

Second meeting of Hong Kong/Guangdong Expert Group on Co-developing a Smart City Cluster held (with photos)

The Hong Kong/Guangdong Expert Group on Co-developing a Smart City Cluster (EGSCC) convened its second meeting today (May 15) to continuously deepen co-operation between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and Guangdong Province in smart city development.

The Commissioner for Digital Policy, Mr Tony Wong, and the Deputy Director-General of the Guangdong Provincial Administration of Government Service and Data, Mr Xiong Xiong, who co-chaired the meeting, reviewed the work progress and achievements of the Expert Group over the past year. They also discussed and exchanged views on the work plan for the coming year. During the meeting, Hong Kong and Guangdong jointly reviewed the following five work details for the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong smart city cluster, namely:

1. expanding the availability of public services under Cross-boundary Public Services;
2. exploring more industry applications to achieve smart connectivity;
3. promoting the integration and mutual recognition of modern infrastructure public support capabilities between Hong Kong and Guangdong;
4. accelerating the cross-boundary flow of data elements; and
5. strengthening the sharing and co-operation on digitalisation between Hong Kong and Guangdong.

Mr Wong said in the meeting that following the inaugural meeting of the EGSCC in Guangzhou last year, members of the Expert Group had dedicated themselves to advancing the related work items. They successfully promoted key initiatives such as Hong Kong/Guangdong unified identity authentication, Cross-boundary Public Services, cultural tourism, transportation interconnection, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) 5G infrastructure deployment and large-scale commercialisation as well as the cross-boundary flow of data elements. These efforts made significant achievements for the Hong Kong/Guangdong smart city cluster. He expressed hope that the Digital Policy Office (DPO) and the Guangdong Provincial Administration of Government Service and Data could continue to maintain close co-operation to promote the synergistic digital development of the GBA city cluster, and contribute even greater efforts to the joint construction of a world-class city cluster.

Officials from relevant bureaux and departments, including the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau, the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, the Development Bureau, the DPO, and the Transport Department, attended the meeting on behalf of the HKSAR Government. Mainland

representatives who attended the meeting included officials from the Guangdong Provincial Administration of Government Service and Data, the Guangdong Provincial Public Security Department, the Department of Transport of Guangdong Province, and the Department of Natural Resources of Guangdong Province.

Arranged by the DPO, the Guangdong delegation visited the Smart Government Innovation Lab at the DPO office located at Cyberport after the meeting to learn more about the innovative solutions and products of local start-ups and small and medium enterprises, with the aim of facilitating the adoption of innovative technology to enhance city management and provide better public services for citizens. The delegation then visited Cyberport's Digital Tech Centre to learn how Hong Kong's innovation and technology enterprises apply cutting-edge technologies, such as AI, blockchain and Web3.0, and about their business applications.

