<u>CS concludes visit to Hangzhou (with photos/video)</u>

The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, concluded his visit to Hangzhou today (August 14).

Mr Chan met with the Mayor of the Hangzhou Municipal People's Government, Mr Yao Gaoyuan, to exchange views on deepening exchanges and cooperation between Hangzhou and Hong Kong. Mr Chan, on behalf of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), thanked the Hangzhou Municipal Government for its strong support and co-ordination for the Hangzhou study tour of the Strive and Rise Programme. The tour helps Hong Kong young people learn more about the rapid developments and distinguished achievements of Hangzhou and the country in many aspects. Mr Chan said that the HKSAR Government is steadfastly carrying out the work of patriotic education, including more Mainland exchange and study tours, to strengthen Hong Kong young people's sense of identity with, sense of belonging to, and pride towards the country and the nation. He expressed his hope that more Hong Kong young people can visit Hangzhou.

Mr Chan continued that Hangzhou is a fast-developing and highly advanced city in the Yangtze River Delta Economic Zone. Its international competitiveness and influence are being enhanced comprehensively, leveraging the integrated impact brought about by the Asian Games to foster a highquality opening-up process. Meanwhile, Hong Kong is a core city of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, possessing the institutional strengths of the "one country, two systems" framework and a business environment that is highly market-oriented and internationalised, underpinned by the rule of law and world-class professional talent and services. There is enormous potential and scope for future collaboration between Hong Kong and Hangzhou. Mr Chan said he hopes that Hong Kong and Hangzhou will continue to strengthen exchanges and co-operation in various areas, such as commerce and trade, innovation and technology, culture, sports, education and youth under the principles of complementarity and mutual benefits, contributing together to the high-quality development of the country.

Mr Chan concluded his three-day visit to Hangzhou and returned to Hong Kong this afternoon.



