

2018年是國家改革開放40周年,國家堅定不移促進對外開放發展,積極 推動"一帶一路"和粵港澳大灣區等區域合作平台,為香港發展帶來新 機遇。中總第51屆會董會亦於年內就任,我們貫徹中總"立足香港、背 靠祖國、聯繫世界"的定位,推動中總成為服務香港、服務國家、以至 服務全球華商的中華總商會。

中總擔當重要橋樑角色

中總一直致力為深化香港與內地經貿聯繫、配合國家"引進來、走出去" 擔當重要橋樑。去年,中央表彰100位對改革開放作出傑出貢獻的人物, 我們三位前輩會長王寬誠、霍英東及曾憲梓均在其列,凸顯中總成員對 改革開放作出的重要貢獻。在未來新一輪改革開放發展進程中,中總將 繼續推動香港工商界扮演國家與環球市場雙向開放的橋頭堡,在更高層 次融入國家發展大局。

積極應對經濟形勢變化

過去一年,環球政經形勢不明朗和保護主義升溫,中美貿易磨擦、英國脱 歐等各種因素,為全球經貿發展帶來衝擊,本港經濟亦難免受到影響。中 總時刻關注經濟與營商環境變化,年內我們就中美貿易磨擦對港商影響等 相關議題,與本港其他主要商會緊密跟進討論,並與特區政府官員多次會 面交流,表達商界意見和關注。

中總亦透過《施政報告》、《財政預算案》和各項政策諮詢途徑,包括就 土地規劃、強積金對沖、一地兩檢等備受關注的議題適時向特區政府表達 會員訴求,致力維護工商權益。此外,我們繼續舉辦"中總論壇"、會董 會講座和各類專題活動,推動本港政商與社會各界加強互動交流。

抓緊區域合作新機遇

2018年,國家全速推進"一帶一路"和粵港澳大灣區規劃建設,為深化 區域合作、開拓多元市場提供前所未有重大機遇。隨着高鐵香港段和港珠 澳大橋先後開通,加上今年初《粵港澳大灣區發展規劃綱要》正式出台, 以及多項大灣區便民措施陸續實施,有助推動香港與內地進一步協同發 展,提升區域經濟合作優勢與功能。

中總在促進工商界參與"一帶一路"和大灣區建設不遺餘力,我們協助會員了解海內外市場資訊,並透過舉辦論壇、組織考察和交流活動等,推動會員及工商界加強合作。

2018年,中總組織經貿代表團前赴雅加達和巴黎,並於當地舉辦商貿論 壇,邀請行政長官林鄭月娥擔任演講嘉賓,探討香港與東盟成員及歐洲地 區在"一帶一路"的合作前景。我們亦於8月舉辦了首屆"中總世界華商 高峰論壇",以"一帶一路及粵港澳大灣區機遇"為主題,雲集近千名嘉 賓共同探討區域合作前景及香港角色。 中總也積極推動參與"一帶一路"和粵港澳大灣區發展的相關委員會。 去年12月,在商務部的推動和支持下,我們聯同中國對外承包工程商 會,牽頭成立"內地一香港一帶一路工商專業委員會",為兩地業界 搭建交流合作平台。此外,我們更將原來的"珠三角委員會"升級 為"粵港澳大灣區委員會",加強聯繫大灣區會員並積極推動大灣區發 展研究工作,協助拓展商機。

中總亦繼續發揮與內地和海外網絡聯繫優勢,為會員搭建交流平台。去 年,中總接待內地多個省市領導來訪,組團前往廣州、浙江、四川、深 圳、北京及江蘇等地考察,以及出席"廣交會"等活動。我們亦舉 辦"解讀'兩會'論壇",剖析國家重要政策對香港發展的啟示,並參與 合辦在台北舉行的"海峽兩岸暨港澳經貿論壇",探索兩岸四地區域產業 合作的新機遇。

配合創科經濟新動力

創新科技已成推動經濟持續增長的重要動力,國家亦明確支持香港發展 成為國際創新科技中心。中總積極推動香港與內地創新產業協作交流, 協助會員企業參與創科產業發展,並配合特區政府就如何發揮香港創科 領域優勢、支援創科以及河套區"港深創新及科技園"發展等提出建 議,促進本港科研和專業服務與大灣區產業群相結合。

促進社會和諧及青年發展

中總一直秉持愛國愛港優良傳統,堅持維護"一國兩制",全力支持特 區政府依法施政,落實各項有利香港長遠發展的規劃與政策,並與特區 政府和社會各界共同努力,維護國家主權和安全,攜手推動香港持續發 展及和諧穩定。我們亦致力實踐社會責任,持續透過"中總愛心行動", 舉辦不同類型慈善公益活動,傳遞工商界愛心。 我們亦資助本港學生赴內地實習、舉辦培訓班和交流活動等,而由中總倡 議創辦並全力贊助的"少年太空人計劃"去年更踏入10周年。多年來, 各個項目合共已讓超過6,000名本港年輕人受惠,加深他們對祖國的認識 和歸屬感。今後我們將繼續加大對青年培育的相關工作,協助香港年輕一 代在大灣區和"一帶一路"等平台尋找創意創新發展機會。

配合國家新時代發展大局

總結2018年,中總各項工作與計劃得到順利開展,有賴全體會董鼎力支 持、各委員會悉心籌劃和會員踴躍參與,我謹此表達衷心感謝。同時,我 亦對秘書處同儕的辛勤努力表示讚賞。

今年是祖國70歲誕辰,明年中總也迎來成立120周年的大日子。"一帶一路"和粵港澳大灣區建設已成為國家新時代改革開放的重大戰略發展,今 明兩年也是全力推進相關區域合作關鍵之年。中總將努力發揮橋樑作用, 團結會員工商及社會各界,為香港持續發展貢獻力量,並全力配合國家深 化改革開放和促進區域合作的大局,與祖國"同發展,共進步"。

第51屆會長

蔡冠深

Chairman's Statement

2018 marked the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening up. The country remained committed to opening up to the global community to drive growth and development, while actively promoting regional cooperation platforms, such as the "Belt and Road Initiative" (B&R) and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area). This brought new opportunities for Hong Kong. CGCC's 51st Board of Committee also assumed new term of office last year. As always, we adhere to CGCC's orientation of "taking roots in Hong Kong, gaining support from the Motherland, and reaching out to the world", and strive to promote CGCC as a Chinese chamber of commerce serving Hong Kong, our country and Chinese entrepreneurs around the globe.

CGCC playing an important bridging role

CGCC is always committed to serving as an important bridge to deepen Hong Kong's economic and trading ties with the Mainland and support China's strategy of "bringing in and going global". Last year, the Central Government commended 100 people for their outstanding contributions to reform and opening up. CGCC's key contributions were amply demonstrated by the fact that three of the individuals on the list, namely Wong Kwan-cheng, Henry Fok and Tsang Hin-chi, formerly served as CGCC Chairman. In the new phase of reform and opening up, CGCC will continue to promote the role of Hong Kong business community as a stepping-stone for two-way opening up between China and the global markets, so as to help them integrating into the Mainland's overall development at a higher level.

Responding positively to changes in the economic environment

In the past year, global economic and trade development was affected by worldwide political and economic uncertainties and other factors, such as rising protectionism, Sino-US trade frictions and Brexit. The Hong Kong economy was inevitably affected. CGCC always pays close attention to changes in the economic and business environment. During the year, together with other major chambers of commerce in Hong Kong, we closely monitored and discussed issues related to the impact of Sino-US trade conflict on Hong Kong businesses, as well as holding numerous meetings with HKSAR Government officials to express the business community's views and concerns. CGCC also strived to safeguard the industrial and commercial sector's rights and interests by expressing members' views on topical issues, such as land planning, MPF hedging and co-location arrangement, to the HKSAR Government through the Policy Address, Budget and various policy consultation channels. In addition, we continued to hold the "CGCC Forum", seminars for committee members and various special events to foster exchanges among Hong Kong political and commercial circles as well as the public in general.

Capturing new regional cooperation opportunities

In 2018, our country pressed ahead with the B&R and the Greater Bay Area development plan at full throttle. Unprecedented opportunities were created for deepening regional cooperation and exploring diversified markets. Latest developments, including the opening of the Hong Kong section of the Express Rail Link and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, the unveiling of the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and the implementation of various measures that made transportation and exchange more convenient for Greater Bay Area residents, bolstered synergetic cooperation between Hong Kong and the Mainland. They also enhanced the advantages and functions of regional economic cooperation.

CGCC spared no effort in facilitating the business community's participation in building the B&R and Greater Bay Area. We helped members keep abreast of market information and developments at home and abroad, and encouraged stronger collaboration between members and the industrial and commercial sector through forums, study missions and networking activities.

In 2018, CGCC organized business delegations to Jakarta and Paris, where we hosted business forums to explore the prospects of Hong Kong's cooperation with ASEAN members and the European region in the B&R Initiative. Chief Executive Carrie Lam was invited as a guest speaker. Last August, we also hosted the first CGCC World Chinese Entrepreneurs Summit. With the theme of "B&R and Greater Bay Area Opportunities", the Summit brought together nearly 1,000 guests to explore the prospects for regional cooperation and Hong Kong's role in the B&R and Greater Bay Area.

CGCC also actively encouraged participation in the relevant B&R and Greater Bay Area committees. Last December, at the full support of the Ministry of Commerce, CGCC and the China International Contractors Association jointly spearheaded the inception of the "Mainland China-Hong Kong Belt and Road Business and Professional Services Council", serving as a platform for interaction and collaboration for our industries. In addition, we upgraded the "PRD Committee" to "Greater Bay Area Committee" to strengthen our ties with members in the Greater Bay Area and to study business opportunities within the region.

During the year, CGCC continued to leverage on its strengths of the Mainland and overseas network to build an interaction platform for members. We received visits from leaders of several Mainland provinces and cities, organized business delegations to Guangzhou, Zhejiang, Sichuan, Shenzhen, Beijing and Jiangsu, as well as attended the Canton Fair and other events. We also staged the forum "Insights into China's 'Two Sessions' " to analyze the implications of key national policies for Hong Kong's development, and jointly organized the "Forum on Economic Ties among the Mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao" in Taipei to explore new opportunities for regional industrial cooperation across the Taiwan Straits.

I&T as a new economic growth driver

Recognizing that Innovation and technology (I&T) are a key driving force for sustained economic growth, China explicitly supports Hong Kong's goal to become an international I&T hub. CGCC actively pushed for collaboration between the innovation industries of Hong Kong and the Mainland and helped member companies to participate in the development of I&T industries. We put forward suggestions to the HKSAR Government on how to leverage on Hong Kong's strengths in I&T, support I&T, and develop the Hong Kong Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Lok Ma Chau Loop to facilitate the integration of Hong Kong's research and professional services with the Greater Bay Area industrial cluster.

Promoting social harmony and youth development

CGCC has always upheld the fine tradition of loving our country and Hong Kong, while adhering to the "One Country, Two Systems" principle. We give full support to the HKSAR Government for governing in accordance with the law and implementing plans and policies that are conducive to Hong Kong's long-term development. We also joined hands with the HKSAR Government and the public to safeguard our country's

sovereignty and security, working together for Hong Kong's sustainable development and harmony. During the year, we shouldered our social responsibilities by keep hosting a wide range of charitable activities through the "We Care \cdot We Share" campaign that convey a message of love and care from the business community.

Furthermore, we sponsored internship programs in the Mainland for Hong Kong students and organized training courses and exchange activities. Last year marked the 10th anniversary of the "Young Astronaut Training Camp", which was initiated and fully sponsored by CGCC. Over the years, our projects have benefited over 6,000 young people in Hong Kong and deepened their understanding and sense of belonging to the motherland. In the future, we will continue to expand our efforts in youth development to help Hong Kong's younger generation explore opportunities in creative and innovation industries in the Greater Bay Area and the B&R.

Keeping in line with national development in the new era

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all our Committee Members for their full support, and to all committees for their meticulous planning, and to our members for their active participation to enable the successful implementation of CGCC's tasks and plans in 2018. Appreciations also go to our Secretariat for their dedication and hard work.

This year marks the 70th birthday of our motherland and CGCC will celebrate its 120th anniversary in the coming year. The B&R and Greater Bay Area are our country's core strategies of reform and opening up in the new era, while this year and the next are of critical importance for forging relevant regional collaboration into full swing. CGCC will give full play to our strengths as a bridge to unite members, the business community, and the society at large to contribute to Hong Kong's sustainable development. We will work in tandem with the national development agenda to deepen reform and opening up and promote regional cooperation, building a bright future to grow and thrive with the motherland.

Jonathan Mul

Jonathan Choi Chairman (The 51st Term of Office)