<u>CE meets Secretary of CPC Zhongshan</u> <u>Municipal Committee (with photo)</u>

The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, met the Secretary of the CPC Zhongshan Municipal Committee, Mr Guo Wenhai, today (August 9) to exchange views on further deepening Hong Kong's co-operation with Zhongshan.

Mr Lee welcomed Mr Guo's visit to Hong Kong with his delegation. Mr Lee said that Hong Kong is the largest source of external investment in Zhongshan, and that the two places enjoy close economic and trade ties. He added that Hong Kong could contribute to the better integration of the two places in such areas as finance, logistics, trade, technology, management and professional services, in which Hong Kong enjoy an advantage, and could cooperate with Zhongshan to promote the high-quality development in manufacturing and other industries, fostering the exchange and development of young people in the two places.

Mr Lee pointed out that the Dedicated Team for Attracting Businesses and Talents of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong actively appeals to local enterprises and talent to develop in Hong Kong. He expressed his gratitude to the Zhongshan Municipal Government for its long-standing support for the relevant work. He said he looks forward to the continuously close co-operation between the two places, with a view to enhancing the understanding of Zhongshan's enterprises and talent of Hong Kong's investment and employment environment. He said that Hong Kong will continue to make good use of its advantages as a professional services and financing platform and encourage enterprises to expand their businesses in Zhongshan and other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) cities.

Noting that the travelling time between Hong Kong and Zhongshan has been significantly reduced since the commissioning of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, Mr Lee said he believes it brings the two places closer to each other and will facilitate Hong Kong people's pursuit of starting business, working, and living in Zhongshan. He said it will also foster the flow of people and deepen co-operation between the two places, and facilitate their joint promotion of the high-quality development of the GBA.

