## SCMA firmly supports white paper on "The Taiwan Question and China's Reunification in the New Era" published by Central Government

The Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Erick Tsang Kwok-wai, today (August 10) expressed strong support for the white paper on "The Taiwan Question and China's Reunification in the New Era" published by the Central Government, and firmly supports the country in pressing ahead the complete reunification of the motherland.

Citing historical facts, the white paper reaffirmed to the world that Taiwan has never been a state, its status as part of China is unalterable; and also elucidated that the one-China principle represents the universal consensus of the international community. It is consistent with the basic norms of international relations. The white paper also reiterated that "'peaceful reunification and one country, two systems' are our basic principles for resolving the Taiwan question and the best approach to realising national reunification".

Mr Tsang said, "Since Hong Kong's return to the motherland, Hong Kong has been re-integrated into China's national governance system, developed and progressed with complementary and co-ordinated development with the Mainland. 'One country, two systems' has achieved unrivalled success. However, some foreign forces partnered with anti-China and destabilising forces in Hong Kong to continuously defame, attack or even damage the successful implementation of 'one country, two systems'. They even attempted to subvert and incite others to commit secession, and advocate 'Hong Kong independence'. Their acts created riots, breached public peace and endangered national security. Fortunately, our country has always been providing staunch support to Hong Kong and took decisive actions to help Hong Kong to stop violence and curb disorder, and halt chaos and restore order. The 'one country, two systems' is now back on track. With the unique advantages of leveraging the support from the motherland while engaging with the world, Hong Kong starts a new chapter of advancing to prosperity. This also proves the 'one country, two systems' is a practicable, well-implemented, and outstanding system."

Mr Tsang said, "As the practitioner of 'one country, two systems', Hong Kong has been recognised as the world's freest economy, the world's number three financial centre, the fifth-most competitive economy internationally, and the world's largest offshore Renminbi business hub. It also holds the world's number one ranking in terms of air cargo throughput and five of the top 100 universities in the world. These achievements hinge on the unique advantages of having the motherland's support and connection with the world offered by the 'one country, two systems'."

Mr Tsang reiterated that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Government will firmly oppose any external forces interfering in the internal affairs of our country and fully support and facilitate all necessary measures by the Central Government to resolutely safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and strive to accomplish the great reunification of the country and the great rejuvenation of the nation.