Annex

Consensus of the 22nd Tripartite Meeting on Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases

1. Further strengthen collaboration among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in the prevention and control of communicable diseases and the management of public health emergencies. Continue to hold the Tripartite Meeting on Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases regularly, and actively promote the exchange of information and experience in communicable disease prevention and control among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. These efforts will enhance the level of communicable disease prevention and control as well as public health emergency response capabilities across the three places.

2. Continue to implement and enforce the tripartite co-operation agreement on public health emergencies, particularly by strengthening exchanges and collaboration across Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. Optimise the emergency response system for public health emergencies and major communicable diseases to further enhance health standards of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

3. Further strengthen co-operation and exchanges in various communicable disease areas, including the surveillance, prevention and control of chikungunya fever, dengue fever, seasonal influenza, other vaccine-preventable diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and other emerging communicable diseases.

4. Continue to deepen scientific research collaborations on communicable diseases. The focus will be on advancing the development of epidemic early warning systems based on advanced mathematical modelling and artificial intelligence technologies, enhancing the sensitivity of surveillance systems. The three places will jointly conduct vaccine effectiveness evaluation. Exchanging laboratory surveillance methodology and standards, strengthening pathogen data collection and analysis capabilities, as well as enhancing co-operation on sewage surveillance technologies will provide robust scientific support for regional

communicable disease prevention and control.

5. The three places acknowledged that the current notification mechanism operates smoothly and efficiently. It plays a positive and crucial role in communicable disease prevention and control. To further strengthen the exchange of communicable disease information, the three places will optimise the existing notification mechanism to enhance collaborative efficiency. They will also explore introducing technologies, such as artificial intelligence and big data analytics, to promote an intelligent data platform that enables data interconnectivity and real-time sharing.

6. The three places agreed to continuously convene joint risk consultation under the existing mechanism. In the event of emerging communicable diseases outbreaks, or significant events affecting all three places (such as the 15th National Games and the 12th National Games for Persons with Disabilities and the 9th National Special Olympic Games), joint consultations and assessments will be promptly initiated. The three places will collaboratively develop prevention and control strategies, and implement joint prevention and control measures to mitigate communicable disease risks within the three places and safeguard public health.

7. Conduct regular emergency response exercises among the three places. Construct diverse scenarios, such as cross-boundary communicable disease outbreaks and public health emergencies, to enhance scenario simulation, emergency response coordination, and effectiveness evaluation. These exercises will improve collaborative efficiency and practical capabilities for joint prevention and control across the three places. Promote the development of a scientific and standardised public health emergency response system in the three places to provide a solid foundation for addressing major public health crises.

8. Maintain co-operation in the exchange and training of professional staff. The scope of the training will encompass disease surveillance, epidemic outbreak investigation, field epidemiology, emergency response, laboratory testing and infection control in healthcare facilities. This will comprehensively elevate the technical expertise and practical emergency response capabilities of disease control personnel in the three places.

(* Note: The above has been translated into English. If there is any inconsistency or ambiguity between the English version and the Chinese version, the Chinese version shall prevail.)

****