

Hong Kong and Guangdong sign Framework Agreement on Strengthening Education Exchange and Co-operation (with photos)

The Education Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region today (August 24) signed with the Department of Education of Guangdong Province the Framework Agreement on Strengthening Education Exchange and Co-operation between Guangdong and Hong Kong to strengthen education collaboration between the two places, and support high-quality development in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) and Hong Kong's alignment with national development strategies.

Witnessed by the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, the agreement was signed by the Secretary for Education, Dr Choi Yuk-lin, and the Director-General of the Department of Education of Guangdong Province, Dr Zhu Kongjun. The Permanent Secretary for Education, Ms Michelle Li, also attended the signing ceremony.

Mr Chan said that the signing of the agreement represents a key step forward in the course of Guangdong and Hong Kong pressing ahead at full steam to promote high-level co-operation and pursue high-quality development. Complementing the national development strategies, including the 14th Five-Year Plan and the GBA development, the agreement aims to facilitate further education collaboration and exchanges between Guangdong and Hong Kong, nurture talent to meet the needs of the social and economic development of the GBA, and make greater contributions to the high-quality development of the country.

The agreement provides a framework to strengthen education exchanges and collaboration between Guangdong and Hong Kong. It covers initiatives including continuously encouraging collaboration among higher education institutions in Guangdong and Hong Kong on joint provision of education services, joint talent cultivation, and technological exchanges and co-operation; enhancing co-operation on vocational education and further strengthening Qualifications Framework collaboration between the two places; promoting the pairing of sister schools in Guangdong and Hong Kong, facilitating various exchange activities and enhancing the quality of exchanges; and continuously supporting collaboration, training and exchanges among teachers in the two places.

In addition, witnessed by Mr Chan, Dr Choi, and Dr Zhu Kongjun, the Chairman of the Vocational Training Council (VTC), Mr Tony Tai, and the First-level Inspector of the Department of Education of Guangdong Province, Dr Zhu Chaohua, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on behalf of the VTC and the Department of Education of Guangdong Province respectively. The

MoU supports Mainland vocational institutions and the VTC to launch different collaborative projects, and supports the VTC to proactively participate in the development of the GBA Vocational Education Park, with a view to strengthening vocational education exchanges between Guangdong and Hong Kong, and jointly cultivating skilled talent for the GBA.

