

Running competition for 60th anniversary of Dongjiang water supply to HK concludes (with photos)

Next year will mark the 60th anniversary of Dongjiang water supply to Hong Kong. To commemorate and celebrate this important milestone, the Water Supplies Department (WSD) launched a series of publicity events in September this year. Among the activities is a pair of running competitions at the Aberdeen Reservoir, which was held today (November 30), to commemorate the six decades of water supplied from Dongjiang. The Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), Mr Ricky Lau, who kick-started the competitions by firing the starter's gun, officiated at the event. He was accompanied by the Director of Water Supplies, Mr Roger Wong.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Mr Lau said that while participants enjoy the scenery of the Aberdeen Reservoir today, they may think of the times when Hong Kong faced droughts around 60 years ago. Then, the country's timely mobilisation of a large amount of labour and resources enabled the city to receive Dongjiang's water, showing the country's love and care for Hong Kong. Mr Lau said he hopes that the country's love and care, as well as the parental love of the family race participants, can be passed from generation to generation.

Delivering his welcoming remarks, Mr Wong said intensive preparation work is being carried out for a large-scale celebration ceremony, official visits, an international conference, etc to commemorate and celebrate the 60th anniversary next year of Dongjiang water supply to Hong Kong, with a view to deepening the public's understanding of the history and current situation of the Dongjiang water supply, and the country's long-term support and care rendered to Hong Kong.

The running competition, comprised an individual race (8 kilometres) and a family race (3 kilometres), received more than 450 enrollments. Through this running competition, the WSD sought to join together with the community to inject vitality and positivity into the celebration events for this special anniversary. The running competition also symbolised the uninterrupted Dongjiang water supply to Hong Kong over the last six decades, which continues to support the city's long-term development.

The WSD expresses thanks to the support from the Development Bureau and the co-ordination of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department which enabled the smooth running of the event today. The department also thanks Radio Television Hong Kong for its coverage of the event. The feature story will be broadcast on "Hong Kong United" on RTHK TV 31.

