<u>CE meets Deputy Prime Minister and</u> <u>Minister of the Interior of Serbia</u> <u>(with photo)</u>

â€<The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, met with the visiting Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior of Serbia, Mr Ivica DaÄ@ić, today (September 13) to exchange views on issues of mutual interest. The Secretary for Security, Mr Tang Ping-keung, also attended the meeting.

Mr Lee welcomed Mr DaÄ@ić's visit to Hong Kong. Mr Lee said that the economic and trade relations between Hong Kong and Serbia had grown steadily in recent years, with bilateral merchandise trade amounting to US\$200 million in 2023, representing a growth of more than 10 per cent over 2022. He added that there is potential for Hong Kong and Serbia to further deepen economic and trade ties, and jointly explore more co-operation opportunities.

Mr Lee highlighted that Hong Kong has the distinctive advantage of enjoying the strong support of the country and being closely connected to the world under "one country, two systems". Hong Kong boasts a highly internationalised, market-oriented and friendly business environment, making the city an ideal place for companies to expand their global operations. Serbian enterprises can leverage Hong Kong's platform as an international financial and trade centre to explore overseas and Mainland markets, achieving mutual benefits, he added.

