#### 香港特別行政區政府 商務及經濟發展局 工商及旅遊科



### COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM BRANCH COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

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Mr Boris Lam, Clerk to Panel on Commerce and Industry, Legislative Council Secretariat, Legislative Council Complex, 1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lam,

#### Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry Follow-up to meeting on 18 May 2021

In response to the Members' request at the meeting on 18 May 2021

for -

- (a) a list of Belt and Road (B&R) economies at which Hong Kong manufacturers were interested in setting up their operations, with a breakdown by industry cluster; and
- (b) information on the numbers of Hong Kong enterprises / professional bodies which had participated in B&R projects, with breakdowns by industry / profession;

this letter provides the Government's response.

## List of B&R economies at which Hong Kong manufacturers were interested in setting up their operations, with a breakdown by industry cluster

As reported at the Panel meeting, among various economies along the B&R, Hong Kong enterprises are more interested in developing their business in the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) at this

stage as they are generally more familiar with these markets and their conditions appear to be more suitable for Hong Kong manufacturers. This is supported by past surveys carried out by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) / local business chambers.

In addition, the HKTDC has received enquiries from members of its Transformation Sandbox Programme (T-box) on identification of an alternative production base or supply chain solutions. T-box is a support programme that helps Hong Kong small and medium enterprises enhance their business's competitiveness and achieve transformation goals in the areas of branding, e-commerce, manufacturing and supply chain solutions, and new markets. It was launched by the HKTDC in April 2020 with support from the Government.

Those enquiries are mostly relating to Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam (which are ASEAN member states), and they are from the following industries –

- (a) electronics;
- (b) printing and packaging;
- (c) jewellery and watches; and
- (d) medical and healthcare.

As the needs of Hong Kong enterprises are evolving and the external business environment has been rapidly changing, especially due to the interruptions on supply chains inflicted by the pandemic, the Government and the HKTDC will keep in close contact with and listen to the views of the local business community in order to formulate appropriate measures to facilitate them to make use of the overseas Economic and Trade Co-operation Zones set up by the Mainland.

# Information on the numbers of Hong Kong enterprises / professional bodies which had participated in B&R projects, with breakdowns by industry / profession

To facilitate business matching and project participation, the HKTDC's B&R Portal provides information on B&R related investment projects, relevant success stories, and lists out the corresponding professional services providers. As at 15 June 2021, the Portal contains information on over 380 Hong Kong professional services providers. The database also has around 630 projects in various sectors, of which the breakdown is tabulated below. Over half of such projects are located in Asia (56%), and the rest are in Europe (13%) and Africa (12%).

	Industry / sector	Percentage <sup>1</sup>
1.	Urban Development	27%
2.	Transport & Logistics Infrastructure	24%
3.	Energy and Natural Resources	17%
4.	Technology	16%
5.	Industrial Parks	10%
6.	Agriculture, Food and Rural	8%
	Development	1
7.	Public Utilities	7%
8.	Manufacturing	5%

Due to commercial sensitivity or contractual confidentiality provisions, not all Hong Kong enterprises or professional services providers would disclose the progress and status of their participation in the B&R projects to the HKTDC. For others which do not use the service of the HKTDC, there is no information on the extent of their participation.

To promote ties between Mainland enterprises and Hong Kong's professional services bodies in seizing B&R-related opportunities, the Belt and Road Office organised on 14 May 2021 the first sharing session under the Mainland Enterprises Partnership Exchange and Interface Programme in conjunction with the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council and the Hong Kong Chinese Enterprises Association. Around 50 business matching sessions were held to facilitate Mainland enterprises in identifying partners in various professional fields for taking forward B&R projects, and the event was attended by about 100 representatives from over 40 enterprises and professional services bodies.

Yours sincerely,

(Mary Tsang)

for Commissioner for Belt and Road

 $<sup>^{1}\,</sup>$  As some of the projects fall under more than one industry / sector, the total percentage is over 100%.