

High-level visits to update global community on Hong Kong (with photos)

Principal Officials are embarking on a series of high-level visits to update international communities on Hong Kong's latest situation and measures taken to address current challenges.

Six outgoing visits are either under way or planned for the next three weeks (September 20 to October 10) to North America, Europe and other places to engage with counterparts in areas ranging from trade, business and finance to innovation, technology and health.

The Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Mr Nicholas W Yang, is on a five-day visit (September 16 to 20) to Seattle and San Francisco in the US and Vancouver in Canada. He is updating technology communities on Hong Kong's latest developments in innovation and technology and promoting closer bilateral collaboration.

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, is also in the US (September 17 to 22) to attend a series of Hong Kong promotional events on the US West Coast, including the Hong Kong Trade Development Council's mega international promotion "Think Asia, Think Hong Kong" in Los Angeles on September 20 to promote Hong Kong's business services to US companies seeking opportunities in Asia.

The Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, Mr James Lau, will visit Stockholm in Sweden and Tallinn in Estonia (September 23 to 25) to promote Hong Kong's financial services and fintech development. During the visit, Mr Lau is due to sign a comprehensive avoidance of double taxation agreement with Estonia.

The Secretary for Justice, Ms Teresa Cheng, SC, will visit Seoul in Korea on September 25 and 26 to promote co-operation and highlight Hong Kong's strengths as a legal services hub in Asia.

And the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, will visit Copenhagen in Denmark (October 9 to 12) to attend the Steering Committee meeting of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) and C40 World Mayors Summit 2019. Mr Wong will meet with government officials and representatives of C40 delegates to exchange views on various environmental issues related to climate change.

Meanwhile, the Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, today concluded a five-day visit to Australia (September 16 to 20) during which she promoted the limited registration scheme and encouraged non-locally trained healthcare professionals to consider working in Hong Kong.

Such visits present a valuable opportunity to highlight to the world

that, despite the current difficulties, Hong Kong continues to operate efficiently and remains a safe and welcoming place for people and businesses from around the globe.

