

# London ET0 hosts reception at International Maritime Organization (with photos)

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (London ET0), with the support of the Marine Department, held a reception at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London, the United Kingdom, on June 19 (London time).

In her welcome speech, the Director-General of the London ET0, Miss Fiona Chau, highlighted that under the "one country, two systems" framework, Hong Kong is the only common law jurisdiction in China, and maintains its status as a free port, implements free trade policies and ensures the free flow of capital, goods, people and information.

Miss Chau also promoted the Block Registration Incentive Scheme, launched in February this year as part of the Action Plan on Maritime and Port Development Strategy. She explained that under the Scheme, if more than one eligible ship is registered with the Hong Kong Shipping Registry within 24 months, the owners of the ships concerned may be provided with a refund of the ship registration fee and the first-year annual tonnage charge.

With a full-size dragon boat on display at the reception venue, Miss Chau took the opportunity to introduce guests to the vibrant traditions of the Dragon Boat Festival, along with a glimpse of the other rich cultural experiences Hong Kong has to offer.

The reception was attended by the Director of Marine Environment Division, Dr Heike Deggim, along with around 300 guests. These included delegates from IMO member states, senior representatives from international maritime organisations, and prominent shipowner representatives based in London.



