

(English translation)

**Memorandum of Understanding on Jointly Developing  
the Lok Ma Chau Loop by Hong Kong and Shenzhen  
between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government  
and the Shenzhen Municipal People’s Government**

**Introduction**

In order to establish a “Hong Kong/Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park” (“the Park”) in the Lok Ma Chau Loop (“the Loop”), the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (“HKSAR”) Government and Shenzhen Municipal People’s Government (“both sides”) have agreed to jointly develop the Loop (actual location shown in the attached **Plan 1**). This Memorandum of Understanding (“the MOU”) is signed by both sides, following friendly negotiations.

**Background**

In accordance with Order No. 221 of the State Council of the People’s Republic of China promulgated on 1 July 1997 (the “State Council Order No. 221”), after the training of the Shenzhen River, the boundary will follow the new centre line of the river. The Loop, originally within the administrative boundary of Shenzhen, has since been included within the administrative boundary of the HKSAR.

On 25 November 2011, both sides signed the Co-operation Agreement on Jointly Taking Forward the Development of the Lok Ma Chau Loop (“the Co-operation Agreement”). Out of respect for the above historical fact, both sides have agreed to co-operate in taking forward the Loop’s development under the “One Country, Two Systems” principle, and in accordance with the laws of the HKSAR, as well as following the principle of “co-development and mutual benefit”.

Both sides subsequently conducted proactive negotiations in accordance with the Co-operation Agreement and reached a consensus to jointly develop the Loop into the Park, construct relevant higher education and complementary facilities in the Park and formulate this MOU. In response to the major developments in innovation and technology in Hong Kong and Shenzhen in recent years and the huge synergy effect generated by each side complementing the other with their

relative strengths, both sides have agreed that, apart from jointly developing the Park, the Hong Kong side would also support the Shenzhen side to develop technological innovations at the north side of Shenzhen River and jointly establish the “Shenzhen/Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Co-operation Zone”.

## **Article I Basic Principles**

Both sides have agreed, on the premise of achieving complementarity between Hong Kong and Shenzhen, to jointly develop the Loop into the Park under the “One Country, Two Systems” principle and in accordance with the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China. Both sides have also confirmed that they will abide by the following basic principles:

- (a) applying the laws and land administration system of the HKSAR: the use and management of the land in the Loop (including but not limited to planning, leasing, allocation of leasing revenue, transfer and renewal), as well as the construction, operations, maintenance and management of the project will follow the law and land administration system of the HKSAR;
- (b) non-profit making principle: the development project in the Loop will primarily be used for benefit of the public, with all income from the project to be used in the construction, operations, maintenance and management of the Loop. No profit will be disbursed to either side; and
- (c) friendly negotiation principle: both sides will jointly handle matters relating to the development of the Loop in the spirit of consultation and mutual benefit, and take forward the Loop’s development on the premise of mutual understanding. Disagreements will be resolved through mutual and friendly negotiations.

## **Article II Land Ownership**

- (a) In accordance with the State Council Order No. 221 promulgated on 1 July 1997, after the training of the Shenzhen River, the boundary will follow the new centre line of the river. Regarding the “cross-boundary” land after the realignment of the Shenzhen River, the four sites originally within the administrative boundary

of Shenzhen (i.e. sites A1 (i.e. the Loop), A2, A3 and A4 in the attached **Plan 2**) with an area of around 91 hectares, have since been included within the administrative boundary of the HKSAR. On the other hand, the 5 sites originally within the administrative boundary of the HKSAR (i.e. sites B1, B2, B3, B4 and B5 in the attached **Plan 2**) with an area of around 12 hectares, have since been included within the administrative boundary of Shenzhen.

- (b) The Shenzhen side confirms that the HKSAR Government possesses in accordance with the law since 1 July 1997 the land ownership of sites A1 (i.e. the Loop), A2, A3 and A4 in the attached **Plan 2**. Likewise, the Hong Kong side confirms that the Shenzhen Municipal People's Government possesses in accordance with the law since 1 July 1997 the land ownership of sites B1, B2, B3 and B4 in the attached **Plan 2**.
- (c) Neither side is required to reimburse the other side for any of the land resumption compensation previously and respectively paid for the said "cross-boundary" land. To ensure that the "cross-boundary" land is not encumbered by land ownership problems in future land grants, each side shall take the responsibility for tackling and settling any land ownership problems or claims involving interests in their respective "cross-boundary" land arising before such land was included within the administrative boundary of the other side.

### **Article III Scope and Specifics of Cooperation**

- (a) Both sides have agreed to jointly develop the Loop into the Park and establish a key base for co-operation in scientific research, through liaising with top-tier enterprises, research and development institutions as well as higher education institutions in the Mainland and overseas in establishing a base for co-operation in scientific research, exchanging and co-operating with excellent quality research talents from all over the world.
- (b) Both sides have also agreed to develop relevant and complementary facilities in the Park, including the setting up of an "integrated advanced training platform" through soliciting proposals from the world's top higher education institutions (including higher education institutions in Hong Kong and in the Mainland, as well as those overseas) for operating branches of existing or new

institutions in the Park. These branches or new institutions will be set up on a non-profit-making basis, and will focus on the provision of postgraduate programmes and professional training courses on new or advanced technology, aiming to nurture talents and engender synergy and clustering effects with the facilities in the Park. Related cultural and creative, commercial, community and other supporting facilities will also be provided in the Park.

- (c) The Hong Kong side has agreed to take effective measures to facilitate the exit and entry of mutually approved personnel of the Shenzhen side.

#### **Article IV Development Mechanism**

- (a) The HKSAR Government will be responsible for the construction of the infrastructure within the Loop (including site formation and infrastructural facilities) and the provision of supporting infrastructural facilities outside the Loop which are necessary to the development of the Loop and its surrounding areas.
- (b) The HKSAR Government will lease the formed land within the Loop to the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation by appropriate land disposal means for the development of the Park.
- (c) The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation will set up a wholly-owned subsidiary company (“the subsidiary company”) which will be vested with the responsibility to build the superstructure of the Park, as well as to operate, maintain and manage the same. The Board of Directors of the subsidiary company will be appointed by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation in accordance with the relevant legislation of the HKSAR. As important stakeholders of the Loop development, both sides will, through the “Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop” established in accordance with Article V(a) below, put forward to the HKSAR Government nominations for the Board of Directors of the subsidiary company for appointment by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, thereby jointly participating in the development of the Park, including but not limited to the leasing of land or housing for scientific research facilities, the “integrated advanced training platform” and other support facilities.

## **Article V Joint Implementation and Dispute Resolution Mechanisms**

- (a) The “Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop” (“the Joint Task Force”), comprising the relevant authorities and personnel from both sides, shall be responsible for studying and negotiating major issues arising from the development of the Loop.
- (b) The subsidiary company set up by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation in accordance with Article IV(c) above shall report to the Joint Task Force on the development of the Park regularly.
- (c) Any differences or disputes arising from the implementation of this MOU shall be submitted by the Joint Task Force to the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Co-operation Meeting for resolution in accordance with the laws of the HKSAR and the basic principles stipulated in Article I above.

## **Article VI Jointly Establishing the Shenzhen/Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Co-operation Zone**

- (a) Both sides have agreed to, upon signing of this MOU, jointly promote the Park to be established in the Loop for the purpose of attracting the stationing of enterprises, research and development institutions and higher education institutions from Hong Kong, Shenzhen and overseas, and promoting the development of the Park.
- (b) The Shenzhen side is planning to develop an area of about three square kilometres at the north side of Shenzhen River and adjacent to the Loop into a “Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Zone”. Both sides have agreed to obtain policy support from the State to push forward the development of the “Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Zone” and the Park, in an effort to establish a cohesive and synergistic “Shenzhen/Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Co-operation Zone”.

## **Article VII Signing and Commencement**

- (a) This MOU shall take effect upon its signing by the representatives of both sides.
- (b) This MOU is in quadruplicate (two in Traditional Chinese script and two in Simplified Chinese script) with all copies being equally authentic. The HKSAR Government and the Shenzhen Municipal People's Government shall keep one copy of each of the Traditional Chinese and Simplified Chinese versions.

## **Article VIII Supplementary Agreement Intention**

The specific arrangements for the joint development of the Loop into the Park and the matters not covered by this MOU shall continue to be studied and discussed by both sides through friendly negotiations. Supplementary memoranda may be signed as and when required.

The Government of the Hong Kong  
Special Administrative Region

The Shenzhen Municipal People's  
Government

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Carrie Lam,  
Chief Secretary for Administration

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Ai Xuefeng,  
Vice Mayor

3 January 2017



福田  
FUTIAN

Plan 1

Shenzhen Special Economic Zone

Shenzhen River

文錦渡口岸  
Wenjindu Port

羅湖口岸  
Luohu Port

Lok Ma Chau Loop

Lo Wu

深圳河

皇崗口岸  
Huanggang Port  
福田口岸  
Futian Port

Ma Tso Lung

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

# Location Plan of Lok Ma Chau Loop



