<u>Director-General of Office for</u> <u>Attracting Strategic Enterprises</u> <u>visits Auckland and Sydney to promote</u> <u>Hong Kong's advantages (with photos)</u>

The Director-General of the Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises (OASES), Mr Peter Yan, today (February 18) began his visit to Auckland, New Zealand, and Sydney, Australia, to promote Hong Kong's latest developments and new opportunities in the innovation and technology (I&T) industry. These include sectors of artificial intelligence and data science, life and health technology, advanced manufacturing and new energy technology, and financial technology, with the aim of attracting potential strategic enterprises to establish their presence in Hong Kong.

Upon arrival in Auckland today, Mr Yan met with various senior representatives of local I&T enterprises to gain insights into the latest local technological developments and trends, and exchange views on potential collaboration opportunities between Hong Kong and Auckland. Mr Yan also shared OASES's unique role and support functions with the business leaders, and discussed with them their intentions and plans for setting up or expanding in Hong Kong.

During the meetings, Mr Yan said, "Hong Kong is the world's freest economy, the third-largest international financial centre, and the seventhmost digitally competitive city globally. Additionally, Hong Kong is the only Asian city with five universities in the world's top 100, and features world-class research institutions, top-notch professional services and a highly skilled talent pool. On top of these unique advantages, Hong Kong also embraces the role of connecting both Mainland China and overseas countries, serving as a 'super connector' and 'super value-adder', making it the most convenient and efficient gateway for New Zealand and Australian enterprises to enter Mainland China."

Tomorrow (February 19) and February 20, Mr Yan and an OASES representative will meet with more I&T enterprises in Auckland and Sydney. They will also visit industry chambers, I&T investment and financial institutions, and professional services organisations in both places to discuss opportunities for financial and investment exchanges as well as I&T collaborations between Hong Kong and the two cities to foster interaction between talent and industries within the I&T sector.

Through these meetings, Mr Yan aims to reinforce OASES's connections with Auckland and Sydney, and encourage more strategic enterprises to establish a presence in Hong Kong.

Mr Yan will depart for Hong Kong in the afternoon on February 20 (Sydney

time).





