

Director of Hong Kong and Macao Work Office of CPC Central Committee and Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of State Council Mr Xia Baolong inspects Hong Kong Park of Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone and Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone (with photos)

The Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Work Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office (HKMAO) of the State Council, Mr Xia Baolong, visited the Hong Kong Park (the Park) of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone and the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone yesterday (February 9). During his inspection, Mr Xia hosted a discussion session in Qianhai and was briefed by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government on its work plans on the economy and financial services.

In the morning, Mr Xia, accompanied by the Acting Chief Executive, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, and the Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, paid an on-site visit to the Park. Mr Xia listened to presentations by the Secretary for Development, Ms Bernadette Linn, on the overall planning and development overview of the Northern Metropolis, as well as by the Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Professor Sun Dong, on the the latest development progress and the key foci of work for the Park.

Thereafter, Mr Xia inspected the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone, and hosted a discussion session in which Mr Paul Chan introduced work and focus by the HKSAR Government in 2025 to advance the economy. The session lasted for nearly four hours, with in-depth discussions about how Hong Kong could further understand, respond to and embrace changes under the new circumstances, accelerate reforms to foster progress, enhance cooperation between Guangdong and Hong Kong, and better integrate into the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). The Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Erick Tsang Kwok-wai; the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, Mr Christopher Hui; the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau; Ms

Linn; Professor Sun; the Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Ms Mable Chan; and the Acting Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Mr Raistlin Lau, attended the session.

At the discussion session, Mr Xia recognised the work of the HKSAR Government under the leadership of the Chief Executive. He hoped that the HKSAR Government would thoroughly implement the spirit of the important speeches by President Xi in Macao and the Third Plenary Session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, and continue to be bold in reform, dare to break new ground, and to innovate continuously; and that there would be more reciprocal co-operation and collaborative development within the GBA.

Mr Paul Chan stated that under the leadership of the Chief Executive, the HKSAR Government team will firmly uphold the principle of "one country" while leveraging the advantages of "two systems". The Government team is determined to undertake reforms, dare to be innovative, and actively integrate into the national development and align with national development strategies. In face of a complex external environment, Hong Kong will co-ordinate development and security, maintain financial and economic security, whilst promoting the acceleration of economic progress. As the country further deepens reforms, promotes high-quality development and advances high-level opening up, Hong Kong will leverage its unique advantages and functions of connecting with both the Mainland and the world, as well as its strong international character. Hong Kong will reinforce traditional advantageous industries such as financial services, trade and shipping, while also exploring new development areas. At the same time, Hong Kong will focus on nurturing new quality productive forces and new economic growth points, and continue to make systematic investments in innovation and technology. Hong Kong will harness platforms such as the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone and the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone, and strengthen collaboration with sister cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, seeking to play to the comparative strengths of the cities and elevate their economic development.

The Governor of Guangdong Province and Deputy Head of the Office of the Leading Group on Construction of the GBA of Guangdong Province, Mr Wang Weizhong; Executive Deputy Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Work Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the HKMAO of the State Council, Mr Zhou Ji; Deputy Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Work Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR (LOCPG), Mr Zheng Yanxiong; Deputy Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Work Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the HKMAO of the State Council, Mr Nong Rong, Deputy Director of LOCPG, Mr Qi Bin, joined the inspection and discussion session.

