

Major achievements in Guangdong-Hong Kong Environmental Collaboration in 2017

- * Implemented measures under the Pearl River Delta Regional (PRD) Air Quality Management Plan and introduced new emission reduction measures to continuously enhance regional air quality. New measures implemented in Hong Kong included further tightening power sector's emission caps from 2022 onwards and carrying on its work in the new round of air quality objectives review in Hong Kong. While the major emission reduction measures in Guangdong included the promulgation of "Guangdong Province's Plan for Division of Labour and Strengthening Measures on Prevention of Atmospheric Pollution" by the Guangdong Provincial Government in July 2017, which set out 18 strengthening measures to combat air pollution; carrying forward cross-area joint enforcement action against yellow-label vehicles entering restricted zones; full implementation of National V emission standards for motor vehicles and provision of National V standard motor fuels, and striving to advance the implementation of the National VI emission standards for motor vehicles; using green public transport in the Shenzhen Municipality starting September 2017; and electrification of all upgraded or new public vehicles in Guangzhou and Foshan Municipality starting 2017.
- * The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao PRD Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network showed that the annual concentration levels of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and respirable suspended particulates in the region decreased by 74 per cent, 24 per cent and 38 per cent respectively when compared with 2006¹;
- * Completed the mid-term review on the emission reduction targets of air pollutants for 2015 and 2020;
- * Completed the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Joint Regional PM2.5 Study as planned;

¹ Hong Kong and Guangdong set up the PRD Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network in November 2005. The report on monitoring results in 2006 is the first annual report of the regional monitoring network. In September 2014, Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macau enhanced the regional monitoring network and renamed it as Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network.

- * Fostered exchanges in atmospheric pollution forecasting technology to enhance atmospheric pollution forecasting capability of the two sides, and endorsed Co-operation Proposal between Guangdong and Hong Kong on Air Quality Forecasting in September 2017;
- * Communicated and exchanged information on the work progress of pollution reduction measures in both sides and the coastal water quality in the Pearl River Estuary in accordance with the jointly prepared Pearl River Estuary Water Quality Management Co-operation Plan;
- * Continued to construct sewage infrastructure projects, and strengthen pollution discharge control to jointly protect the water quality of Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) and Mirs Bay;
- * Implemented various forms of environmental monitoring and control and requirements on planning including stringent control of construction projects, and enhancement of environmental facilities in the Dongjiang River Basin to further safeguard the water quality of Dongjiang, and expedited the implementation of the river chief system in the cities of the basin area, and the establishment of a leading team at municipal level and river chief system office to comprehensively implement the river chief system;
- * Co-operated and exchanged views on hill fire prevention and fighting, afforestation, conservation and management of nature reserves, protection of animal and plant species, wetland conservation and management, prevention and control of plant diseases and insect pests, joint enforcement action against illegal fishing, fisheries resources management, fisherman training and conservation of rare and precious species; and
- * Set up and trial launched a notification and alert system on marine refuse, and continued to combat illegal marine dumping activities.