

CE meets Secretary-General of International Maritime Organization and Secretary General of International Chamber of Shipping (with photo)

â€‹The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, met with the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Mr Arsenio Antonio Domínguez Velasco, and the Secretary General of the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), Mr Guy Platten, today (May 27). Also attending the meeting was the Permanent Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Ms Mable Chan.

Mr Lee welcomed the leaders of the international maritime community visiting Hong Kong with their teams. He said that as an international shipping centre, Hong Kong has been maintaining close communication with international maritime partners and actively participating in the IMO's meetings and various committees to stay abreast of the latest global shipping and maritime developments. Hong Kong updates local marine legislation from time to time to meet the IMO's latest requirements and ensure its alignment with relevant IMO regulations. The ICS has long supported the development of the maritime industry in Hong Kong and established its first-ever overseas office in Hong Kong in 2019, he added.

He pointed out that Hong Kong ranks fourth globally in the 2023 Xinhua-Baltic International Shipping Centre Development Index Report, and that fully reflects Hong Kong's comprehensive strengths in such areas as port conditions, maritime services, and business environment, serving as strong evidence of Hong Kong's globally recognised status as an international shipping centre.

Mr Lee noted that the country firmly supports Hong Kong's status as an international shipping centre as stated in the National 14th Five-Year Plan and the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). He said that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government promulgated the Action Plan on Maritime and Port Development Strategy at the end of last year, setting out strategies and action measures to enhance the competitiveness of the Hong Kong Port and accelerate the growth of Hong Kong's high value-added maritime services cluster. The HKSAR Government will take forward the relevant work and continue strengthening co-operation and exchanges with other GBA cities and international maritime organisations, with a view to injecting new impetus into Hong Kong's maritime and port development, he added.

