

Director of Audit concludes visit to Beijing (with photos)

The Director of Audit, Professor Nelson Lam, led a delegation of the Audit Commission on June 5 to start a two-day visit to Beijing. The delegation visited the National Audit Office (NAO), the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office (HKMAO) of the State Council and the Beijing Municipal Audit Bureau to give briefings on the work of the Audit Commission and to gain an understanding of the latest development of auditing work on the Mainland.

On the first day of the trip, Professor Lam visited the NAO and met the Auditor General, Mr Hou Kai. Professor Lam briefed Mr Hou on the recent work of the Audit Commission, while Mr Hou shed light on the latest trend of audit work on the Mainland. The officials discussed, among other issues, the participation of Audit Commission staff in United Nations audit projects as part of the NAO team, and also the strengthening of co-operation between the Mainland and Hong Kong in areas of auditing, personnel exchange and training.

"It is my first time visiting Beijing as the Director of Audit since assuming the position last year. This is a meaningful occasion for me to lead my colleagues of the Audit Commission to visit the NAO. I have to express my heartfelt gratitude to the NAO for giving our staff the precious opportunity to take part in United Nations audit projects as part of the NAO team. From this meeting, we have gained from our motherland the spirit and practical skills in auditing, which we will definitely bring back to Hong Kong and put into solid practice. On top of that, tapping into the advantage of 'one country, two systems' of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, we will reach out and connect with the world, with the strong support of our motherland, to showcase the auditing excellence of our nation," said Professor Lam. Mr Hou shared with the delegation the essence of the first meeting of the Central Auditing Commission under the 20th Communist Party of China Central Committee, and said, "The NAO pays close attention to the development of auditing work in Hong Kong and will offer even stronger support in areas such as capacity building. The auditing work in Hong Kong should be delivered in such a way as to fit better into the grand scheme of national development and make greater contribution to the enhancement of governance, strengthening of development momentum, addressing of people's concerns and difficulties, and safeguarding of social harmony for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region."

The delegation paid a visit yesterday morning (June 6) to the HKMAO and met the Director-General of the Department of Exchange and Cooperation, Mr Wu Wei. Professor Lam gave a brief introduction on the latest work of the Audit Commission, and exchanged views with Mr Wu on applying the spirit of the 20th National Congress and the "two sessions" to auditing work, hereby enhancing the supervisory role of auditing in public service. "The Audit Commission will fully and faithfully implement the Central Government's principle of 'one country, two systems' in delivering our duties and stay fully committed

to supporting the governance of the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region," said Professor Lam.

In the afternoon on the same day, the delegation visited the Beijing Municipal Audit Bureau and met its Director-General, Ms Ma Lanxia. The officials exchanged views on issues of mutual interest about auditing.

Officials accompanying Professor Lam on the trip included the Deputy Director of Audit, Mr Ken Liang, and Principal Auditor Mr Anthony Lo of the Audit Commission. Two officers of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region also accompanied Professor Lam for the visit. The delegation returned to Hong Kong last night.

