## <u>Chief Executive briefs international</u> <u>community on Policy Address (with</u> <u>photo)</u>

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, today (November 26) met with members of the Consular Corps and the International Business Committee, briefing them on the 2020 Policy Address announced yesterday. More than 80 members attended.

Mrs Lam began by referring to the details in the dedicated chapter on Upholding "One Country, Two Systems" in the Policy Address, and reiterated the importance of having a clear understanding of the constitutional order of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). She highlighted that the implementation of the National Security Law had restored stability in Hong Kong and stressed that individuals' rights and freedoms would continue to be upheld.

"Hong Kong has all along been and will continue to be an international city. International connectivity is one of our key strengths, through which Hong Kong has developed into the international financial, trade and business centre it is today. This unique strength will also enable the HKSAR to play its role in the nation's 'dual circulation' economic strategy and integrate better into the national development. We are determined to strengthen our international connectivity in order to maintain our competitiveness."

Mrs Lam elaborated on the seven major policy directions supported by the Central People's Government. She welcomed the overseas business community to take part in the many exciting opportunities, such as those arising from initiatives to enhance Hong Kong's status as an international financial centre, international aviation hub and international innovation and technology hub.

"Since the announcement in the 2020 Policy Address of the HKSAR's pledge to strive to achieve carbon neutrality before 2050, we have received through our overseas Economic and Trade Offices very positive feedback from our international counterparts. The Environment Bureau will spare no time and efforts in drawing up more proactive strategies and measures to reduce carbon emissions, and we welcome experience sharing from overseas jurisdictions."

