

Opening remarks by SITI at Hong Kong Forum of International Science, Technology and Innovation Forum of Boao Forum for Asia 2025 Hong Kong Conference (English only) (with photo)

Following are the opening remarks by the Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Professor Sun Dong, at Hong Kong Forum of International Science, Technology and Innovation Forum of Boao Forum for Asia 2025 Hong Kong Conference today (June 7):

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning. It is both a privilege and a pleasure to stand before you today to open the Hong Kong Forum of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) International Science, Technology and Innovation Forum 2025 Hong Kong Conference.

Hong Kong is more than a vibrant cosmopolitan city – it is a dynamic bridge connecting Mainland China and rest of the world, a melting pot of ideas, and a powerhouse of innovation. Over the past few years, we have put in tremendous effort and resources to transform Hong Kong into a thriving hub for innovation and technology (I&T).

As we saw in the video, we have launched a series of robust policies to solidify Hong Kong's research capabilities, accelerate the transformation of R&D (research and development) outcomes, and promote the development of the technology industry, aiming to build a complete I&T ecological chain encompassing the upstream, midstream and downstream sectors while promoting interactive collaboration across government, industry, academia, research, and investment sectors. These efforts turn breakthroughs into impact, and ideas into global solutions.

Our motherland's unwavering support empowers Hong Kong to shine on the international stage. Under the "one country, two systems", Hong Kong remains the most international city in the country, offering a unique blend of East and West. Here, world-class infrastructure, robust legal and intellectual protection systems, and vibrant financial and capital markets converge. Talents gather, ideas flourish, entrepreneurial spirit blossoms, and enterprises grow. Being home to five world's top 100 universities, Hong Kong is a magnet for brilliant minds, fostering collaboration that spans borders and disciplines, and proudly developing into an international I&T centre.

And the best is yet to come. The Hetao Hong Kong Park (Hong Kong Park of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone) and the San Tin Technopole are set to be the game changers, offering

unparalleled opportunities for innovators at home and afar. To the global I&T community: Hong Kong is your ideal gateway to venture into the vast markets of Mainland China and Asia.

Today's theme, "Leveraging the Advantages of Connecting with Both the Mainland and the World to Foster Global Innovation and Technology Collaboration", perfectly captures our vision. Hong Kong is not just a player in the global I&T landscape – we are a catalyst for change, a facilitator of collaboration, a driver of progress, and a value-adder of advancement.

We are honoured to have esteemed leaders from industry, academia, research, and investment sectors joining the panel discussion today, whose insights, I am sure, will illuminate how Hong Kong can further strengthen its unique role in advancing global I&T collaboration. Together, we can unlock new possibilities and create a brighter future for all.

Before I close, let me extend my heartfelt gratitude to the BFA for co-organising this event, and our strategic partner, HKTDC (Hong Kong Trade Development Council), for their staunch support. A special thank goes to my colleagues at the Bureau and ITC (Innovation and Technology Commission) for their hard work over the past months in making this forum possible.

Ladies and gentlemen, the future of innovation is here, and it starts in Hong Kong. Let's seize this moment to collaborate, create, and inspire. I wish you all a fruitful and inspiring day. Thank you.

