

Public invited to Hospital Authority Board Meeting

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Members of the public are invited to attend the Hospital Authority (HA) Board Meeting to be held on March 27 (Thursday) at 4pm.

The HA Board Meeting has been open to members of the public since 1998 to demonstrate the continuous effort of the Authority to enhance its transparency and public accountability. The HA Board holds meetings at regular intervals to discuss major health policy issues that have impacts on the public. Through these open meetings, the community is able to understand more about the role and functions of the HA Board as well as the operation and services of the HA and its hospitals.

The HA Board will discuss the following agenda items in the coming meeting:

- Hospital Authority Annual Plan 2025-26;
- Progress Report on Strategic Priorities;
- Corporate Presentation Programme – Patient-centric Services in the Hospital Authority;
- Cluster Presentation Programme – Kowloon West Cluster – 10 Years' Experience in Rationalising Clinical Facilities in Princess Margaret Hospital; and
- Cluster Presentation Programme – New Territories East Cluster – Neuromodulation: Way Forward for Advancing Treatment.

The meeting agenda and papers will be made available to the public at the meeting. Members of the public are reminded that they can attend the Board Meeting only as observers and will not be participating in the meeting discussions.

Members of the public who are interested in attending the coming Board Meeting have to make an advance booking by contacting the Secretariat of the HA Board at 2300 6797 before noon on March 27. To facilitate booking arrangements, members of the public are advised to provide their names and contact telephone numbers. In view of the limited seating available in the public gallery of the meeting venue, seating will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected smuggled goods worth about \$10 million (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs detected a suspected smuggling case involving an ocean-going vessel on March 16. A batch of suspected smuggled goods with an estimated market value of about \$10 million was seized.

Through intelligence analysis and risk assessment, Customs discovered that criminals intended to use ocean-going vessels to smuggle goods. Enforcement operations were thus formulated, with a suspicious container scheduled to depart from Hong Kong to Singapore via an ocean-going vessel being selected for inspection.

Customs inspected the abovementioned container that was declared as carrying two private cars and 240 pieces of electronic products on March 16. Upon examinations, Customs officers found a large batch of suspected smuggled goods, including refrigerators, tablets, mobile phones, and clothing, in the container. Additionally, the quantity of electronic products seized exceeded the declared quantity.

An investigation is ongoing. The likelihood of arrests is not ruled out.

Being a government department primarily responsible for tackling smuggling activities, Customs has long been combating various smuggling activities on all fronts. Customs will keep up its enforcement action and continue to resolutely combat sea smuggling activities through proactive risk management and intelligence-based enforcement strategies, and carry out targeted anti-smuggling operations at suitable times to disrupt relevant crimes.

Smuggling is a serious offence. Under the Import and Export Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting unmanifested cargo is liable to a maximum fine of \$2 million and imprisonment for seven years upon conviction.

Members of the public may report any suspected smuggling activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 182 8080 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk) or online form (eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/ced002).



[Labour Department to hold courses and public talks on prevention of heat stroke at work and occupational health](#)

The Labour Department (LD) regularly organises courses and public health talks on the prevention of heat stroke and occupational health to raise awareness of occupational health among both employers and employees.

Details of five courses and health talks on the prevention of heat stroke at work in April are as follows:

(1)

Dates and time: April 10 and 24 (Half-day (am)); April 3 and 14 (Half-day (pm))

Venue: Occupational Safety and Health Training Centre of the LD, 13/F, KOLOUR·Tsuen Wan I, 68 Chung On Street, Tsuen Wan, New Territories

Enrolment method: Download the application form

(www.labour.gov.hk/eng/osh/form.htm)

Enquiry hotline: 2940 7057

(2)

Date and time: April 7 (3.30pm to 5pm)

Venue: Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon

Enrolment method: Online registration for public talks on occupational health (www.oshsreg.gov.hk/en)

Enquiry hotline: 2852 4040

In addition, the LD will hold the following occupational health public talks in April:

(1)

Topic: Noise Hazards and Prevention of Hearing Loss

Content: The talk will give an introduction on the Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Noise at Work) Regulation and the Occupational Deafness Compensation Scheme, as well as health hazards posed by noise at work and preventive measures for hearing loss.

Date and time: April 2 (3.30pm to 5pm)

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Enrolment method: Online registration (www.oshsreg.gov.hk/en)

Enquiry hotline: 2852 4040

(2)

Topic: Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) for Confined Space Workers

Content: To enhance workers' OSH awareness of working in confined spaces, the talk will explain the related hazards as well as their preventive measures.

Date and time: April 16 (6.30pm to 8pm)

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Enrolment method: Online registration (www.oshsreg.gov.hk/en)

Enquiry hotline: 2852 4040

(3)

Topic: Occupational Health of Office Workers Series (III) More Exercise, Smart Work

Content: The talk will introduce the benefits of exercise. Demonstrations and practice of workplace exercises will also be included.

Date and time: April 23 (3.30pm to 5pm)

Venue: Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon

Enrolment method: Online registration (www.oshsreg.gov.hk/en)

Enquiry hotline: 2852 4040

All courses and public talks will be given by the LD's occupational hygienist, occupational safety officer, occupational health nurse or a representative of the Occupational Deafness Compensation Board in Cantonese. Admission is free.

The LD also provides a free-of-charge outreach health education service. For details, please visit the department's webpage (www.labour.gov.hk/eng/osh/content7.htm) or call 2852 4062.

[Adjustment in ceiling prices for dedicated LPG filling stations in](#)

April 2025

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) today (March 25) announced an adjustment to the auto-LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) ceiling prices for dedicated LPG filling stations from April 1 to April 30, 2025, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contracts for dedicated LPG filling stations.

A department spokesman said that the adjustment on April 1, 2025, would reflect the movement of the LPG international price in March 2025. The adjusted auto-LPG ceiling prices for dedicated LPG filling stations would range from \$3.67 to \$4.59 per litre, amounting to a decrease of \$0.08 to \$0.09 per litre.

The spokesman said that the auto-LPG ceiling prices were adjusted according to a pricing formula specified in the contracts. The formula comprises two elements – the LPG international price and the LPG operating price. The LPG international price refers to the LPG international price of the preceding month. The LPG operating price is adjusted on February 1 and June 1 annually according to the average movement of the Composite Consumer Price Index and the Nominal Wage Index.

The auto-LPG ceiling prices for respective dedicated LPG filling stations in April 2025 are as follows:

Location of Dedicated LPG Filling Station	Auto-LPG Ceiling Price in April 2025 (HK\$/litre)	Auto-LPG Ceiling Price in March 2025 (HK\$/litre)
Kwai On Road, Kwai Chung	3.67	3.76
Sham Mong Road, Mei Foo	3.74	3.82
Wai Lok Street, Kwun Tong	3.79	3.88
Cheung Yip Street, Kowloon Bay	3.84	3.92
Ngo Cheung Road, West Kowloon	3.85	3.93
Yuen Chau Tsai, Tai Po	3.90	3.99
Tak Yip Street, Yuen Long	4.01	4.10
Hang Yiu Street, Ma On Shan	4.03	4.12
Marsh Road, Wan Chai	4.04	4.13
Fung Mat Road, Sheung Wan	4.06	4.15
Yip Wong Road, Tuen Mun	4.16	4.25
Fung Yip Street, Chai Wan	4.59	4.68

The spokesman said that the details of the LPG international price and the auto-LPG ceiling price for each dedicated LPG filling station had been uploaded to the EMSD website (www.emsd.gov.hk) and posted at dedicated LPG

filling stations to enable the trades to monitor the price adjustment.

Details of the pricing adjustment mechanism for dedicated LPG filling stations can also be viewed under the "What's New" section of the department website at www.emsd.gov.hk/en/what_s_new/current/index.html.

[Speech by Acting CE at HSBC Global Investment Summit \(English only\) \(with photo\)](#)

Following is the speech by the Acting Chief Executive, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, at HSBC Global Investment Summit today (March 25):

Deputy Director Qi (Deputy Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Mr Qi Bin), Mark (Group Chairman of HSBC Holdings, Mr Mark Tucker), Georges (Group Chief Executive of HSBC Holdings, Mr Georges Elhedery), distinguished guests from around the world, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning and welcome to Hong Kong. The Chief Executive is away on a duty visit, but I'm very pleased to be here, with you, for the second HSBC Global Investment Summit.

Particularly pleased, given that this three-day gathering is among the many events celebrating HSBC's 160th anniversary. Born a Hong Kong bank in 1865, HSBC is still, proudly, a Hong Kong bank in 2025. Not to mention one of the world's great banks.

So, yes, I'm delighted to be here, to congratulate HSBC on its milestone anniversary. Delighted to be here, too, speaking about Hong Kong, my favorite subject, to HSBC and a world of high-profile professionals. I'm told that some 4 300 registered for this three-day Summit, which would make it even larger than the first HSBC Summit last year.

You are leaders and innovators collectively shaping the future of global finance and investment: CEOs of global firms, institutional investors, wealth-fund managers, pioneering fintech innovators and much more.

And you've come here at a brilliant time. Our "Hong Kong Super March" features a stunning series of mega-events, arts and culture included. Hong Kong, after all, is the rising East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange.

The Hong Kong Arts Festival, featuring music, dance, theatre, Chinese

and Western opera and much more, continues through Sunday. Art Basel, opening Friday (March 28), showcases more than 240 galleries from over 40 countries and regions. And don't miss the major Picasso exhibition, at M+, in the West Kowloon Cultural District. HSBC, let me add, is a major sponsor of the spectacular Picasso exhibition.

Those of you who lean toward the art of sport won't need to be told that the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens gets going this Friday, with world-class action, on and off the pitch, at our brand-new, state-of-the-art Kai Tak Sports Park, with seating for 50 000. Bigger house. Bigger party. And the views across to Victoria Harbour from the South Stand are stunning.

The good life includes finance, as you all well know. And Hong Kong is Asia's premier financial hub.

Indeed, in the latest Global Financial Centres Index, published just last week, Hong Kong maintained its standing as the world's third-ranked financial centre – and the top in the Asia-Pacific. In the Index's "human capital," "infrastructure" and "financial sector development" areas, Hong Kong climbed to second, worldwide, while our rankings in "business environment" and "reputational and general" rose to third, globally.

The numbers tell a compelling story. Our economy is projected to grow 2.9 per cent annually from 2026 to 2029 – resilient momentum despite global headwinds.

Our stock market has surged more than 20 per cent as of mid-March, its highest level since February 2022. Daily market turnover reached close to 26 billion US dollars at the end of February. That's up nearly 140 per cent, year on year.

Investor confidence is returning, too. That's reflected in the 7.1 per cent rise in total deposits last year.

These figures are a testament to the trust global investors place in our financial infrastructure, regulatory framework and longstanding connectivity with Mainland China and the world in general.

Hong Kong's role as a super-connector has never been more vital. We remain the world's largest offshore Renminbi business hub, each day processing close to 80 per cent of cross-border Renminbi payments outside the Mainland.

And we will continue to enhance offshore Renminbi liquidity.

Last month, we launched the Renminbi Trade Financing Liquidity Facility, with Renminbi 100 billion, ensuring that banks have stable access to low-cost Renminbi funds.

We are now working to enable multi-currency settlements and enrich Renminbi products, offering real estate investment trusts under Stock Connect

and exploring new initiatives with Mainland regulators.

There's more. We are committed to Hong Kong's rise as an international gold trading centre, taking good advantage of our strengths in security and stability, as well as finance.

We are working now on measures to enhance gold storage facilities, optimise trading and regulatory mechanisms, expand exchange products and conduct market promotion.

Attracting foreign investment is another promising area. Last year, we attracted about 540 overseas and Mainland firms to set up or expand their operations here in Hong Kong, up more than 40 per cent, year on year.

And we are making every effort to attract more global capital. In particular, we will host the inaugural Hong Kong Global Financial and Industry Summit in June, with a view to supporting the matching of capital and projects. The event will bring together global enterprises, tech firms, funds and investors to drive international collaboration through financial empowerment. In addition, we will also work with the Hong Kong Exchanges to open new distribution channels for private equity funds and boost promotion in the Middle East and throughout ASEAN.

We are, as well, encouraging the private sector to organise more mega-events such as this Summit, to showcase Hong Kong's energy and business opportunities to the world.

Those opportunities include green and sustainable finance.

Alongside green bond issuances, we are also providing early-stage funding support for pre-commercialised green fintech initiatives.

We will soon publish a second policy statement on virtual assets, positioning Hong Kong as Asia's digital-asset innovation hub. And we expect to implement a regulatory framework for stablecoins later this year.

The initiatives are attracting global players, with 10 digital-asset licenses issued so far and more in the pipeline.

In AI, we have issued a policy statement, setting out our stance regarding the responsible application of AI in the financial market.

We are closely monitoring market developments, drawing on international experience with AI in financial services to accelerate the development of new quality productive forces.

These digital regulatory advancements also pave the way for further innovation in fintech.

Our commitment to innovation is evident in our pioneering work on Central Bank Digital Currencies and the launch of the Commercial Data

Interchange. These enable more efficient financial intermediation in the banking system and enhance financial inclusion in Hong Kong.

In November, for the first time, our FinTech Week and our StartmeupHK Festival will converge as one event dedicated to the digital economy. It will mark the 10th anniversary for both, bringing together technology innovators, banking executives, venture capitalists, regulators and start-ups, all keen to shape the future of finance.

Last year, by the way, the number of start-ups in Hong Kong grew by 10 per cent, with fintech being the biggest sector, with more than 600 start-ups.

This Summit's agenda reflects both the complexity and the promise of today's global financial landscape. Over the next three days, you'll engage in discussions ranging from the future of digital finance to sustainable investment strategies, from the reordering of global supply chains to emerging market opportunities.

More than a gathering of finance and business minds – this Summit is a forum for action. The connections made here, the insights shared and the partnerships created will ripple right through the global economy, of that I'm confident. Like Hong Kong, you're here to make a decided difference for us all.

You're also here, in Hong Kong, to have a memorable time on a landmark occasion, the 160th anniversary of HSBC. Thankfully, the rich business of pleasure is everywhere you look in Hong Kong. Enjoy it all. Every minute of it. Thank you.

