

Health Bureau holds session on “Spirit of the President’s Important Speech” (with photos)

The Health Bureau today (August 12) held a session on "Spirit of the President's Important Speech" at the Central Government Offices. The Secretary for Health, Professor Lo Chung-mau, spoke at the session, sharing with colleagues the spirit of the important speech delivered by President Xi Jinping at the meeting celebrating the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland and the inaugural ceremony of the sixth-term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). Colleagues at middle and senior levels of the Health Bureau participated in person or online for an in-depth reflection on how to integrate the "four musts" and "four proposals" into the reform of the Bureau and healthcare system of Hong Kong.

President Xi raised in his important speech "four musts" for the new administration: it must fully and faithfully implement the principle of "one country, two systems"; it must uphold the Central Government's overall jurisdiction while securing the HKSAR's high degree of autonomy; it must ensure that Hong Kong is administered by patriots; and it must maintain Hong Kong's distinctive status and advantages. President Xi also laid down "four proposals" for the newly inaugurated Government, i.e. further improving its governance, continuing to create strong impetus for growth, earnestly addressing people's concerns and difficulties in daily life, and working together to safeguard harmony and stability.

Addressing the session, Professor Lo incorporated President Xi's "four proposals" into the future direction of the Health Bureau: "Government dominating; be bold and committed; leading the Greater Bay Area; be creative and innovative; improving the healthcare system; caring for all patients; seeking common ground while allowing differences; and winning mutually in the reforms". He said the Government should focus on safeguarding citizens' health and enhancing their happiness in daily life, building up a "Healthy Hong Kong" which can merge into the "Healthy China". He further added that President Xi's important speech not only provided crucial guidance on governance by the HKSAR Government in the coming five years, but also set out a high-level policy direction to achieve the targets.

Professor Lo said, "President Xi's important speech reflects in full his care, attention and support for the HKSAR, as well as the country's staunch and firm commitment to the full and faithful implementation of the principle of 'one country, two systems'. It is of great significance and meaning."

Lastly, Professor Lo encouraged colleagues of the Health Bureau to grasp the core essence of President Xi's important speech and build it into their own work, as well as continue to duly perform their duties in a pragmatic manner, keep seeking improvement and adopt a results-oriented approach, so that the Health Bureau can become a policy bureau of "active response" and

"prompt action", and strive to meet the expectations of the Central Government and the general public.

