews by media during its major trade promotional activities and exhibitions, which was well-received. For example, two television channels, two radio stations, seven newspapers and 17 online news platforms reported to the people in the Mainland widely on the “Seminar on Liberalisation of Trade in Services between Guangdong and Hong Kong” and the launch of “2015 Directory of Hong Kong Service Enterprises in Guangdong” in Guangzhou in September 2015. Moreover, the Director of GDETO gave multiple interviews to reporters of major Mainland media and Hong Kong reporters stationed in the Mainland to introduce the work of GDETO and Hong Kong’s economic and trade development. GDETO also produced advertorials from time to time in major newspapers in its service areas to introduce Hong Kong to the people in the Mainland. Topics included charitable activities of Hong Kong enterprises, organisations and

people in the Mainland, Hong Kong's arts and culture, Guangdong and Hong Kong traditional folk activities, etc. These coverages promoted Hong Kong on the one hand, and also demonstrated the friendship between the people of the two sides.

Work to Strengthen “Homeland Relationship”

17. GDETO strived to broaden and deepen liaison network through various activities; stepped up information collection; and implemented various measures to better support Hong Kong residents in the region. Specific work included –

- (a) strengthening Government-to-Government work, e.g. strengthening the liaison with various government organisations in the five provinces / region and exploring co-operation opportunities with them through visits and participation in their activities, so as to make better use of the local government platform to provide assistance to Hong Kong residents and businessmen when necessary;
- (b) enhancing liaison with Hong Kong enterprises and residents in the five provinces / region to better understand their needs and provide appropriate assistance. Examples include meeting with Hong Kong enterprises in the five provinces / region from time to time to understand their latest operating situation, proactively liaising with and arranging meetings and activities for Hong Kong university students in the five provinces / region to exchange views with them. (refer to paragraphs 18 to 23 for details);
- (c) enriching the content of the GDETO Newsletters to cover information related to Hong Kong residents living in the Mainland;
- (d) editing and publishing the “2015 Directory of Hong Kong Service Enterprises in Guangdong” (the Directory) jointly with HKTDC and Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China – Guangdong in September 2015 and launched a dedicated website of the Directory for the public, with a view to assisting Mainland enterprises and residents as well as Hong Kong residents and enterprises in Guangdong to contact Hong Kong service enterprises and professionals in Guangdong for exploring co-operation opportunities;
- (e) stepping up the collection of information on major developments and investment projects in the relevant provinces / region and cities, disseminating such information and organising fora / talks on topics of concern to Hong Kong businessmen;
- (f) enhancing liaison with relevant offices of the HKTDC and the HKTB in the Mainland to jointly promote Hong Kong, sharing information on business environment for Hong Kong enterprises in the five provinces / region and taking necessary follow-up action, and jointly collecting information on major developments and investment projects in the relevant provinces / region and cities; and
- (g) launching a WeChat account in the end of 2014 to disseminate information through the new media in addition to GDETO Newsletter and GDETO's website, facilitating Hong Kong enterprises and residents' access to GDETO's

information and liaison with GDETO. Users could also register for GDETO's activities through the account.

18. GDETO strived to enhance liaison with Hong Kong students in the Mainland, support relevant bureaux to expand and enhance youth exchange and co-operation with Mainland provinces and cities, further expand the Mainland youth exchange and internship schemes, and strengthen support for young people's participation in voluntary services in the Mainland.

19. To enhance liaison with Hong Kong students in the Mainland, GDETO organised briefings and sharing sessions for students from time to time to understand their living and study situation, and to provide the required information and assistance. During the report period, GDETO visited eight tertiary institutions in Guangdong and met with the school leaders and Hong Kong students in schools to exchange views on issues that concerned the students. Sharing sessions were held in April 2015 in Sun Yat-sen University and Jinan University, inviting representatives of Hong Kong-invested enterprises to share their entrepreneurial and working experience in the Mainland. About 150 Hong Kong students attended the sessions. GDETO also held other activities including visits to Hong Kong enterprises, the innovation and business hub in Nansha for youths, etc. to enable students to learn about the latest developments in the Mainland.

20. The Shenzhen Liaison Unit (SLU) also proactively enhanced liaison with Hong Kong students in Shenzhen and organised activities, including collaborating with Shenzhen University in June 2015 to arrange for 80 Hong Kong university students to visit Hong Kong-invested enterprises and Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone which aimed to promote students' understanding of the business operation of Hong Kong enterprises in the Mainland and the development of Qianhai. Participating students considered that the visits enhanced their understanding of the Mainland and helped them plan for their future career.

21. The Fujian Liaison Unit (FLU) also enhanced liaison with Hong Kong students studying in Fujian. It organised various activities, including four sharing sessions for Hong Kong students in Fuzhou, Quanzhou and Xiamen in September 2014, October 2014 and June 2015 respectively, as well as an exhibition of artwork by Hong Kong students in Fuzhou and visit to enterprises in June 2015. A total of 680 Hong Kong students from seven Fujian tertiary institutions participated in these events. Arrangements had also been made by the FLU for Secretary for Education to visit Fuzhou and Xiamen of Fujian Province in June 2015 and meet with Hong Kong university students studying there. In addition, with the assistance of the FLU, Hong Kong tertiary students studying in Fujian formed the Hong Kong Students' Association of Fujian in June 2015, which has become a key platform to connect Hong Kong students in Fujian.

22. To assist Hong Kong students to search for internship and employment opportunities in the Mainland during their study and upon graduation, GDETO encouraged Hong Kong-invested enterprises in the Mainland to provide internship and job openings. During the report period, GDETO disseminated information on about 368 internship / job openings through relevant universities for Hong Kong students in the five provinces / regions to apply. GDETO also published relevant information to Hong Kong students in the Mainland on its website from time to time.

23. Moreover, GDETO supported relevant bureaux to enhance youth exchange, volunteer services and internship schemes in the Mainland. GDETO accompanied senior officials of Home Affairs Bureau to Meizhou and Shaoguan of Guangdong Province in December 2014 and January 2015 to visit members of the Hong Kong Service Corps who provided voluntary teaching services there. GDETO also accompanied Secretary for Education to visit Zhuhai, Guangzhou and Zhongshan in May 2015, to call on educational authorities and local universities there. During the report period, GDETO also received visiting Hong Kong students groups of around 190 people, briefing them on GDETO's work and introducing the latest developments of Guangdong-Hong Kong co-operation.

Shenzhen Liaison Unit

24. The SLU strengthens the co-operation between Hong Kong and Guangdong and that between Hong Kong and Shenzhen by enhancing liaison with the Shenzhen municipal government, non-government organisations and trade associations and providing support to Hong Kong residents and enterprises in Shenzhen, including assisting in reflecting views of Hong Kong businessmen on issues of concern to relevant local authorities. The SLU also closely monitors promulgation of new policies, legislation and regulations in relation to the development of Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone of Shenzhen and Guangdong Free Trade Zone Shekou Area, and helps disseminate such information to Hong Kong enterprises in a timely manner.

25. During the report period, CS co-chaired the Hong Kong / Shenzhen Co-operation Meeting with the Mayor of Shenzhen in Shenzhen in January 2015. Besides, CE attended a series of events including the opening ceremony of the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneur Hub and the launch of Qianhai SIM Card in December 2015, and called on the Secretary of the CPC Shenzhen Municipal Committee and the Mayor of the Shenzhen Municipal Government in Shenzhen in January and July 2015 respectively. The SLU arranged programmes and provided logistical support to the above activities. The SLU also assisted government departments on both sides in planning and co-ordinating a number of meetings and mutual visits by senior officials from the two places.

26. The SLU organised a number of activities related to issues of concern common to Hong Kong enterprises. These included –

- Seminar on “Fostering Good Labour Relations” in December 2014;
- Workshop on “Tax Issues and Trademark Law” in January 2015;
- Seminar on “O2O Technology” in April 2015;
- Seminar on “Internet of Things : New Opportunities and Challenges” in August 2015; and
- Visit to the MTR project in Shenzhen in August 2015.

27. The SLU also participated for the first time in the International Cultural Industries Fair in Shenzhen in May 2015 and set up a Hong Kong Pavilion to introduce Hong Kong's cultural and creative industries. The SLU also invited the Hong Kong fashion and product design industry to co-operate and display a number of exquisite Hong Kong designed fashion

and industrial products to showcase Hong Kong's strength as a regional design hub, with a view to allowing local residents to have a better understanding of Hong Kong.

Fujian Liaison Unit

28. The FLU enhances liaison with the Fujian provincial and municipal governments, non-government organisations and trade associations in order to strengthen mutual co-operation and provides support to Hong Kong residents and businessmen in Fujian, including offering assistance to Hong Kong students and reflecting issues of concern of Hong Kong businessmen to the relevant authorities.

29. During the report period, CS led the government delegation to visit Fuzhou, Quzhou and Xiamen in Fujian in January 2015 and co-chaired the first Hong Kong / Fujian Co-operation Conference with the Vice-Governor of Fujian Province, and witnessed the signing of the Agreement on Strengthening Economic and Trade Co-operation between Hong Kong and Fujian Province and the Agreement on Strengthening Financial Co-operation between Hong Kong and Fujian Province. Besides, Secretary for Education and FS visited Fuzhou and Xiamen, to strengthen education exchanges, and to strengthen trade and economic ties between Hong Kong and Fujian Province, in June and July 2015 respectively. The FLU arranged programmes and provided logistical support to the above activities.

30. The FLU also organised various activities to introduce the latest economic and trade policies and business opportunities in Fujian to Hong Kong businessmen, and to promote a positive image of Hong Kong to local residents. Such activities included –

- a seminar on taxation and trademark laws in Xiamen in November 2014;
- a seminar on policies of Fujian Pilot Free Trade Zone in May 2015; and
- two exhibitions to promote Hong Kong in Quanzhou and Fuzhou in November 2014 and May 2015 respectively.

In addition, the FLU had been closely monitoring the latest development, policy and related legislation and regulations of the Fujian Pilot Free Trade Zone and Fujian's participation in "One Belt, One Road" strategy, and disseminated the latest information to Hong Kong businessmen in a timely manner.

Immigration-related Matters and Assistance Rendered

31. Immigration matters handled by GDETO included handling immigration-related enquiries, promoting the talent admission schemes, and providing practical assistance to Hong Kong residents who have lost their travel documents or encountered personal safety problems in areas under the coverage of GDETO. During the report period, GDETO received a total of 186 requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. Of these, 13 cases involved the loss of travel documents or monies, 159 cases were from persons who were in danger, involved in traffic accidents, injured, sick or whose relatives had passed away in the Mainland, etc., and the remaining 14 cases involved the detention of Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. In addition, GDETO handled 1 259 enquiries.

32. Moreover, GDETO received a total of 54 other assistance cases and made referrals to and followed up on the cases with the relevant Mainland authorities during the report period.

Looking Ahead

33. GDETO will continue to play a pivotal bridging role between Hong Kong and the five provinces / region, enhancing liaison with the relevant Mainland authorities, assisting the HKSAR Government's efforts in deepening Hong Kong-Guangdong, Hong Kong-Fujian and Pan-Pearl River Delta regional co-operation and implementing measures complementing to the Outline of the Plan for the Reform and Development of the Pearl River Delta, and the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong / Guangdong Co-operation.

34. GDETO will continue to facilitate exchange and co-operation in economic and trade between Hong Kong and the five provinces / region and the municipalities; closely monitor the latest development in the region, including the National 13th Five-Year Plan, the policies and initiatives of the provinces / region regarding the "One Belt, One Road" strategy, the planning and development of the Guangdong and Fujian Pilot Free Trade Zones, the implementation of the Agreement between the Mainland and Hong Kong on Achieving Basic Liberalisation of Trade in Services in Guangdong signed on 18 December 2014; disseminate such information and provide assistance in a timely manner so that the Hong Kong business sector can respond promptly to the situation and grasp the opportunities.

35. GDETO will continue its efforts in strengthening homeland relationship to better serve Hong Kong enterprises and people in the relevant regions, and also to enhance publicity work in promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and fostering understanding of people in the Mainland about Hong Kong.

Report on the Work of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai

The main functions of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai (SHETO) (including its Shandong Liaison Unit (SDLU)) are to (a) enhance liaison and communication between the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSARG) and the Mainland authorities in the Municipality of Shanghai and the four provinces of Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Anhui and Shandong (the region); (b) promote Hong Kong and enhance economic and trade co-operation between Hong Kong and the region; and (c) provide appropriate information and assistance to Hong Kong enterprises and residents operating, working and living in the region.

Commercial Relations

2. The Commercial Relations Unit of SHETO continued to work with stakeholders in Hong Kong and the region to promote Hong Kong's business sectors and help them explore business opportunities on the Mainland. The work included –

- (a) Supporting industry delegations and study missions from Hong Kong to visit the region to deepen their understanding of business and investment environments. For example, SHETO participated in the Shanghai and Hong Kong Software Industry Co-operation Conference organised by Hong Kong Software Industry Association in April 2015 in Shanghai to support the promotion of Hong Kong brands and the industry to make use of the opportunity to expand business; and received a delegation from the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce and accompanied them to meet with the Party Secretary of the Shanghai Municipal Committee Han Zheng in March 2015;
- (b) Encouraging and promoting economic exchange between Hong Kong and the region through participation in and organization of trade promotional activities. For example, SHETO attended the “2014 Appreciation Dinner” hosted by the Zhejiang Provincial Government in Shanghai in December 2014, and participated in trade exhibitions such as the 25th East China Fair, the 23rd China International Fashion Fair and SIAL China 16th Edition held in Shanghai. In addition, SHETO provided support to Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSARG to attend the SmartHK Fair in Jinan in May 2015; co-produced television infomercials with the theme “Hong Kong and Shandong: Co-operation on Transformation and Upgrading” with Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), which was broadcast by Shandong Radio-Television Station in May 2015. Separately, in co-operation with a number of authorities and organisations in Shanghai as well as Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) and HKTDC, SHETO organised in August 2015 the “Seminar on Hong Kong's Legal and Dispute Resolution Services 2015”. The seminar aimed at promoting to Mainland enterprises Hong Kong's legal and dispute resolution services as well as Hong Kong's status as a leading international centre for arbitration. SHETO also provided support for Secretary for Justice's visits to various legal and arbitration organisations in Shanghai;

- (c) Organising trade seminars as well as arranging and providing support to exchange activities between HKSARG officials and their Mainland counterparts as well as industry players to strengthen support and assistance to Hong Kong traders in the region. For example, SHETO jointly organised the “2014 Seminar on Hong Kong and Shanghai Co-operation and Development” with the Committee for Compatriots from Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and Overseas Chinese of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Shanghai Municipal Committee, the Hong Kong and Macao Study Centre of the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences and the Better Hong Kong Foundation in November 2014; organised trade seminars each on the topics of trademark law and pension schemes in the Mainland, and the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone (SHFTZ), e-commerce and tax disputes in December 2014; supported Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of the HKSARG to attend the 5th Working Meeting of Hong Kong-Shanghai Financial Co-operation in May 2015; and arranged for Secretary for Justice’s duty visit to Shanghai in August 2015;
- (d) Providing assistance to provinces and cities in the region in organising trade events in Hong Kong and co-ordinating meetings between senior HKSARG officials and visiting Mainland officials. For example, SHETO assisted in arranging for Vice Chairman of CPPCC Shanghai Municipal Committee Jiang Liang to meet with representatives of the Housing Department and Tourism Commission and the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort during his visit to Hong Kong in May 2015; and arranging for Deputy Secretary of the Communist Party of China Pudong New Area Committee Feng Wei to meet with the senior management of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, HKTDC, Hong Kong Monetary Authority and Companies Registry during his visit to Hong Kong in July 2015;
- (e) Maintaining close relations with HKTDC, Hong Kong trade associations and related communities in the region, particularly Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China, and actively participating in and supporting activities of these organisations. In December 2014, SHETO jointly organised the “Shanghai-Hong Kong Co-operation Summit - New Frontiers and New Opportunities” with the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China – Shanghai (HKCCC-SH) and HKTDC, and provided support to Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development to attend the Summit as well as HKCCC-SH’s 2014 annual dinner. SHETO also maintained regular contact with the Shanghai, Hangzhou and Qingdao branches of Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China and the Jinan Hong Kong-Macao Chamber of Commerce;
- (f) Providing timely reports to relevant HKSARG bureaux and departments, and keeping Hong Kong businesses and trade organisations informed, through newsletters and email circulars, of the latest economic and trade policies, regulations and measures on the Mainland and the region. During the report period, SHETO issued 39 circulars / newsletters;
- (g) Monitoring closely policies and report to Hong Kong developments and legislation in the region that may have impact on Hong Kong enterprises as

well as answering enquiries from the trade; collecting views of Hong Kong enterprises on these developments and relevant legislation while reflecting their views to the Mainland authorities concerned where appropriate. Examples included the Bill on Protection and Promotion of Investments from Hong Kong and Macao in Jiangsu Province and developments concerning the “One Belt, One Road” strategy and Yangtze River Economic Belt;

- (h) Monitoring closely latest developments in the SHFTZ, including those after the Zone’s expansion and relevant financial measures, disseminating timely information to the industry and answering related enquiries. During the report period, SHETO issued nine special newsletters on the SHFTZ and assisted in arranging the HKSARG delegation to visit enterprises in the Zone and exchange views with these enterprises during their visit to Shanghai in April 2015 to attend the 3rd Plenary Session of the Hong Kong-Shanghai Economic and Trade Co-operation Conference. In addition, SHETO issued a topical report on the “2014 Negative List, liberalisation measures and financial policies of the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone; and their impact on and business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises” in January 2015 to help Hong Kong businesses better understand opportunities of the Zone; and
- (i) Collecting information on major developments and investment projects in the region, and uploading such information onto SHETO’s official website.

Investment Promotion

3. The Investment Promotion Unit (IPU) of SHETO continued to actively promote Hong Kong’s investment environment, proactively identify and approach Mainland companies and provide them with free one-stop services to assist them in investing or setting up operations in Hong Kong. During the report period, the IPU conducted 32 investment promotion visits, met with 356 companies and generated 33 live projects. Twenty-one projects were successfully completed.

4. During the report period, the IPU carried out a number of major investment promotion initiatives in the region, including –

- (a) In October 2014, giving presentation at the seminar on listing in Hong Kong in Jinan of Shandong Province. The seminar was co-organised by The Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEx) and Finance Office of Shandong Province;
- (b) In November 2014, arranging for and accompanying Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion (ADGIP) to visit Shanghai and Nanjing of Jiangsu Province and meet with the trade and commerce departments of Shanghai and Nanjing and enterprises there;
- (c) In March 2015, co-organising the “Hong Kong – Your Platform to Go Global” Investment Promotion Seminars in Huzhou and Hangzhou respectively with Huzhou Municipal Bureau of Commerce, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Hangzhou Sub-Council and Hangzhou Logistics and Procurement Industry Associations; and inviting and

arranging for the visit of a delegation of Jinan enterprises, led by officials of Bureau of Commerce of Jinan Municipality, to Hong Kong to participate in the “Hong Kong – Your Platform to Go Global” Investment Promotion Seminar cum visit programme for Mainland enterprises organised by InvestHK;

- (d) In March 2015, arranging for InvestHK to be a supporting organisation for a seminar in Jinan of Shandong Province, co-organised by HKEx and the Finance Office of Shandong Province to promote listing in Hong Kong;
- (e) In April 2015, co-organising the “Hong Kong – Your Platform to Go Global” Investment Promotion Seminar in Hefei with InvestHK, the Trade Office of the Economic Affairs Department of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the HKSAR, the Bureau of Commerce of Anhui Province, the Anhui Federation of Industry and Commerce as well as CCPIT Anhui Sub-Council;
- (f) In May 2015, co-organising the “Hong Kong – Your Platform to Go Global” Investment Promotion Seminars in Nanjing and Shanghai with InvestHK;
- (g) In May 2015, arranging for and accompanying the ADGIP to visit Jinan of Shandong Province to participate in “SmartHK” exhibition organised by HKTDC, during which an exhibition booth was set up to promote Hong Kong’s investment environment; and assisting InvestHK in co-organising a conference on “Hong Kong’s Financing Platform for Mainland Enterprises” with HKEx, HKTDC and relevant Shandong government authorities; and
- (h) Organising and participating in 28 seminars / forums in the region, promoting Hong Kong’s investment environment.

Public Relations

5. SHETO continued to organise activities to promote Hong Kong’s latest developments, enhance mutual understanding between Hong Kong and the region and introduce the co-operation between Hong Kong and the region over trade, economic and other areas. During the report period, the activities organised by SHETO included –

- (a) Organising a roving exhibition in the region: From November to December 2014, SHETO held a roving exhibition on the theme of “Same Root, Same Heart – for Mutual Success” in eight cities, which attracted approximately 180 000 visitors. The promotional website and WeChat public account with the same theme online also attracted the visit of more than one million netizens in the region. On occasions of the exhibitions’ opening ceremonies in different cities, SHETO paid visits to the relevant local government departments and officials to explore co-operation opportunities. Arrangements were also made to meet representatives of Hong Kong entrepreneurs and enterprises as well as students to understand their living conditions in the cities;
- (b) Strengthening its ties with Mainland offices of the HKTDC and the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) by organising exhibitions and promotional

activities to promote the strengths of Hong Kong in all aspects and the latest economic and social development. For example, in January 2015, SHETO co-organised “My Time for Celebration” exhibition with HKTB in Shanghai to promote the festive culture in Hong Kong and its positive image, promoting Hong Kong to residents of the Mainland. In May 2015, SHETO and HKTB jointly launched a media promotional campaign with the theme on Tuen Ng Festival and dragon boat competitions. In May 2015, SHETO participated in the “SmartHK Fair” organised by HKTDC in Jinan and set up a Hong Kong Pavilion;

- (c) Enhancing cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and the Mainland: SHETO supported Asian Youth Orchestra for their performances in Shanghai in August 2015. SHETO also arranged the youths in Shanghai to meet with the orchestra’s members;
- (d) On media relations, establishing and maintaining relationship between the Hong Kong and Mainland media, such as arranging interviews and gatherings in respect of events of SHETO and other Hong Kong affairs. SHETO also assisted in organising media interviews and press conferences for the visits of senior officials from the HKSARG (including the Chief Executive) to the provinces and cities in the region. For example, SHETO assisted in media arrangements for the visit of the Chief Executive and Financial Secretary in Shanghai during the 3rd Plenary Session of the Hong Kong-Shanghai Economic and Trade Co-operation Conference in April 2015;
- (e) Promoting the co-operation with media: SHETO co-operated with the People’s Radio in Jinan, Shandong and launched a radio programme to introduce the different aspects of Hong Kong, including its history, culture, tourism, outstanding personalities, economic and trade between Hong Kong and Shandong, to local residents. The programme runs five times a week and last from February 2015 to February 2016;
- (f) Providing assistance to the visits of Mainland officials to Hong Kong to strengthen their understanding of Hong Kong and promote mutual exchange and co-operation. For example, SHETO assisted in arranging for Deputy Secretary of the Communist Party of China Pudong New Area Committee Feng Wei to meet with representatives of the relevant HKSARG bureaux and departments during his visit to Hong Kong in July 2015; and
- (g) Receiving various groups of Hong Kong visitors, including students and commerce associations, and introducing them the duties of SHETO, the latest developments of economic and trade relationship between Hong Kong and Shanghai, and the updated developments of SHFTZ through different briefings. During the report period, SHETO received a total of over 560 students from various Hong Kong tertiary institutions.

Work to Strengthen “Homeland Relationship”

6. SHETO strived to broaden and deepen liaison network through different activities; enhanced information collection effort; and implemented various initiatives to provide stronger support to Hong Kong people in the region. Details of SHETO’s work included –

- (a) Enhancing Government-to-Government work, through visiting various government organisations in the region and participating in their activities, to strengthen the communication and explore bilateral partnership and co-operation opportunities so as to better utilise the local government platform to provide assistance to Hong Kong enterprises and citizens when necessary. In 2015, SHETO visited different levels of relevant government officials of different provinces / cities within the region (including those responsible for commerce, Hong Kong and Macao affairs, education and judicial systems) to establish the communication channel and exchange views on the provision of proper assistance to Hong Kong enterprises and citizens;
- (b) Providing full support to the preparation of the 3rd Plenary Session of the Hong Kong-Shanghai Economic and Trade Co-operation Conference jointly chaired by the Mayor of the Shanghai Municipality and the Chief Executive in April 2015. The Conference had delivered fruitful outcome with the two places reaching consensus on a total of 27 co-operation initiatives covering ten different areas. Governments of the two places also signed three co-operation agreements on commerce and trade, financial services, and civil service exchange. This demonstrated the scope of co-operation between the two places was strengthening in breadth and depth. SHETO will continue to serve as a bridge between relevant government bodies and facilitate multi-faceted co-operation between the two places;
- (c) Liaising proactively with Hong Kong people in the region to learn about their needs and provide appropriate assistance, including maintaining active contact with those who work, live and study in the region and exchange views with them (refer to paragraphs 7 to 10 for details); and
- (d) Actively collecting and disseminating information for the Hong Kong communities here. SHETO gathered information related to Hong Kong people living in the Mainland, such as information on medical services, education and legal services, and published the “Practical Guide on Living in the Mainland – Hangzhou” (with printed and online versions) in mid-2015 and delivered the printed versions to major organisations of Hong Kong people, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office (HKMAO) of the Zhejiang Province and universities concerned for easy access to the publication by Hong Kong people here.

7. To enhance the communication with Hong Kong people in the region, SHETO organized and participated in various meetings, gatherings, seminars and visits. For example, in March 2015, SHETO organised two seminars on interview skills and start-up business in Shanghai, providing an opportunity for the Hong Kong students to have a better grasp of the relevant skills and the demand of the Mainland market. The seminars attracted over 110 students from different universities in Shanghai, Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces; in April 2015, SHETO met some 40 Hong Kong university students in Hangzhou to learn about their daily life and studies in Shanghai; in May 2015, another gathering with some 30 Hong Kong young people and students in Shanghai was organised; in May and June 2015, SHETO paid visits to three universities in Shanghai to meet the representatives from schools and students; in July 2015, SHETO organised a welcoming luncheon for some 60 interns in Shanghai to learn more about their internship programme and life in Shanghai; in July 2015,

SHETO also organised a gathering with 20 Hong Kong parents to learn about their concerns; and in August 2015, SHETO participated in the inauguration ceremony and celebration dinner of the Shanghai Hong Kong Association, met with over 200 Hong Kong people from different streams and explored the future cooperation possibility with the representatives of the Association.

8. SHETO made arrangements for Hong Kong residents in the region to meet with visiting principal officials of HKSARG. For example, in December 2014, arrangements were made for Secretary for Education to meet with some 20 Hong Kong students in Nanjing during his visit there; in April 2015, arrangements were made for the Chief Executive and accompanying principal officials to meet with around 30 young people who were working or studying in Shanghai during their visit there; and in August 2015, Under Secretary for Home Affairs visited Shanghai to join part of the activities of Hong Kong Youth Shanghai Expo 5th Anniversary Tour and met 27 students studying or having their internship program in Shanghai to understand their study, work and daily life.

9. SHETO supported Hong Kong young people and students working and studying in the Mainland to organise diversified activities. For example, SHETO supported the 2014 Shanghai-Hong Kong-Macao Youth Economic Development Forum in November 2014; and supported the establishment of the Student Committee of the Hong Kong-Shanghai Youth Association in April 2015 and, apart from attending their First General Meeting cum Inaugural Ceremony, efforts were made to actively explore co-operation opportunities. SHETO also provided students with recruitment information on civil service posts in the HKSARG.

10. SHETO encouraged organisations in the region to provide internship opportunities for Hong Kong students. Meanwhile, SHETO would provide information, support and assistance to these interns from Hong Kong. SHETO also provided a number of internship vacancies for Hong Kong students in its office.

Shandong Liaison Unit

11. The SDLU was formally set up and commenced service in Jinan of Shandong Province on 30 April 2015. Through enhanced communication with local governments and trade organisations, the SDLU aims to further broaden network and facilitate exchange and co-operation in economic, trade and culture between Hong Kong and Shandong Province, and assist the Shandong enterprises in using Hong Kong as a platform to “go global”. Further, the SDLU will meet with local Hong Kong residents and enterprises regularly to understand their needs and provide assistance to them as appropriate.

12. Since its establishment, the SDLU has visited various provincial and municipal governmental organisations, including the HKMAO of the Shandong Province, Information Office of the People’s Government of Shandong Province, Shandong Sub-Council, Jinan Sub-Council and Qingdao Sub-Council of CCPIT, Foreign Affairs Office of Jinan Municipal People’s Government (JNFAO), Bureau of Commerce of Jinan Municipality, Jinan Tourism Administration, Foreign Affairs Office of Qingdao Municipal People’s Government and Qingdao International Investment and Co-operation and Promotion Bureau, to establish contacts and exchange views on its objectives and work plans. The SDLU has also assisted in the communication between bureaux and departments of HKSARG and relevant organisations in Shandong Province. For example, the SDLU assisted in arranging the Deputy Director of JNFAO Mr Zhang Guangyu and his delegation to meet with officials

from the Education Bureau, Home Affairs Bureau and HKTB in Hong Kong in June 2015; and assisted in the Hong Kong maritime industry delegation's visit to Qingdao in September 2015, led by Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport), in promoting Hong Kong as an international maritime centre and highlighting its high value-added maritime services, including maritime legal and arbitration services and during the visit to Qingdao, the delegation took part in the Hong Kong-Qingdao Maritime Services Seminar and paid courtesy calls on Qingdao Government officials and maritime organisations.

13. In May 2015, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development visited Jinan of Shandong Province and officiated the opening session of the "SmartHK Fair" jointly hosted by the HKTDC and various provincial departments of the Shandong People's Government. The SDLU provided logistical support during his visit. During the report period, the SDLU established close relations with the HKTDC, Hong Kong trade associations and related communities in Shandong Province, particularly the Jinan Hong Kong-Macao Chamber of Commerce and the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China (Qingdao), and actively participated in and supported their activities.

Assistance Rendered to Hong Kong Residents

14. SHETO received a total of 12 assistance cases and made referrals to the relevant Mainland authorities for follow up during the report period. SHETO will continue to monitor the progress of the cases.

Looking Ahead

15. In the coming year, SHETO will continue to promote the economic relationship between Hong Kong and the region, promote Hong Kong to enhance Mainland people's positive understanding of Hong Kong. SHETO will also continue to strengthen the work on "Homeland Relationship" to better serve the Hong Kong enterprises and people in the region. SHETO will –

- (a) through the SDLU, continue to promote the economic and trade relationships between Hong Kong and Shandong Province, and to further promote the positive image of Hong Kong there and enhance Shandong people's understanding of Hong Kong. Further, the SDLU will continue to strengthen "Homeland Relationship" and enhance support to Hong Kong enterprises and Hong Kong people in Shandong Province. The SDLU will actively work on promoting Hong Kong's latest development, enhance understanding between Hong Kong and Shandong Province; and closely monitor policy on economic and trade developments, legislation and related measures in Shandong Province and provide timely information to relevant Hong Kong enterprises;
- (b) further strengthen "Homeland Relationship", and enhance Government-to-Government work and liaison with Hong Kong enterprises as well as Hong Kong people, so as to provide better service and act as a bridge between the local government and the business sector;
- (c) carry out promotion campaign effectively through promoting Hong Kong's advantages and enhancing mutual understanding between Hong Kong and the

Mainland, including the preparation of roving exhibitions and online promotion campaign;

- (d) closely monitor any new developments in the region, disseminate relevant information and organise seminars timely so that the Hong Kong business sector can make prompt response to the changes and grasp the opportunities, such as latest developments relating to the SHFTZ, “One Belt, One Road” strategy and Yangtze River Economic Belt, implementation of Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement, and other issues of interest to the Hong Kong enterprises;
- (e) liaise with relevant government departments and organisations of both sides, to assist the implementation and enhancement of agreed initiatives of the Hong Kong-Shanghai Economic and Trade Co-operation Conference;
- (f) provide necessary information and assistance to Hong Kong enterprises and residents, including publication of the guidebook on livelihood, organisation of seminars to provide trade-related or useful information about living in the region;
- (g) support and facilitate Hong Kong trade missions to visit the region and explore business opportunities; and
- (h) identify and attract Mainland enterprises to invest, set up operations, seek listing in Hong Kong and leverage on the business advantages of Hong Kong to “go global”.

Report on the Work of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu

The main functions of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu (CDETO) (including its Chongqing Liaison Unit (CQLU)) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) are (a) to promote economic and trade co-operation and ties between HKSAR and Sichuan Province, Chongqing Municipality, Guizhou Province, Shaanxi Province, Qinghai Province and Tibet Autonomous Region, to provide support to Hong Kong enterprises as well as to attract Mainland enterprises to invest in Hong Kong and feature Hong Kong as a platform to “go global”; (b) to promote Hong Kong and to enhance co-operation, communication and liaison between HKSAR and the region in general; and (c) to provide appropriate information and assistance to Hong Kong enterprises and people operating, working and studying in the region as well as to handle enquiries and requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in the region.

Commercial Relations

2. With a view to providing support to Hong Kong enterprises operating or intending to operate in the region, CDETO organised and participated in various economic and trade exchanges and visits, and maintained close liaison and exchanges with the relevant government departments and public bodies. Besides, to assist Hong Kong businessmen in exploring new investment and co-operation opportunities, CDETO conducted study visits to different districts and counties in the region in order to gather the latest information about business operation and preferential treatments in the region, and disseminated the information to Hong Kong businessmen through website and newsletters on a regular basis.

3. During the report period, major events organised by CDETO included –

- Setting up a booth in various national trade fairs, including “The 19th Investment and Trade Forum for Co-operation between East and West China cum the Silk Road Economic and Trade Co-operation International Exposition” in Xi’an of Shaanxi Province and “2015 China – Qinghai Green Development Investment and Trade Fair” in Xining of Qinghai Province to introduce the services and functions of CDETO, Hong Kong’s advantages, services provided by the Immigration Department and various admission schemes for talents and professionals, the Basic Law, Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), Hong Kong wine trade, and free services provided by Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) to help Mainland enterprises “go global”;
- Completing the research study in Guizhou on the implementation of CEPA and organising a press conference on the research findings, with a view to further promoting the implementation of CEPA in the region. A seminar on CEPA in Chengdu of Sichuan Province was co-organised by CDETO, provincial authorities, Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) and Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China – Chengdu, so as to enhance industries’ understanding of CEPA, promote the utilisation of CEPA and facilitate economic development of both Hong Kong and Sichuan;

- Organising visit programmes for Hong Kong businessmen to Chongqing Municipality and providing them with opportunities to have exchanges with local authorities and enterprises, so as to enable them to have a better understanding of the investment environment and relevant policies in the places visited and in Western China as well as explore investment opportunities;
- Organising the “Hong Kong Gifts Design Exhibition 2015” in Chengdu of Sichuan Province, Guiyang of Guizhou Province and Linzhi of Tibet Autonomous Region to showcase creative design products and ideas of Hong Kong with a view to promoting Hong Kong’s manufacturing as well as cultural and creative industries and exploring business opportunities. In addition, “Hong Kong Gifts Design Exhibition Opening Ceremony cum Seminar” and “2015 Chengdu-Hong Kong Creative Design Interflow Season” were held in Chengdu for Hong Kong’s creative designers to share their experience with their counterparts in Chengdu to promote Hong Kong’s status as a gift design and production centre; and a “Made by Hong Kong Toy Exhibition” was held in Lhasa to enhance the understanding of the local public and enterprises of made-by-Hong Kong toys and their quality, safety, design and creativity;
- Organising the “Xi’an-Hong Kong Festival 2015” in September 2015 to further promote economic and trade, cultural industry and music exchanges and co-operation between Hong Kong and Shaanxi Province. Activities included “Hong Kong Gifts Design Exhibition 2015” and “Hong Kong Gifts Design Exhibition Opening Ceremony cum Seminar” to promote Hong Kong’s exports industry of original brands and designs and to enhance the exchanges and development of creative industries between Hong Kong and Shaanxi Province; “Hong Kong Film and TV Market Exhibition” co-organised with HKTDC to introduce trading of film copyright and information about sale of Chinese entertainment programmes overseas and to attract the film industry in the Mainland to feature Hong Kong as a trading platform for entertainment products so as to promote Hong Kong as the entertainment service hub in Asia; and “Hong Kong Wine Trading Exhibition” and “Hong Kong Wine Trading Seminar” to help Shaanxi wine industry and people better grasp Hong Kong’s experience in wine trading, logistics and tourism, etc. in order to promote Hong Kong as the wine trading and distribution hub in the region and to explore opportunities for Hong Kong wine trading in Western China as well as the entire wine market in the Mainland;
- Organising the “Seminar on Hong Kong Legal and Arbitration Services” in Chengdu to promote Hong Kong’s important role as a centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific Region. Specifically, the Seminar introduced the services which could be provided by Hong Kong’s legal and arbitration professions to Hong Kong businesses in the Mainland and Mainland enterprises in their process of “going global”, as well as in enhancing economic, trade and transport links among “One Belt, One Road” countries and furthering the development of Yangtze River Economic Belt;
- Organising various discussions with Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China – Chengdu and Sichuan Province’s Department of Commerce as well as Department of Justice, and regular gatherings with Hong Kong businessmen and members of chambers of commerce so as to understand their business operation

and provide them with information and assistance in doing business in the Mainland. CDETO organised seminars respectively in Chengdu, Guiyang and Xi'an on taxation and trademark laws so as to enhance the Hong Kong businessmen's understanding of and responsiveness to the taxation and trademark law requirements and regulatory regime of the Mainland;

- Conducting, in collaboration with trade and commerce authorities in the region, study visits to different districts to collect information about important policies, regulations, major developments and investment projects, in particular paying close attention to the strategy planning and policy measures relating to the national "One Belt, One Road" strategy and the Yangtze River Economic Belt, to report the latest development and analysis timely, and to understand the location advantages and business environment of different districts in the "One Belt, One Road" strategy with a view to promoting economic development of Hong Kong and the region. During the report period, CDETO visited Luzhou, Leshan, Mianyang, Meishan and Deyang of Sichuan Province, Xi'an Aviation industry (Xi'an National Civil Aerospace Industrial Base and Xi'an Yanliang National Aviation Hi-Tech Industrial Base), Baoji, Xixian New Area and Xi'an International Trade and Logistics Park of Shaanxi Province, and Anshun of Guizhou Province; and
- Supporting provinces and municipalities in the region to visit Hong Kong to organise exchange activities and co-ordinating meetings between visiting Mainland officials and senior HKSAR government officials. For example, CDETO assisted in the business promotion activities in Hong Kong during the visit of the delegation led by Governor of Sichuan Province Wei Hong.

Investment Promotion

4. CDETO continued to actively promote Hong Kong's investment environment and provide Mainland enterprises interested in investing in Hong Kong with assistance and consultation services. During the report period, the Investment Promotion Division of CDETO visited 158 Mainland enterprises, initiated seven new projects and successfully completed five projects.

5. During the report period, major investment promotion initiatives of the Investment Promotion Division of CDETO included –

- Organising an investment promotion seminar titled "Hong Kong – Your Platform to Go Global" in Guiyang in November 2014;
- Organising an investment promotion seminar titled "Hong Kong – Your Platform to Go Global" in Xi'an in November 2014;
- Co-organising with InvestHK the "Seminars on Hong Kong's Legal and Arbitration" in Chongqing and Chengdu respectively in March 2015;
- Organising the "Forum on Financing and Listing in Hong Kong for Mainland's High Growth Enterprises", together with InvestHK, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and the Finance Office of the Sichuan Provincial People's Government, in Chengdu in June 2015; and

- Participating in other investment promotion activities to enhance liaison with Mainland enterprises, including “The 6th Western China International Capital Forum” in Chengdu in October 2014 and “The 19th Investment and Trade Forum for Co-operation between East and West China cum the Silk Road International Exposition” in Xi’an in May 2015.
6. The Investment Promotion Division of CDETO maintained close working relationship with the government departments and trade and industry organisations in the region in order to strengthen the liaison network. The Division would regularly participate in investment promotion and co-operation events held in the region, and assist Mainland officials and business enterprises in arranging visits to Hong Kong, allowing them to learn about Hong Kong’s latest economic climate and investment environment.

Public Relations

7. With the aim of boosting Hong Kong’s image in the Mainland, CDETO continued its role as a bridge between Hong Kong and the region through official visits as well as organisation of and participation in economic and trade fairs, seminars and exhibitions.

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8. During the report period, CDETO took part in trade fairs held in Chengdu, Xi’an, Chongqing and Xining respectively to promote services of CDETO, Hong Kong’s advantages, Hong Kong as Asia’s World City, the Basic Law, the “one country, two systems” principle and various admission schemes for talents and professionals.

9. CDETO also promoted cultural exchanges and co-operation. Events held included –

- Teaming up with the Chongqing Radio to launch a six-series radio programme to showcase Hong Kong’s soft power, business opportunities and the win-win situation attained by Mainland-Hong Kong co-operation through thematic reports and exclusive interviews, and to display Hong Kong’s advantages on industrial and regional fronts;
- Staging an exhibition in Guiyang to showcase Hong Kong’s unique culture and lifestyle through fine miniature models in March 2015;
- Organising the “Shannxi-Hong Kong Music Exchange 2015” under the “Xi’an-Hong Kong Festival 2015” in September 2015. The music exchange, which is the first major cultural event held by CDETO in Shaanxi Province, was incorporated as an integral part of “The 2nd Silk Road International Arts Festival” on the invitation of Shaanxi Provincial Department of Culture. The activities of the music exchange included community and charity performances, professional exchange and a “Collision@Xi’an” concert. Two Hong Kong

music groups, pop music band of SIU2 and HKCO4U of young musicians from the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, staged charity performances in a primary school and an elderly home to extend care and love, and present the original music that they have created. The two music groups also engaged in professional exchange with Shaanxi Broadcasting Chinese Orchestra through a seminar and a demonstration session. The unique music with a mixture of Eastern and Western, traditional and modern styles presented by the two music groups in the “Collision@Xian” concert, was well received and impressed upon an audience of more than 1 000; and

- In September 2015, during the “Xi’an-Hong Kong Festival 2015”, organising a film festival presenting a series of quality Hong Kong films to enhance the understanding of Shaanxi people of Hong Kong’s cultural and creative industries so as to promote the development of Hong Kong film industry. The film festival was an integral part of “The Silk Road International Film Festival”.

10. CDETO continued to be active in fostering a close relationship with the local media through interviews, press conferences, media briefings and tea-gatherings to introduce to them the work and services of CDETO. CDETO regularly updated key local partners on major events in Hong Kong, activities of CDETO and other relevant information, which had helped foster better understanding and closer interaction between CDETO and its counterparts in local governments, non-governmental organisations, chambers of commerce and the business sector.

Work to Strengthen “Homeland Relationship”

11. CDETO had strengthened the liaison work with Hong Kong people in the region to have a better understanding of their life in the Mainland and provide stronger support to them. It also stepped up the communication and promotion work with different parties in the region. These activities included –

- Organising 13 gatherings / sharing sessions for Hong Kong people living and studying in the region, and representatives of Hong Kong enterprises, etc. These gatherings helped CDETO cultivate a closer relationship with them and understand better their life and needs in the Mainland so as to provide them with necessary services and information;
- Producing the Xi’an and Guiyang editions of the “Practical Guide for Hong Kong People Living in the Mainland”, and providing biannual updates to the Chengdu and Chongqing editions during the report period. The Practical Guide contains useful and practical information on living in the cities concerned which has been made available to the public through the CDETO website;
- Establishing relationship and maintaining close contact with relevant authorities such as Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Offices / Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Offices (HKMAO) / Bureaux of Letters and Calls in the region, with a view to conducting timely communication on the overall situation of the assistance cases lodged by Hong Kong people; and
- Reaching out to Hong Kong and Macao representatives of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Committees in the region, in addition to regular liaison

with local officials, to foster better communication between Hong Kong and the region CDETO serves.

12. CDETO had maintained close relationship with 16 tertiary institutions in Sichuan Province, Shaanxi Province and Chongqing Municipality where there are Hong Kong students studying there, with a view to understanding better their life and studies in the region. CDETO also provided them with information on HKSAR civil service job openings. In addition, CDETO organised a welcoming gathering for Hong Kong students in Xi'an in the new academic year, in which existing and new students were invited so as to enhance mutual support among Hong Kong people there. CDETO organised a visit to reconstruction work supported by HKSAR in Sichuan Province for Hong Kong students in Chengdu, with a view to enhancing CDETO's closer relationship with them and their understanding of the Mainland-Hong Kong co-operation relationship. CDETO also organised "Career Talk for Hong Kong Students" and arranged for company visits, seminar on job-seeking techniques by an expert in the field, introduction by enterprises of their vacancies, and dissemination of information about civil service recruitment exercises.

13. During the report period, CDETO encouraged enterprises and organisations in Chengdu, Chongqing and Xi'an to provide summer internship placements for Hong Kong students studying in the Mainland. More than 30 placements were received.

14. CDETO also encouraged public organisations in the region to provide internship vacancies for students studying in Hong Kong, with a view to enhancing students' understanding of the Mainland and promoting a closer relationship between Mainland and Hong Kong. CDETO also offered internship vacancies for students.

Chongqing Liaison Unit

15. The CQLU has been in close contact with local government and trade and industry organisations to expand its network and promote economic and trade exchanges between Hong Kong and Chongqing. The CQLU conducts study visits to districts and counties in Chongqing to learn about the latest business environment and preferential policies so as to explore new investment and co-operation opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises. Relevant information gathered will be disseminated to related chambers of commerce in Hong Kong and Hong Kong businessmen. Regular meetings with Hong Kong people and enterprises in Chongqing will also be held to better understand their needs.

16. During the report period, major events involving the CQLU included –

- Setting up a booth in the "18th China Chongqing International Investment and Global Sourcing Fair" to introduce the services and functions of CQLU, Hong Kong's advantages, services provided by the Immigration Department and various admission schemes for talents and professionals, the Basic Law, CEPA, China's Global Financial Centre, international meetings, incentive travels, conventions and exhibitions capital, Hong Kong wine trade and free services provided by InvestHK to help Mainland enterprises "go global";
- Organising the "Chongqing-Hong Kong Musical Exchange 2014 – 'Collision@Chongqing' Concert" with Chongqing HKMAO. SIU2 and the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra were invited to perform in the concert, and two charity shows;

- Organising the “Hong Kong Gifts Design Exhibition 2014”. Hong Kong’s creative designers took the opportunity to demonstrate their products and ideas, promoting Hong Kong brands and designs as well as Hong Kong’s status as a gift design and production centre successfully;
- Organising a seminar on taxation and trademark laws to help Hong Kong enterprises better manage their taxation business and better grasp the content and application of the new trademark law;
- Organising the “Seminar on Hong Kong Legal and Arbitration Services” to promote Hong Kong’s important role as a centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific Region. Specifically, the seminar introduced the services which could be provided by Hong Kong’s legal and arbitration professions to Hong Kong businesses in the Mainland and Mainland enterprises in their process of “going global”, as well as in enhancing economic, trade and transport links among “One Belt, One Road” countries and furthering the development of Yangtze River Economic Belt;
- The “Chongqing-Hong Kong Vocational Student Exchange Programme” made good progress through proactive support by the CQLU. Exchange visits between the Hong Kong Vocational Training Council and Chongqing University of Education were held during the report period. The Programme helped build a platform for study, practice and exchanges between students from Chongqing and Hong Kong to enhance their vocational skills and broaden their horizons; and
- Through organising “Autumn Reception for Hong Kong People in Chongqing 2015”, which was attended by about 120 people, the CQLU understood more the life of Hong Kong people living, working or running business in Chongqing, briefed them on the CQLU’s forthcoming events and solicited their support. The gathering also provided an opportunity for participants to mingle and have exchanges among themselves.

12.

Immigration-related Matters and Assistance Rendered

17. Immigration matters handled by CDETO include handling immigration-related enquiries, promoting the talent admission schemes, and providing practical assistance to Hong Kong residents who have lost their travel documents or encountered personal safety problems in the region covered by CDETO. During the report period, CDETO received a total of 49 requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. Of these, 18 cases involved the loss of travel documents or monies, 31 cases were from persons who were in danger, involved in traffic accidents, injured, sick or whose relatives had passed away in the Mainland, etc. In addition, CDETO handled 1 015 enquiries.

18. Moreover, CDETO received a total of eight other assistance cases during the report period. CDETO made referrals to the relevant Mainland authorities for follow up and monitored the progress.

Looking Ahead

19. Through participating in and organising various types of economic and trade activities, missions, studying the latest business environment and preferential policies, searching for and disseminating updated information to Hong Kong enterprises, CDETO, together with the CQLU, will continue to maintain close ties with local government departments and business organisations, supporting Hong Kong enterprises to operate or extend their business in the region. Meanwhile, CDETO will continue to enhance liaison with the government departments and other organisations in the region covered, to promote Hong Kong as the best investment destination for Mainland enterprises, and to enhance exchanges and co-operation between the HKSAR and the Mainland in different aspects. CDETO will continue to reach out to Hong Kong people and businessmen in the Mainland and provide useful information and support to them. In particular, CDETO will continue to pay close attention to the planning and policies of the provinces, municipality and autonomous region covered by CDETO under the “One Belt, One Road” strategy and the National 13th Five-Year Plan, and proactively liaise with authorities concerned to gather relevant information so as to explore new business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises through promoting Hong Kong as a platform to “go global” and furthering the economic co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu
October 2015

Report on the Work of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan

The main functions of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (WHETO) are to (a) enhance liaison and communication between the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSARG) and the Mainland authorities in the five provinces of Hubei, Hunan, Shanxi, Jiangxi and Henan (the region); (b) promote Hong Kong and enhance economic and trade co-operation between Hong Kong and the region; and (c) provide appropriate information and assistance to Hong Kong enterprises and residents operating, working and living in the region. WHETO commenced operation on 1 April 2014 and moved into its long term office in March 2015, representing that the office is operating in full swing.

Commercial Relations

2. WHETO proactively liaised and co-operated with relevant authorities and organisations in Hong Kong and the central region to promote Hong Kong's business sector and help them explore business opportunities in the Mainland. The specific work included –

- (a) supporting industry delegations and study missions from Hong Kong to visit the region to deepen their understanding of the business and investment environment there as well as promoting various sectors of Hong Kong to the Mainland to facilitate economic and trade co-operation. For example, at the “Seminar and Experience Sharing on Hong Kong's Urban Planning and Development” organised by WHETO in Changsha in July 2015, representatives from Hong Kong Institute of Architects, Hong Kong Institute of Planners and Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors were invited to share their experience with relevant officials and practitioners in Hunan Province, facilitating exchanges between professionals of the two places. WHETO also joined the trade mission of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce to Changsha and Xiangtan of Hunan Province in April 2015, and exchanged views with the Hong Kong trade delegation¹ and the Hong Kong Law Society delegation attending events in Wuhan in May and July 2015 respectively;
- (b) encouraging and promoting economic and trade exchanges between Hong Kong and the region through participation in trade promotion activities. For example, WHETO visited Zhengzhou to attend the 9th China Henan International Investment and Trade Fair in April 2015 and attended the 9th Expo Central China in Wuhan in May 2015;
- (c) supporting provinces / municipalities in the region to visit Hong Kong to organise trade promotion activities and co-ordinating meetings between visiting Mainland officials and senior HKSARG officials. For example, in October 2014, May and June 2015, WHETO assisted in the trade promotion activities in Hong Kong during the visits of delegations led by Hubei

¹ Delegation included the Hong Kong Chinese Importers' and Exporters' Association, the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Chinese General Chamber of Commerce and the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce.

Vice-Governor Gan Rongkun, Jiangxi Governor Lu Xinshe and Hunan Governor Du Jiahao respectively;

- (d) maintaining close relation with Hong Kong trade associations and organisations in the region, and actively participating in and supporting their activities. During the report period, WHETO met Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China – Wuhan, Hunan Association of Enterprises with Foreign Investment as well as a number of Hong Kong enterprises investing in the provinces / municipalities in the region and attended their activities;
- (e) keeping Hong Kong’s major industry and trade organisations as well as Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the region informed of the latest economic and trade policies, legislations and measures in the region through newsletters; monitoring closely those latest policy developments and regulations that may have an impact on Hong Kong enterprises and reporting to the relevant HKSARG bureaux and departments in a timely manner; and collecting the views of Hong Kong enterprises on these developments / legislations and reflecting their views to relevant Mainland authorities for consideration where appropriate. During the report period, WHETO issued 12 monthly newsletters, 21 “Topical Newsletters” and one quarterly “Mainland Economic and Trade Activities Newsletter” to provide relevant information on business and investment in the Mainland as well as analysis of business policy issues which have always been of concern to Hong Kong businessmen (e.g. taxation, labour, intellectual property and social insurance, etc.). Moreover, WHETO organised a seminar between Wuhan Municipal Government and Hong Kong enterprises in Wuhan in July 2015 to provide an opportunity for Hong Kong enterprises in Wuhan to communicate directly with and reflect views to various local government authorities; and
- (f) organising seminars with experts invited to talk about issues of common concern such as taxation, labour laws and social security system of the Mainland to Hong Kong enterprises operating business in the Mainland. For example, a “Mainland Taxation Seminar” and a “Seminar on Labour Law and Social Security System” were held in Wuhan in October 2014 and June 2015 respectively; and the “Mainland Taxation Seminar” was also held in Changsha and Zhengzhou respectively in March 2015.

Investment Promotion

3. For the purpose of attracting Mainland enterprises to establish operations and invest in Hong Kong, the Investment Promotion Division (IPD) of WHETO endeavored to contact and visit potential enterprises and relevant commercial and industrial organisations to introduce the competitive edges of Hong Kong as a platform for Mainland enterprises to develop their overseas business. Enterprises with interest will be offered comprehensive assistance and consultation services. During the report period, the IPD proactively reached out and met different enterprises and organisations 193 times, initiated seven live projects and completed two investment project.

4. During the report period, major investment promotion initiatives of the IPD of WHETO included the followings –

- (a) partnering with Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) for roundtable meetings with Wuhan Lawyers Association, Auctioneers Association of Hubei Province and Wuhan Real Estate Development Enterprise Association in October 2014;
- (b) co-organising with InvestHK two investment promotion seminars titled “Hong Kong – Your Platform to Go Global” in Wuhan and Zhengzhou respectively in March 2015;
- (c) introducing to the local enterprises in Changsha and Wuhan the development opportunities of business and professional services and ways to expand their business in Hong Kong together with InvestHK in September 2015; and
- (d) participating in other investment promotion activities to enhance connection with more Mainland enterprises in the five provinces in the central region. These activities included the 7th China Venture Capital and Private Equity Mid-Forum in Wuhan in October 2014 and the 9th Expo Central China in Wuhan in May 2015.

Public Relations

5. As a bridge between Hong Kong and the region, WHETO promoted Hong Kong’s advantages and its positive image in the region through official visits and taking part in various activities. The specific work included –

- (a) publishing double-page feature stories in eight popular and influential newspapers in the region in April 2015 to tie in with the Chief Executive’s visit to Wuhan, introducing WHETO and promoting Hong Kong to residents in the central region. The visit was also widely covered by Hong Kong and Mainland media;
- (b) setting up a Hong Kong Pavilion in collaboration with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) at the 9th Expo Central China held in Wuhan in May 2015 to showcase the exuberant charm of Hong Kong as Asia’s leading business hub and creative capital;
- (c) organising exhibitions promoting Hong Kong in Wuhan in December 2014 and January 2015; and launched the “This is Hong Kong” roving exhibitions for the five provinces in the central region in September 2015 to enhance the understanding of local residents on various aspects of Hong Kong;
- (d) maintaining co-operation with the Rural Channel of Hubei Television to continue producing and broadcasting the radio programme “Next Station, Hong Kong” in Hubei and other areas in the central region to promote Hong Kong;

- (e) collaborating with www.cnhubei.com to launch a designated Hong Kong webpage from September 2015 to let the residents of Hubei Province and other places of the central region to have a more comprehensive understanding on Hong Kong's situations through news and feature stories;
- (f) launching a WeChat account in September 2015 to disseminate information related to WHETO and Hong Kong through the new media;
- (g) arranging media interviews and assisting in the promotion and publicity of Hong Kong's arts and culture to complement Hong Kong Repertory Theatre's performance in Wuhan in April 2015;
- (h) placing billboard advertisement through outdoor LED screens at multiple locations in Wuhan's business district from August to September 2015 ; and
- (i) collaborating with the Hong Kong Tourism Board to promote travel to Hong Kong through television, radios, newspapers and magazines in Wuhan and Changsha in September 2015.

Work to Strengthen “Homeland Relationship”

6. WHETO strived to broaden and deepen liaison network, step up information collection, and implement various measures to better support Hong Kong residents living, doing business, working and studying in the region. The specific work included –

- (a) enhancing Government-to-Government liaison work; strengthening the liaison with government authorities in the region and establishing co-operation platform through visits and participating in their organised / co-organised activities. WHETO also liaised with the relevant authorities to obtain details on planning and policies, etc. of the region and report to the HKSARG. During the report period, WHETO assisted in the arrangements of various activities for the visits to the region by the Chief Executive and other principal officials. In addition, WHETO proactively rendered assistance to government officials of the region who attended events and conducted study tours in Hong Kong with a view to enhancing their knowledge about Hong Kong and their understanding of the latest development. For example, in December 2014, WHETO assisted in arranging a delegation of Hubei Province to exchange experience on urban planning and property management with the Planning Department and the Home Affairs Department. In May 2015, WHETO assisted in arranging a delegation of Jiangxi Province to visit Hong Kong Science and Technology Park. In June 2015, WHETO assisted in arranging a delegation of Hunan Province to exchange with the Development Bureau and the Planning Department on the new town planning experience of Hong Kong.
- (b) proactively liaising with Hong Kong enterprises and residents in the region to understand their needs and provide assistance as appropriate. For example –
 - organising meetings and functions to maintain close relation with Hong Kong enterprises and residents in the region to understand their work and lives in the central region as well as their needs. For example, WHETO

organised a “Spring Reception for Hong Kong Residents in Hubei Province 2015” in Wuhan in March 2015. WHETO also arranged for Hong Kong residents in the region to meet with HKSARG principal officials during their visits to the central region, e.g. when the Chief Executive visited Wuhan in April 2015, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development visited Wuhan in May 2015, and Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs visited Changsha and Zhengzhou in July 2015;

- meeting with Hong Kong university students studying in Wuhan and Changsha as well as the offices for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan affairs in respective universities to understand students’ lives and studies;
 - encouraging Hong Kong-invested enterprises in Wuhan to provide internship opportunities for Hong Kong university students studying in Wuhan and Changsha, and disseminating relevant information to Hong Kong students. In addition, WHETO organised a “Seminar on Employment and Entrepreneurship for Hong Kong Students in the Mainland” in Wuhan in September 2015, providing Hong Kong students there with information related to life planning and employment with a view to assisting them to plan for their development and prepare for the future; and
 - providing through its website information (e.g. that on HKSARG civil service recruitment) to Hong Kong residents in the region.
- (c) maintaining close liaison with the relevant Mainland offices of the HKTDC and Hong Kong Tourism Board to collaborate on various initiatives including those promoting Hong Kong.

Assistance Rendered to Hong Kong Residents

7. WHETO received a total of ten assistance cases during the report period. WHETO made referrals to the relevant Mainland authorities for follow up and monitored progress.

Looking Ahead

8. WHETO will continue to promote the economic and trade relations between Hong Kong and the region as well as promote Hong Kong in the region to enhance Mainland people’s understanding of Hong Kong. WHETO will also continue to strengthen the Government-to-Government relations, enhance the liaison with and better serve the Hong Kong enterprises and residents in the region, including monitoring closely the latest developments in the central region, disseminating relevant information in a timely manner, and organising seminars on issues of interest to Hong Kong trade (e.g. Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement, taxation, labour, etc.) and policies concerning the central region. WHETO will collect practical information about living in the Mainland (e.g. work, business operation, medical care, study, legal services, etc.) which will be disseminated through WHETO’s website. WHETO will also monitor latest developments of major policies, legislations and measures in the region and report to bureaux and departments to assess the impact on Hong Kong. WHETO has started the research and

preparatory work for the establishment of a liaison unit in the region. The liaison unit is scheduled for commencing service within the first half of 2016.

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan
October 2015

Report on the Work of the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (Taiwan)

The main functions of the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (Taiwan) (HKETCO) are to (a) promote economic and trade relations, investment, financial services and business exchanges, etc. between Hong Kong and Taiwan; (b) enhance cultural, education, tourism and other exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan; (c) strengthen co-operation between Hong Kong and Taiwan in areas such as technology, transport, medical services, public health and food safety, etc.; (d) provide assistance to Hong Kong people in Taiwan to the extent possible; (e) assist in handling matters relating to entry applications from Taiwan people where necessary; and (f) provide other relevant services.

Commercial Relations

2. During the report period, HKETCO continued its efforts to build up and strengthen relationships with the Taiwan authorities in charge of economic and trade affairs, major industrial and commercial associations in Taiwan, and industrial and commercial associations in various cities and counties.
3. HKETCO also continued to establish links with Hong Kong businesses in Taiwan, including visiting Hong Kong companies and participating in the activities of Hong Kong associations in Taiwan. In addition, HKETCO worked closely with the Taiwan Office of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) in supporting the “Hong Kong Business Association in Taiwan” founded in August 2014 in organising a number of events, including the plaque unveiling ceremony officiated by Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development on 15 December 2014. HKETCO also received a number of Hong Kong business delegations visiting Taiwan, and exchanged views with them on the latest development of Hong Kong-Taiwan economic and trade relations. During the report period, HKETCO handled 35 enquiries relating to Hong Kong-Taiwan economic and trade matters.
4. During the report period, HKETCO published the “Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Trade Newsletter” on a monthly basis for the Hong Kong businesses operating in Taiwan, chambers of commerce in Taiwan and Taiwan enterprises interested in investing in Hong Kong, with a view to enhancing the flow of economic and trade information. Members of the public can also download the newsletters from HKETCO’s website (www.hketco.hk).
5. In order to strengthen the understanding of Hong Kong by Taiwan’s various sectors and foster closer economic co-operation and exchanges between the two places, HKETCO organised the “Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic Co-operation Forum” in Taipei in December 2014 and in Tainan in June 2015 respectively. The forum in Taipei focused on the prospects of how to strengthen the financial co-operation between Hong Kong and Taiwan, including the development of offshore Renminbi business and co-operation in the securities market; while the forum held in Tainan discussed the co-operation between Hong Kong and Taiwan in the cultural and creative industries, as well as the marketing strategy for branding and design. In addition, HKETCO organised two other economic forums in May and June 2015, in Yilan County and Taipei City respectively, and hosted a networking luncheon for the financial sectors of Hong Kong and Taiwan in June 2015.

Investment Promotion

6. The Investment Promotion Division (IPD) of HKETCO actively encouraged Taiwan enterprises to invest in Hong Kong and make use of the various services and advantages of Hong Kong to explore the Mainland and overseas markets. It also provided assistance and services to enterprises interested in investing in Hong Kong. During the report period, IPD visited 279 companies located across northern, central and southern Taiwan, initiated 238 new projects and completed 13 projects.

7. In order to understand the latest developments and trends of Taiwan's major industries, IPD participated in a number of events during the report period, such as the "2015 Smart City Summit and Expo" and the "2015 Cross-Strait Mobile Internet Conference" held in January 2015, the "Taiwan Internet and E-commerce Forum 2015" held in March 2015 and the "Computex Taipei" held in June 2015. On the other hand, IPD also participated in the "2015 Meet Club cum AAMA¹ Annual Meeting" in June 2015 and delivered a speech to introduce the advantages, resources and opportunities of developing businesses in Hong Kong to potential new ventures in Taiwan.

8. Moreover, IPD attended a number of exhibitions featuring Taiwan's prime industries to establish contacts with the participating enterprises, with a view to identifying prospective investors to Hong Kong.

Cultural Promotion and Public Relations

9. During the report period, HKETCO continued to establish relationships with various sectors of Taiwan, including the Directors and other members of the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC), senior personnel of relevant Taiwan authorities, city and county governments, industrial and commercial associations, cultural organisations, academic and research institutions, the media, Hong Kong businesses in Taiwan, associations of Hong Kong people and Hong Kong students in Taiwan, etc.

10. During the report period, the Director of HKETCO visited Yilan County, Nantou County, Pingtung County, Chiayi City and Chiayi County, and met with the respective mayors / magistrates or key officers, as well as local industrial and commercial associations. He briefed them on HKETCO's work and Hong Kong's latest developments.

11. In addition, HKETCO actively promoted cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan. Besides co-organising "Hong Kong Week 2014" from October to November 2014 and "Hong Kong Week 2015" from September to October 2015 respectively, HKETCO also sponsored Hong Kong cultural groups and personalities to visit and perform in Taiwan or engage in exchanges.

12. During the report period, HKETCO's main publicity work included –

- (a) publishing and distributing two issues of "Art & Culture @ Hong Kong" in October 2014 and September 2015 in co-ordination with "Hong Kong Week 2014" and "Hong Kong Week 2015" (see paragraph 15(a) and (e) below), with a view to encouraging the general public of Taiwan to visit Hong Kong for in-depth tourism and explore Hong Kong's arts, culture and tourist spots;

¹ AAMA stands for Asia America Multi Technology Association.

- (b) participating in the “Taiwan Lantern Festival” in Taichung in March 2015. HKETCO displayed a series of Hong Kong neon light street installations under the theme of “I Have a Date with Hong Kong”, and broadcast a promotional video named “Hong Kong Dai Sik Lou” (「香港大食佬」, see paragraph 12(d) below) in co-operation with Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) Taiwan Branch, so as to promote Hong Kong’s food culture;
- (c) hosting a spring reception in March 2015 with the Taiwan offices of HKTDC and HKTB, to strengthen ties with various sectors of Taiwan and brief them on the latest development of Hong Kong;
- (d) co-operating with HKTB Taiwan Branch in making a video called “Hong Kong Dai Sik Lou” in January 2015 to promote Hong Kong’s delicacies. Renowned Taiwanese illustrators Duncan and Mr. H.H, and famous dubbing artist Mr Sunday were invited to collaborate in making the video. The video was warmly welcomed by Taiwan people, and was viewed on the internet for as many as 700 000 times. HKETCO and HKTB Taiwan Branch also jointly organised the “My Time for Hong Kong” photo contest in May and June 2015 to encourage tourists from Taiwan to upload and share their photos taken in Hong Kong, with a view to encouraging them to explore and experience the different aspects of living in Hong Kong, thus promoting Hong Kong’s tourism;
- (e) supporting the Hong Kong Publishing Federation and the Hong Kong Printers Association to participate in “Taipei International Book Exhibition” between 11 and 16 February 2015, and set up “Soaring Creativity - Hong Kong Pavilion” to showcase the diversity of Hong Kong’s publishing and printing industry. Publications introducing Hong Kong were also distributed to promote Hong Kong’s cultural characteristics;
- (f) publishing a column about Hong Kong in collaboration with the Commonwealth Magazine from May 2014 to May 2015. In the column, guests from different sectors in Hong Kong were invited each month to share their experience and views on different issues such as economy and trade, culture, finance and education, etc. Since June 2015, HKETCO launched a bimonthly column at a youth magazine “30” and a financial magazine “Business Weekly” respectively, featuring people from Hong Kong and Taiwan, so as to promote the advantages of Hong Kong in various aspects;
- (g) publishing notebooks with the work of Hong Kong poet Yasi to complement “Hong Kong Week 2014”. The notebooks have been given away for free in Taiwan starting from October 2014 to promote the local culture of Hong Kong; and
- (h) furnishing information about Hong Kong to members of the Taiwan public through opening up the reading area of HKETCO, mailing publications and materials to all Taiwan’s public libraries, and conducting routine liaison work.

Assistance Rendered to Hong Kong People in Taiwan

13. HKETCO maintained regular communications with associations of Hong Kong people and students in Taiwan, and offered advice and assistance as appropriate. During the report period, the Director and key officers of HKETCO paid visits to eight tertiary education institutions with a relatively large number of Hong Kong students, and learnt more about the study and living conditions of the Hong Kong students there through meetings with them. HKETCO also kept in contact with Hong Kong students' associations in Taiwan, and organised a career talk in May 2015 to provide job-seeking information for Hong Kong students in Taiwan. HKETCO also organised a football competition in April 2015 to connect with Hong Kong people. Moreover, HKETCO received a number of non-governmental study missions and delegations from Hong Kong, and exchanged views with them on issues such as Hong Kong-Taiwan relations.

14. During the report period, HKETCO received 254 requests for assistance and relevant enquires from Hong Kong people. They were mainly related to immigration matters, encountering accidents occurred in Taiwan and seeking legal assistance. In handling cases involving Hong Kong people in distress in Taiwan, HKETCO always maintained close liaison with the Hong Kong Immigration Department and offered all possible assistance according to the circumstances, including providing advice on such matters as local administrative procedures, and how to liaise with the relevant organisations or seek legal advice. In addition, HKETCO published an information booklet for Hong Kong people living in Taiwan, with a view to providing useful information to them.

Supporting the Work of the Government and the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council

15. During the report period, HKETCO actively supported the Government and the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) in fostering closer co-operation and exchanges with Taiwan. The major work included –

- (a) assisting the Hong Kong-Taiwan Cultural Co-operation Committee (HKTCCC) in organising “Hong Kong Week 2014” in Taipei from October to November 2014 to promote Hong Kong’s art and culture. The various activities of “Hong Kong Week 2014” attracted more than 120 000 participants and received positive feedback from the Taiwan audience;
- (b) supporting ECCPC and its Taiwan counterpart, THEC, in planning the logistics of the 5th Joint Meeting of ECCPC and THEC held in Taipei in December 2014;
- (c) accompanying David Lie, ECCPC Vice-chairperson and Chairman of the Hong Kong-Taiwan Business Co-operation Committee, in calling on the Mayor of Taoyuan City in January 2015, Mayors of Kaohsiung City and Taichung City, as well as THEC Chairman in June 2015, and the Mayor of Taipei City in July 2015. The visits aimed at exchanging views on economic co-operation between Hong Kong and Taiwan;
- (d) co-organising the Hong Kong-Taoyuan Intercity Forum on 6 August 2015 with the Taoyuan City Government to discuss how to take advantage of the large international airports to promote economic and industrial development,

and look into the future of logistics and convention and exhibition industries. About 200 officials, experts, academics and stakeholders from both places took part in the Forum. Secretary for Transport and Housing and Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs also participated in their capacities as Vice-chairpersons of ECCPC; and

- (e) assisting HKTCCC in organising “Hong Kong Week 2015” in Taipei from September to October 2015, with a view to promoting Hong Kong’s arts and culture to Taiwan people.

Looking Ahead

16. HKETCO has been in operation for nearly four years and has successfully established links with various sectors in Taiwan. HKETCO will continue to step up efforts in this respect. HKETCO will also actively encourage Taiwan companies to invest in Hong Kong, foster closer economic relationship between Hong Kong and Taiwan, support Hong Kong businesses in Taiwan (including the organisation of another Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic Co-operation Forum in November 2015), and promote cultural exchanges between the two places, such as continuing organising “Hong Kong Week” in Taipei every year, publishing the “Art & Culture @ Hong Kong” and participating in the “Taiwan Lantern Festival”.

Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (Taiwan)
October 2015