

(Courtesy Translation)

2019 Work Plan of the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation

I. Cross-boundary Infrastructure Development and Clearance Facilitation

1. To improve the operational management and arrangement on mechanism in respect of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) and the Guangzhou–Shenzhen–Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL).
2. To embark on a study on the improvement of railway network planning in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area), and take forward the investigative study on projects such as the extension of XRL from Guangzhou South Station to Guangzhou Station and the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Express Line.
3. To support the construction of the Three-Runway System in the Hong Kong International Airport, and take forward the Phase 3 development of the Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, the expansion project of the Huizhou Airport and the preliminary work of the Pearl River Delta Hub (Guangzhou new) Airport project.
4. To take further the meticulous management and structural improvement of Pearl River Delta (PRD) airspace in accordance with the airspace management reform of the country.
5. To enhance the functions of Shenzhen / Hong Kong land boundary control points, work for a better interface of transport network planning in the two places, take forward the Liantang / Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point Project, and explore more convenient clearance modes.
6. To take forward the improvement project of Guangdong electronic port platforms and explore connection and cooperation under the Single Window initiative.
7. To streamline the workflow for approving and filing cases of cross-boundary vehicles travelling between Guangdong and Hong Kong.

II. Jointly Developing an International Innovation and Technology Hub

8. To promote exchanges of technological talents, collaboration in technological breakthrough projects, flow of funding for technological research projects, sharing of information and equipment, and transfer and application of technology.
9. To expedite the development of national innovation and technology bases such as the National Science Data Centre, the National Germplasm Bank of Wild Species

and the National Field Scientific Observation and Research Station. To support tertiary institutions and scientific research institutes in Guangdong and Hong Kong in applying for major projects of innovation and technology.

10. To implement the Cooperation Arrangement on Technology and Innovation Exchange between Guangdong and Hong Kong, continue with the joint financial assistance programme of Guangdong and Hong Kong, and strive to develop technology for strategic emerging industries.
11. To encourage tertiary institutions and scientific research institutes in Hong Kong to apply for research funding granted by Guangdong Province and set up research and development (R&D) institutes in Guangdong. To promote the gradual opening up of major infrastructure and equipment for technological research to Hong Kong. To support participation in or initiation of major international scientific programmes or projects by developed facilities.
12. To support tertiary institutions and scientific research institutes in Guangdong and Hong Kong to jointly develop a collaborative platform for technological research, a joint laboratory and a mechanism for cross-boundary cooperation in industries, academia and research. To promote the development of national demonstration zones on the commercial application of technological achievements in the PRD, and develop a batch of technology business incubators targeted to Hong Kong. To encourage Hong Kong and Guangdong enterprises in jointly setting up R&D institutes and bases for innovation incubation overseas. To make active efforts in applying for the technological projects of national laboratories.
13. To promote the bridging of policies relating to the innovation of medical biotechnology in Hong Kong. To converge with the relevant specialised plans issued by the country, and enhance the management of the cross-boundary use of medical data and bio-samples, that are necessary for R&D cooperation projects and in line with the safety standard of the country, in designated tertiary institutions, scientific research institutes and laboratories.
14. To support the inclusion of Hong Kong into the national network of clinical medicine research and facilitate the application of Mainland approval procedures to institutions conducting clinical medical tests in Hong Kong.
15. To deepen cooperation in the field of Chinese medicine, support the scientific research institutes in Guangdong and Hong Kong to jointly establish an internationally-recognised reference standard for Chinese medicine products, and take forward the standardisation and internationalisation of Chinese medicine.
16. To strengthen the interface and cooperation in the areas of smart city development planning, mutual recognition for information technology and big data development for city operation etc. To take forward the demonstration and application of 5G

technology in smart cities.

17. To work together for radio frequency coordination between Guangdong and Hong Kong, and put in place a mechanism of radio frequency coordination for the HZMB.

III. Fostering Cooperation in Modern Service Industries

18. To deepen the implementation of liberalisation measures for the service sector of Hong Kong under the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), such as lowering the entry threshold and relaxing the restriction on shareholding ratio, promote the experience and practices of the service sectors of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in trade liberalisation, and give guidance to the service sectors on how to make the best use of the liberalisation measures.
19. To explore the relaxation of restrictions on the practice and opening up of business by Hong Kong professionals in order to facilitate professionals and enterprises possessing professional qualifications in such fields as engineering and construction to, upon making notification to the relevant governing authorities or regulatory departments, provide professional services for enterprises within specified areas in the Guangdong Pilot Free Trade Zone, and extend the practice to other Mainland places in the Greater Bay Area when the conditions are mature.

(1) Financial Cooperation

20. To explore innovation in cross-boundary RMB business in terms of facilitation for trade, investment and financing, as well as consumption, and expand the cross-boundary use of RMB. To support the deepening of reform on foreign exchange control in pilot cities such as Guangzhou and Shenzhen. To explore ways to take forward cross distribution of wealth management products. To support cooperation between credit reference agencies in Guangdong and Hong Kong in providing services of cross-boundary investment, financing, innovation and business start-up for relevant enterprises.
21. To facilitate the introduction of policies that encourage green financial product innovation and implement green credit and green leasing. To support Guangdong enterprises in issuing RMB bonds certified and labelled as green products in Hong Kong to raise funds for the development of green industries and green projects in the Greater Bay Area. To study ways to streamline the approving procedures for and thus expedite the issuing of green bonds in Hong Kong by Guangdong enterprises. To encourage Hong Kong financial institutions to take part in the development of green financial reform pilot zones in Guangzhou. To explore ways to allow Hong Kong investors in need to engage in carbon emission trading

- in the Mainland through the carbon emission trading platforms in Guangdong.
22. To promote the application of financial technology (Fintech) in Guangdong and Hong Kong, encourage Fintech innovation, take forward high-level Fintech infrastructure development, improve relevant policies, systems and standards, and explore the setting up of a mechanism for cross-boundary joint supervision.
 23. To strive for the gradual lowering of asset entry threshold for Hong Kong banks and insurance institutions. To work towards the extension of the facilitation measures implemented in the Guangdong Pilot Free Trade Zone for the banking and insurance industries to other Mainland places in the Greater Bay Area.
 24. To support qualified companies of the innovative industry in raising capital through public listing in Hong Kong. To support more Guangdong enterprises in issuing bonds in Hong Kong.
 25. Subject to compliance with laws and regulations as well as regulatory requirements, to support insurance institutions in Guangdong and Hong Kong in jointly developing innovative cross-boundary motor vehicle and medical insurance products and providing facilitation services for cross-boundary policy holders in areas such as underwriting, investigation and claims.
 26. To seek approval for Hong Kong insurance industry to set up service centres in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area and provide follow-up services for Hong Kong policy holders of personal and medical insurance who live or work in the Mainland.
 27. To strive for the lifting of restriction on shareholding ratio for Hong Kong-funded financial institutions in setting up joint business involving securities, futures and funds as well as securities investment advisory companies in the Mainland. To support Hong Kong financial and securities companies in, upon making notification to the authorities concerned, providing services such as Mainland and foreign investment, merger and acquisition and financial consultancy in Guangdong.
 28. To promote electronic payment for public services. To steadily extend the scope of pilot scheme whereby Hong Kong residents are allowed to open Categories II and III personal clearing accounts in Mainland banks under proxy witness. To promote the mutual use of UnionPay multiple currency card in Guangdong and Hong Kong to facilitate payment.

(2) Professional Services

29. To deepen the implementation of pilot scheme on partnership associations set up between Mainland and Hong Kong law firms, support greater exchanges between relevant legal institutions in Guangdong and Hong Kong, forge cooperation in trade and maritime arbitration, commercial mediation and tackling of trade friction etc.,

and build up a cross-jurisdiction platform for dispute resolution.

30. To take forward Guangdong / Hong Kong cooperation and exchange in measurement and testing technique, and lay a good foundation for the development of standard calibration services in the two places.
31. To increase mutual visits and exchanges between the Guangdong Institute of Certified Public Accountant Association and the professional accountancy bodies in Hong Kong on a regular basis, and examine the provision of training courses for high-level accounting practitioners in Guangdong and Hong Kong.
32. To promote further fee reduction of telecommunications and roaming services between Guangdong and Hong Kong. To take forward the in-depth application of mutual recognition of electronic signature certificates in the service and trade sectors.
33. Under the CEPA framework, to examine the relaxation of restriction to allow the medical sector of Hong Kong to provide clinic and out-patient services and Hong Kong medical professionals to practise in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area.
34. To seek the relaxation of approval procedures for the import of medicine and medical device, so that the University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital and the Hong Kong-financed medical institutions set up in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area can use the medicine and medical device available in Hong Kong markets.
35. To support the operation of elderly service agencies in Guangdong by Hong Kong service providers.
36. To accelerate cooperation between Guangdong and Hong Kong in engineering and construction projects, establish a certain number of joint construction projects involving the construction services of the two places, and leverage on Hong Kong's advantages to enhance the standard of construction services in Guangdong.

(3) Cultural Exchange and Cooperation

37. To strengthen cultural exchanges and brand building, and proactively develop cooperation platforms for cultural exchanges, in such areas as Cantonese opera.
38. To enhance cultural exchange cooperation mechanisms, further enhance cultural exchange cooperation in areas such as arts talents, intangible cultural heritage, heritage and museums, and take forward the development plan for a cultural heritage trail.

(4) Tourism Services

39. To jointly develop multi-destination boutique travel itineraries, and conduct joint

tourism promotion. To jointly take forward tourism development on the East Artificial Island of the HZMB.

40. To strive for optimising the “144-hour Convenient Visa” policy, and study the feasibility of allowing part of or all overseas visitors to travel to Guangdong Province via Hong Kong to enjoy a visa-free transit.
41. To deepen cooperation in cruise tourism, support the development of a cluster of cruise terminals in Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou, and ensure the effective and coordinated division of work among terminals in the Greater Bay Area. To take forward the innovation of on-board quarantine of cruises, promote and implement the Working Rules for On-board Quarantine of Cruises Entering Guangdong Ports (Trial), and continue to enhance working rules for on-board quarantine of international cruises.

IV. Taking Forward Exchanges and Cooperation in Education, Talents and Youth

42. To expedite the development of joint operation of education institutions, take forward the preparatory work for establishing the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou), and foster the setting up of medical schools by the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong respectively in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area.
43. To encourage higher education institutions of the two places to explore and commence work in the mutual recognition of academic credits of specified courses.
44. To take forward efforts in allowing children of Hong Kong residents working in Guangdong to receive pre-primary, compulsory and senior secondary education, and study the implementation regulations for Hong Kong students to take university entrance examinations at their places of residence in due course. To study and formulate fare concessions for students in respect of the Hong Kong Section of the XRL.
45. To support the establishment of a task force on Hong Kong youth’s innovation and entrepreneurship, jointly present plaques and develop a number of influential youth entrepreneurial bases with a view to providing greater conveniences for Hong Kong youth to develop in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area. To take forward the incorporation of Hong Kong young talents working and starting businesses in Guangdong into the domestic talents housing system.
46. To robustly implement exchange projects such as youth internship schemes in the Greater Bay Area and Service Corps, and scale up the Youth National Defense Education Experience Camp. To jointly organise projects such as the Youth

Concentric projects, national studies summer camps for Hong Kong youth, courses on Lingnan culture for Guangdong and Hong Kong university students, national defense experience camps for Hong Kong youth, and Guangdong-Hong Kong Sister School (Kindergarten) Scheme.

47. To organise the Guangdong-Hong Kong Cup football tournament, jointly organise sports tournaments such as the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao youth basketball and football competitions, jointly develop a series of international and regional sports brand events, and jointly innovate and organise activities such as youth sports exchange camps.

V. Developing an Internationalised Business Environment

48. To explore setting up exchange and cooperation mechanism on competition policy and anti-monopoly law-enforcement.
49. To deepen cooperation in intellectual property (IP) trading between Guangdong and Hong Kong. To strengthen cross-regional IP law-enforcement and collaboration, and establish a linkage mechanism on notarisation and protection of IP in Guangdong. To strengthen deliberation and exchanges in the industry, promote IP creation, exploitation, protection and trading of both sides, and facilitate the integrated development of high-end IP services and industries in the region.

VI. Jointly Developing a Quality Living Circle

50. To proactively take forward policy measures to facilitate Hong Kong residents studying, working, setting up business and living in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area. To study, formulate and promulgate ancillary measures on education, healthcare, etc. to support Hong Kong residents' development in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area.
51. To strive to further raise the level of convenience in the use of the Mainland Travel Permit for Hong Kong residents.
52. To improve Hong Kong residents who are working in Guangdong to participate in social security and related policies and allow unemployed Hong Kong residents who hold residence permits to participate in old-age and basic medical social insurance for urban and rural residents. To strive to allow Hong Kong residents who live and work in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area to purchase social and medical insurance.
53. To improve the linkage mechanism for emergency medical rescue services, study the provision of land-based cross-boundary transfer services for non-emergency and

non-critically ill patients, and take forward a pilot cooperation scheme in designated medical institutions. To roll out exchange and cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong in emergency medical rescue and joint action against public health emergencies in an orderly manner.

54. To continue strengthening the surveying and study on marine ecosystem, and the exchange and cooperation on ecological protection. To take forward conservation of marine resources, launch programmes for conservation of aquatic ecological resources, and explore the strengthening of exchanges and cooperation in conservation of aquatic species, public education and construction of marine pastures.
55. To take forward joint operation to increase the ability to prevent and control marine disasters, optimise the positioning of facilities for monitoring and warning marine disasters, and promote coordinated action to prioritise and prevent storm surges in the same region.
56. To implement the 2016-2020 Cooperation Agreement between Guangdong & Hong Kong on Environmental Protection, continue implement the PRD Regional Air Quality Management Plan, launch a study on post-2020 air pollutant emission reduction targets and concentration levels for Hong Kong and Guangdong, take forward Cooperation Proposal between Guangdong and Hong Kong on Air Quality Forecasting, and enhance atmospheric pollution forecasting capability of the two sides.
57. To improve the Hong Kong-Guangdong Notification Mechanism on Marine Refuse and the mechanism for joint enforcement action.
58. To develop an integrated collaborative mechanism for water management, commence exchanges and cooperation in collaborative prevention and control of water pollution, optimal distribution of water resources as well as joint development and use of hydrology. To jointly commence works in relation to flood prevention, water discharge, as well as hydrology and landscape improvements of Shenzhen River.
59. To step up the collaboration for alerts and forecasts on hazardous weather including typhoons, improve the linkage mechanism for meteorological forecasting services in Guangdong and Hong Kong, and jointly commence meteorological forecasting service for the HZMB.
60. To cooperate in the promotion of the use of new and advanced technologies on saving energy and reducing emissions with a view to jointly addressing climate change. To deepen the cooperation of cleaner production between Hong Kong and Guangdong, and organise and launch the Hong Kong-Guangdong Cleaner Production Partners Recognition Scheme in 2019. To coordinate and resolve the

existence of different standards for vessels using diesel with sulphur content in the two places.

61. To expedite the establishment of the disease free zone and animal quarantine station in Conghua, and continue to take forward the development of an information management platform of the disease free zone. To deepen the cooperation between the Conghua Equine Disease Free Zone and Hong Kong, support the development of an international horse inspection and testing centre and an equestrian sports complex. To proactively explore with the Hong Kong Jockey Club an innovative and integrated inspection and quarantine model between Guangdong and Hong Kong for racehorses, and improve Guangdong and Hong Kong's electronic monitoring information system on inspection and quarantine of racehorses.
62. To enhance the mechanisms for dissemination of information on food safety, investigation, joint action against emergencies, and traceability system for the origins of food, etc.
63. To strengthen the integration of policing and security resources, intelligence exchange and competency of joint operation, and conduct targeted anti-crime joint operations such as "THUNDERBOLT".
64. To set up sound mechanisms for commanding and coordinating emergency rescue between Guangdong and Hong Kong, and establish a mechanism for coordinating contingency management and joint action. To enhance the dovetailing of emergency response plans for contingencies such as security incidents, provide guidance on improving the emergency rescue system and emergency response mechanism to departments which are responsible for the management of the HZMB.
65. To improve the coordination mechanism for marine search and rescue, and promote and conduct joint maritime search and rescue exercises.
66. To convene the 9th meeting of the Hong Kong / Guangdong Emergency Response Cooperation Task Group, push forward the setting up of a mechanism for joint conference on emergency management, and establish a regular consultation and assessment mechanism for sound and safe production as well as risk of natural disasters.

VII. Jointly Participating in the Belt and Road Initiative

67. To explore innovation in the content of and ways in organising the Business Fair for Hong Kong-Guangdong Economic, Technology and Trade Cooperation, and motivate enterprises to jointly develop an information service platform and a database of major projects.

68. To support Hong Kong to organise the Belt and Road Summit, and promote cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong enterprises to jointly participate in the Belt and Road Initiative.

VIII. Taking Forward the Development of Key Cooperation Platforms

69. To enhance the functions of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Cooperation Zone in Qianhai of Shenzhen. To progressively promote the introduction of innovative policies to deepen the cooperation between Hong Kong and Shenzhen in financial market and enhance the coordination and communication mechanism for financial regulation. To take forward the establishment of a spot commodities trading platform in Qianhai for serving domestic and foreign clients.
70. To accelerate the development of an innovation and technology cooperation zone between Hong Kong and Shenzhen, achieve the convenient and effective flow of factors of innovation, and strengthen cooperation in IP protection.
71. To develop Nansha into a demonstration zone for comprehensive cooperation among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, push forward the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong in-depth cooperation zone and the Qingsheng Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Base. To develop the Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City as a demonstration area of knowledge and innovation in the Greater Bay Area, promote the development of Guangzhou Science City into a pioneer area and the Guangzhou International Biotech Island, and explore the development of an international Health Industry City jointly by Guangzhou and Hong Kong.
72. To accelerate the development of the demonstration area for Guangdong-Hong Kong high-end services in Foshan. To proactively attract Hong Kong enterprises which provide services in industrial finance, industrial design, technology, offshore trade and high-end production to the area, establish youth entrepreneurial bases, and promote the gathering of high-end elements.
73. To accelerate the development of the Dongguan Binhaiwan New District, and explore the collaboration opportunities with Hong Kong in the development.

IX. Arrangement of Mechanism

74. To encourage the think-tanks and academics in the two areas to embark on in-depth research and organise discussion seminars by making good use of the Hong Kong / Guangdong Strategic Development Research Group.

For the People's Government of
Guangdong Province of the
People's Republic of China
Governor

16 May 2019

For the Government of the Hong Kong
Special Administrative Region of the
People's Republic of China
Chief Executive

16 May 2019