<u>Speech by CE at Financial</u> <u>Services/Business Professional</u> <u>Services/FinTech Day of Investment</u> <u>Promotion Week (English only) (with</u> <u>video)</u>

â€<Following is the video speech by the Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, at the Financial Services/Business Professional Services/FinTech Day of Investment Promotion Week today (October 17):

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the Investment Promotion Week organised by Invest Hong Kong.

The theme of the Investment Promotion Week is "Hong Kong Success Story – Your Next Chapter". We are privileged to be joined by distinguished speakers together with thousands of you today and in other important sessions during the Week. You will hear from over 120 distinguished speakers from various sectors. They come from financial and professional services, innovation and technology (I&T), lifestyle and creative industries, as well as start-ups and businesses in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. The speakers will be sharing their insights and experience on key global trends. They will also share with you how Hong Kong can help you capture these opportunities as you consider setting up and expanding in this international metropolis.

This year, we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. As we celebrate our return to the motherland, we also celebrate the successful implementation of the "one country, two systems" principle. Thanks to this innovative principle, Hong Kong is blessed with the distinctive advantage of enjoying a close connection with the world market, as well as the strong support from our motherland.

Hong Kong is the world's freest economy and an international financial, trading and shipping centre. We are always welcoming companies and investors from all over the world. With the full support of the Central Government, as well as the plentiful opportunities under such national strategies as the National 14th Five-Year Plan and the Greater Bay Area development, Hong Kong is the best choice for your business operations and expansion plans.

Hong Kong plays an important role in many of the exciting new developments in the investment market, such as digital assets and ESG-related (environmental, social and governance) investments. As the only city in Asia with as many as five universities in the world's top 100, Hong Kong is proud of our homegrown talents. Our talents excel not only in the vibrant financial and professional services sectors, but also in our budding I&T and start-up scenes.

At the same time, we are pressing ahead with formulating innovative measures to attract high-quality talents from around the world to come and invest in Hong Kong. We have a highly sustainable pool of resourceful professionals who can provide your businesses with the skills and experience needed to excel in Mainland China, Asia and around the world.

Hong Kong attaches great importance to attracting investments and enlarging our market capacity. No matter where your company is from, the onestop services offered by Invest Hong Kong, the Government's dedicated investment promotion agency, can assist you with your start-up and expansion needs in Hong Kong. My colleagues at Invest Hong Kong are always at your service. We are here to help you write the next chapter of your success story.

On that note, I wish you all the best of business in the years to come, in Hong Kong and throughout the world. Thank you.