

## SCED to attend 13th WTO Ministerial Conference in Abu Dhabi

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau, will depart for Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates, tomorrow afternoon (February 24) to attend the 13th World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference (MC13) to be held from February 26 to 29.

The Ministerial Conference is the highest decision-making body of the WTO. Ministers from across the WTO membership will gather at the MC13 to review the functioning of the multilateral trading system and to give direction for the future work of the WTO. During the Conference, Mr Yau will speak on a host of trade issues, including e-commerce, dispute settlement reform, etc. He will also have bilateral meetings with his counterparts to exchange views on issues of mutual interest.

After attending the MC13, Mr Yau will visit Bahrain on March 2 and 3 to meet with senior officials and business leaders, with a view to strengthening economic and trade co-operation.

Mr Yau will return to Hong Kong in the morning on March 4. The Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Dr Bernard Chan, will be the Acting Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development during Mr Yau's absence.