

## CE's statement

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, today (February 13) issued the following statement on the appointment of Mr Xia Baolong, Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), as the Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office (HKMAO) of the State Council:

I extend a warm welcome to the appointment of Mr Xia Baolong as the Director of the HKMAO, in addition to his current capacity as the Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the CPPCC. As the HKMAO is responsible for Hong Kong affairs in the Central Government, it has a close relationship with the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government. The appointment of Mr Xia as the HKMAO Director in addition to his capacity as the Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the CPPCC is testimony to the importance the Central Government attaches to Hong Kong and Macao affairs. I have no doubt that under the leadership of Mr Xia, the HKMAO will continue its support for the work of the HKSAR Government in fully and thoroughly implementing "One Country, Two Systems", taking forward the development of Hong Kong in various aspects and ensuring the long-term prosperity and stability of the city.