

Miami businesses learn to tap Hong Kong's strategic advantages in HKETO seminar (with photos)

A business seminar featuring senior government officials and business and legal executives on the business opportunities that Hong Kong offers has highlighted the city's strategic roles and advantages in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. The seminar was held in Miami today (February 19, Miami time) by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York (HKETONY) and Invest Hong Kong and was the first of its kind in the city.

In the opening, the Hong Kong Commissioner for Economic and Trade Affairs, USA, Mr Eddie Mak, said that with Hong Kong's deepening economic integration with the Mainland, the Bay Area and the Belt and Road Initiative offer enormous potential in trade, investment and commerce for US businesses.

In 2017, Florida exported US\$738 million worth of goods to Hong Kong, making the city the third largest Asian export destination for the Sunshine State.

Mr Mak pointed out that Hong Kong's "one country, two systems" arrangement, along its rule of law and independent judiciary, free market mechanism, low tax regime and free flow of capital and information, makes it the ideal international city to connect the Mainland with the rest of the world, including Florida and other parts of the US.

The speakers described business opportunities emerging in Hong Kong and Mainland China for southern Florida companies as well as possibilities for Asian companies to invest in assets and other opportunities in Miami-Dade County. They also shed light on how to plan for international expansion and how to access existing resources when going overseas. They included the Chair of the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, Ms Penny Shaffer; the President of the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, Mr Mike Finney; the Managing Partner of Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, Mr Thomas G Travis; the President of Swire Properties Inc, Mr Kieran Bowers; and the Vice President of Enterprise Florida, Mr Z Joe Kulenovich.

The seminar was followed by a Chinese New Year reception hosted by HKETONY. Welcoming guests, the Director of HKETONY, Ms Joanne Chu, highlighted the various opportunities Hong Kong has to offer to the various business sectors, including financial services, innovation and technology, professional services, logistics and the creative industries.

