## SED congratulates Hong Kong team on their triumphs at International Junior Science Olympiad (with photo)

A team of six students representing Hong Kong achieved outstanding results in the 20th International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO 2023), making the best results since 2018 by winning a total of three gold, two silver and one bronze medals. The Secretary for Education, Dr Choi Yuk-lin, congratulated the Hong Kong team today (December 14) on their excellent performance.

Jayden Kong (St. Paul's Co-educational College), Lai Yat-long (Po Leung Kuk Centenary Li Shiu Chung Memorial College) and Sung Tsz-ngo (Diocesan Boys' School) each won a gold medal. Silver medallists were Inna Belle Lee (St. Paul's Co-educational College) and Marcus Tsang (Ying Wa College) while Joycelyn Sun (Munsang College) won a bronze medal.

"The impressive results of the Hong Kong team in IJSO 2023 have demonstrated our students' exceptional talent in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics). The Education Bureau (EDB) will continue to step up the promotion of STEAM education in primary and secondary schools and equip students with necessary skills for the new era. This includes the further promotion of the setting up of a school-based talent pool in schools, further enhancing the identification of students with potential in STEAM, making arrangements for these students to participate in systematic training and competitions of reasonable scale, so as to nurture more STEAM talent and strengthen our innovation and technology (I&T) capabilities," Dr Choi said.

"The EDB has been attaching great importance to the grooming of gifted students. To further promote the development of gifted education, the EDB has provided an additional injection of \$600 million into the Gifted Education Fund this year to strengthen the collaboration with the Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education (HKAGE) and offer more diversified, high-quality and challenging off-school education services, particularly in STEAM-related areas. Enhanced efforts will be made to foster gifted students with potential in STEAM and to nurture future I&T talent for Hong Kong," she added.

The IJSO is a science competition for secondary students aged 15 or below. The competition, covering physics, chemistry and biology up to the senior secondary level, comprises written assessments and science experiments on unfamiliar problems that require analytical and problem-solving skills. The IJSO 2023 was held in Thailand from December 1 to 10 with the participation of 304 contestants from 54 countries or regions.

The members of the Hong Kong team achieved excellent results in the International Junior Science Olympiad — Hong Kong Screening last year. They subsequently completed the science enhancement programmes provided by the

HKAGE. The outstanding students in the programmes were then selected as contestants representing Hong Kong to participate in the IJSO 2023. The Hong Kong team was fully funded by the EDB to join this competition.

