

[FS attends World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting of the New Champions in Tianjin \(with photos\)](#)

The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, today (September 18) attended in Tianjin the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2018, also known as the Summer Davos forum, and took part as a guest speaker in the forum's session on China's bay area economy.

He said at the bay area economy session that the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area has great development potential, given its enormous economic scale, its advanced manufacturing base, and the many leading innovation and technology (I&T) enterprises it houses.

He added that Hong Kong, being the international financial centre as well as the most cosmopolitan city and offering the best professional services in the Bay Area, can become the premier listing and fund-raising location for Mainland enterprises. Hong Kong will also seize the opportunity and complement other cities in the Bay Area in building an international I&T hub that draws talents, research and development institutes and enterprises.

This morning, before attending the forum, Mr Chan met with the Vice-President of the European Commission for the Euro and Social Dialogue, also in charge of Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, Mr Valdis Dombrovskis.

Mr Chan pointed out at the meeting Hong Kong's commitment to developing financial technology as well as I&T. He said that given its strength and strategic location, Hong Kong will play an important role in the Bay Area, and encouraged overseas enterprises to leverage on Hong Kong to explore the vast business opportunities offered by the Bay Area.

This evening, joined by the Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Mr Nicholas W Yang, Mr Chan called on the Vice Mayor of Tianjin Municipality, Mr Zhao Haishan, to exchange views on forging closer Hong Kong-Tianjin collaboration.

Tomorrow (September 19), Mr Chan will continue to attend the Summer Davos forum and depart for an official visit to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, in the evening.

The Summer Davos forum is a global summit on innovation, science and technology to promote entrepreneurship in the global public interest. This year, the three-day forum has the theme of "Shaping Innovative Societies in the Fourth Industrial Revolution".

