

SCED promotes Hong Kong's advantages at Seventh Western China International Fair for Investment and Trade (with photos)

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau, attended the Seventh Western China International Fair for Investment and Trade (WCIFIT) in Chongqing today (May 22) to promote Hong Kong's advantages to Mainland enterprises to further enhance co-operation between Hong Kong and Chongqing.

Organised by the Chongqing Municipal People's Government, the WCIFIT is an important platform for trade co-operation and investment promotion in the western region of the Mainland. This year, Hong Kong is the guest city of honour of the WCIFIT at which a Hong Kong Pavilion is set up to promote Hong Kong's strengths and showcase its role as an effective and premium trade and business platform for Mainland enterprises to go global. The Special Event on Chongqing-Hong Kong Co-operation in Modern Service Industry themed "Channelling Global Business through Hong Kong" was also held to foster co-operation and exchanges between the two places in different areas of the modern service industry.

Addressing the opening ceremony this morning, Mr Yau said that Hong Kong and Chongqing have long maintained close ties, with both places playing their unique roles in the nation's development. Chongqing serves as an important link between the Belt and Road and the Yangtze River Economic Belt, and is a highly opened-up inland area, while Hong Kong possesses the unique advantages of having strong support of the country while maintaining unparalleled connectivity with the world, and is the country's southern gateway and a key platform connecting the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area with international markets. Since the establishment of the Hong Kong/Chongqing Co-operation Conference mechanism in 2023, Hong Kong and Chongqing have been actively promoting co-operation on different fronts to leverage the complementarity of the two places and achieve mutual benefits, jointly contributing to the high-quality development of the country and creating unlimited opportunities for enterprises in both places.

Mr Yau said that Hong Kong is the connecting platform under the national dual circulation strategy, actively serving as a "super connector" and "super value-adder" and as a two-way springboard for Mainland enterprises to go global and for attracting overseas enterprises. He looked forward to more Chongqing enterprises coming to Hong Kong for further development.

The Secretary of the Chongqing Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), Mr Yuan Jiajun, and Deputy Secretary of the Chongqing Municipal Committee of the CPC and the Mayor of Chongqing, Mr Hu Henghua, also attended the opening ceremony.

Mr Yau then toured the Hong Kong Pavilion, which covers 600 square metres and showcases Hong Kong's strengths in areas such as finance, shipping and innovation and technology, as well as the development and achievements of co-operation between Hong Kong and Chongqing.

Speaking at the Special Event jointly organised by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) this afternoon, Mr Yau said that Hong Kong has a mature modern service industry system, while Chongqing is a major economic centre in the western region of the country with a strong manufacturing base and actively promoting the development of the producer services sector, demonstrating strong complementarity with Hong Kong. He added that Hong Kong and Chongqing present enormous potential for co-operation in the services sector. Hong Kong can provide solid support for Chongqing's development of modern services, while Chongqing's sizeable market and industrial base offer extensive room for development of Hong Kong enterprises.

The Special Event brought together government officials, enterprises and experts in the services sector of the two places, as well as a representative from the HKTDC to introduce Hong Kong's advantages and opportunities, the development of Chongqing's modern producer services sector, and the unlimited business opportunities under Hong Kong-Chongqing co-operation.



