

## Hong Kong and Mainland sign agreements to strengthen cultural exchange and co-operation (with photos)

The Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, Ms Michelle Li, today (December 18) signed a co-operation agreement with the Director of the National Museum of China (NMC), Mr Wang Chunfa, and a letter of intent on cultural exchange and co-operation with the Director of Nanjing Museum, Mr Gong Liang, with a view to fostering cultural exchange and collaboration between Hong Kong and the Mainland, as well as achieving synergy and complementarity by sharing of resources.

In the coming five years, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the NMC will facilitate experience sharing and training in various areas including exhibition planning, research on relics and conservation technology. The two sides will deliberate on co-organising exhibitions to maximise their respective qualities, and they will enhance collaboration in exchange and training on heritage conservation and share information and resources on collecting artefacts, as well as study the use of a shared museum information platform. They will also explore the development of cultural and creative industries and foster cultural exchanges through academic exchange activities and education promotion programmes.

The LCSD and the Nanjing Museum will work together to enhance cultural exchanges and collaboration, such as organising new exhibitions through co-curation and loan of exhibits. Communication between the museum professionals will be enhanced for sharing knowledge and results of academic research, and more training activities including museum forums, talks and thematic seminars will be arranged in future. The two sides will also exchange information on co-organising major exhibitions with foreign museums to enhance efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

The LCSD has long held close relationships with the NMC and Nanjing Museum. In 2014, the LCSD and Nanjing Museum jointly organised an exhibition entitled "Gems of Yixing Tea Ware from the Nanjing Museums" featuring 64 sets of purple clay tea ware, showcasing how the tradition of purple clay tea ware evolved and the fine creations of many famous potters. In the coming year, the LCSD and the NMC will collaborate again for another exhibition entitled "The Road to Modernisation: 70 Years of the People's Republic of China" to showcase China's modernisation process.

