

Meeting between the Rt. Hon. Alex Salmond MSP, First Minister of Scotland and The Hon. Donald Tsang, GBM, Chief Executive of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China during the official visit by Mr Tsang to Scotland on 15 September 2011

Meeting Outcomes

1. Both sides agreed to strengthen collaboration based on the respective strengths of Hong Kong and Scotland and for mutual advantage, and agreed that the development of strong and sustainable links between the two places is important to delivering these mutual benefits.

2. Both sides acknowledged that there is much to learn from each other and agree that the exchange of people, experience, information, ideas and practices will lead to increased understanding and friendship. Both sides agreed to continue to work together to strengthen collaboration in a number of areas, in particular in trade and investment, education, culture and sport.

Trade and Investment

3. In trade and investment, both sides agreed to proactively explore more collaborative projects in the innovation and technology areas in particular, given that Hong Kong's four pillar industries plus six growth industries newly identified so strongly map to Scotland's areas of skills and experience.

4. With the increasing interest from Scottish businesses in Hong Kong, Mainland China and Asia, and the already very internationally aligned outlook of Hong Kong's financial market and commerce, both sides hope

that related trade and investment agencies can facilitate more reciprocally beneficial business ties, and more international trade and market expansion/diversification.

5. The Scottish Government hopes that it can welcome a delegation from the Environment Bureau to Scotland, to exchange ideas and share experiences on issues of common interest such as climate change, low carbon economy, energy efficiency, smart buildings, waste management and green transport. An invitation has already been extended to and warmly received by the Hong Kong Secretary for the Environment.

Education

6. In education, both sides agreed to strengthen further their exchanges and collaboration in support of Hong Kong's aspiration to become a regional education hub through:

i. Facilitating high level policy dialogues between educational officials and experts on issues of mutual interest including recognition of qualifications, curriculum reform, and development of Qualifications Framework.

ii. Encouraging our universities and colleges to explore new opportunities for engagement including joint programme delivery, student and faculty exchanges and collaboration in research.

7. A delegation from the Education Bureau of Hong Kong will visit

Scotland in the first half of 2012 to further deepen cooperation in education.

Culture

8. In culture, both sides agreed that representatives of the Hong Kong Leisure and Cultural Services Department should visit Edinburgh during the Edinburgh Festivals in August 2012 to explore opportunities for cultural cooperation. The relevant cultural bodies of both sides will continue to be in touch about ongoing and future collaborations.

Sport

9. In sports, both sides agreed that their representative sporting organisations should be encouraged to develop stronger sporting links with their counterparts and consider how this cooperation can also be used to the benefit of the wider community.