<u>Ninth meeting of Joint Task Force on</u> <u>the Development of the Hong Kong-</u> <u>Shenzhen Innovation and Technology</u> <u>Park in the Loop held (with photo)</u>

The Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Professor Sun Dong, and Member of the Standing Committee of the Shenzhen Municipal Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Mr Zeng Pai, co-chaired the ninth meeting of the Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop via video conferencing today (August 25).

Both sides received a briefing on the work progress of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited, the supporting infrastructure in the Lok Ma Chau Loop and the promotion of innovation and technology (I&T) co-operation between Shenzhen and Hong Kong. Representatives from the Shenzhen Municipal Government also introduced the latest developments of the Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Zone and exchanged views on the future development of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Co-operation Zone.

Professor Sun said at the meeting that President Xi Jinping's inspection of the Hong Kong Science Park earlier demonstrated the importance attached to and acknowledgement placed on Hong Kong's I&T development by the country as well as the expectation of Hong Kong contributing to the country's development in science and technology. The Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park) is a highlight of infrastructure for Hong Kong's future I&T development. The current-term Government will put the Park into operation as soon as possible with unprecedented "Hong Kong speed", and actively promote the development of the San Tin Technopole in the Northern Metropolis. The San Tin Technopole will collaborate with the Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Zone to develop the Shenzhen-Hong Kong I&T Cooperation Zone with a view to establishing "one zone, two parks" at "one river, two banks" under the auspices of "one country, two systems". The Shenzhen-Hong Kong I&T Co-operation Zone will combine the strengths of both Hong Kong and Shenzhen to pool local and non-local talent, and contribute to the development of an international I&T hub in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Other officials of the Hong Kong side attending the meeting today included the Permanent Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Mr Eddie Mak; the Under Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Ms Lillian Cheong; and representatives from the Development Bureau; the Security Bureau; the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau; the Education Bureau; the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau; the Innovation and Technology Commission and the Civil Engineering and Development Department. Officials of Shenzhen Municipality included representatives of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office; the Development and Reform Commission; the Education Bureau; the Science, Technology and Innovation Commission; the Justice Bureau; the Commerce Bureau; the Planning and Natural Resources Bureau; the Office of Port of Entry and Exit; and the People's Government of Futian District, as well as the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Cooperation Zone Development Co Ltd.

