

HKETO, Brussels says Hong Kong can help Italian entrepreneurs to connect and excel in Asia (with photos)

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Brussels (HKETO, Brussels) co-hosted a business seminar in Milan, Italy on January 17, as part of its continuing efforts to reach out to Italian entrepreneurs and promote Hong Kong as the gateway to Mainland China and the best place to tap business opportunities arising from the Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (the Greater Bay Area) development.

Entitled "Hong Kong Engine of Asian Economy: Opportunities for Exports and Innovation for Italian Companies", the seminar was co-organised by HKETO, Brussels and Invest Hong Kong (IHK), with the support of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Italian Association of Foreign Trade.

The Deputy Representative of the HKETO, Brussels, Miss Fiona Chau, told Italian entrepreneurs that Hong Kong's unparalleled knowledge of the Mainland market and its deep economic connections with the Mainland, Asia and the rest of the world continue to make Hong Kong their best business partner.

Emphasising the Government's theme of "connect and excel", Miss Chau said that connecting with Hong Kong can help people and businesses succeed in Asia. She told the participants about Hong Kong's major investment in mega infrastructure projects including the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the airport's three-runway system, which aim to greatly enhance Hong Kong's connectivity with the Greater Bay Area, the Mainland and the world.

The seminar was followed by a cocktail reception co-hosted by the HKETO, Brussels and IHK in co-operation with Copernico, an Italian start-up development and acceleration platform. At the reception, Miss Chau highlighted that Hong Kong is well-known for its simple tax regime and low tax rate, with the latest reports by PricewaterhouseCoopers and the World Bank finding that Hong Kong has the most business-friendly tax system in the world. She added that Hong Kong continues to be a unique place to "connect and excel" in business and in life. Hong Kong welcomes talents from around the world to live, develop careers and contribute to Hong Kong society, she said.

Other speakers at the seminar and the cocktail reception included the Director-General of Investment Promotion of the IHK, Mr Stephen Phillips.

During her visit to Milan, Miss Chau also met with the President of the Lombardy Regional Government, Mr Attilio Fontana, and the regional Minister of Finance, Mr Davide Carlo Caparini, and updated them on the latest developments in Hong Kong. She also met with representatives of the Italian

Association of Industrial Design and researchers of the Italian think-tank, Italian Institute for International Political Studies.

