

2010年香港經濟呈現顯著復甦,國家經濟亦持續高速增長。與此同時,本會迎來110周年 會慶,在前輩先賢奠定的百年基業上,繼續協助會員拓展內地及海外的投資發展機遇,度 過了既充實又富成果的一年。

香港經濟邁向全面復甦

香港經濟在2010年走出了環球金融危機的陰霾,並逐步邁向全面復甦。在內地與亞洲地區 經濟蓬勃增長的帶動下,全年的實質本地生產總值增幅達6.8%,超越金融海嘯前的水平。 香港各項經濟指標亦有着令人振奮的表現:貨物出口受惠於環球貿易回升而錄得17.3%增 長,私人消費開支顯著增加5.8%,整體投資亦上升8.1%;失業率更從年初的4.5%顯著回 落至年底的3.7%。

然而,在歐美各國實施量化貨幣寬鬆政策的影響下,全球面對通脹和資產價格上升的壓力 不斷增加。2010年內地消費物價指數同比漲幅達3.3%,其中原材料和燃料價格的升幅高 達9.6%,食品類及居住類價格亦分別上漲7.2%和4.5%。本港的綜合消費物價指數亦在租 金、食品、商品和能源價格顯著攀升下,較一年前同期上升2.4%。

加強與國家經濟更緊密聯繫

對本港工商界而言,通脹加劇將推高勞工薪酬、原材料和能源價格,加上人民幣匯價持續 上升等因素,均為企業的經營帶來挑戰。幸而國家經濟迅速增長,加上"十二五"規劃將 致力開拓現代服務業發展空間,更將擴大內需列作重點任務,這正好為本港企業開拓內地 市場提供龐大商機。

過去一年,本會積極促進香港配合國家經濟發展的需要和戰略部署,全方位推動香港與內地不同區域加強經貿聯繫,例如成立珠三角委員會及長三角委員會,藉此加強香港與內地主要經濟區域的交流。本會的廣州代表處亦繼續為強化粵港合作提供合嫡平台。

年內,本會亦組織考察及貿易團前赴內地多個省市,為會員企業了解及開拓內地發展商機。同時,本會不時接待內地省市領導來訪,為他們介紹香港工商業最新發展,共同探討香港與內地經貿合作新機遇。

2010年亦是國家"十二五"規劃制訂之年,本會通過不同途徑,向中央及特區政府就香港在"十二五"規劃中的角色和定位建言獻策。本會更向特區政府提交有關制訂"香港五年發展方略"的建議書,就香港如何配合國家的未來發展而釐定長遠發展策略作出具體建議。

事實上,本會在推動香港與內地經濟融合所付出的努力,亦得到國家領導人的肯定:全國政協賈慶林主席親函祝賀本會110周年會慶,讚揚中總110年來為香港發展進步和祖國繁榮富強作出積極貢獻;習近平副主席在接見新一屆會董訪問團時讚揚中總對香港繁榮穩定起了不可替代的作用。

為各地華商建設溝通平台

除推動香港與內地經濟更緊密聯繫外,本會亦着力鞏固"立足香港、建設祖國、聯繫世界"的商貿平台作用,充分發揮香港背靠祖國、面向國際的獨特優勢,擔當海外華商與內地企業交流合作的橋樑。

2010年,本會創辦"香港高峰論壇"和"世界華商領袖峰會",透過匯聚各界知名人士及專家學者,為香港、內地與世界各地華商搭建經貿交流互動平台。本會亦繼續參與世界華商大會相關工作,致力推動各地華商的聯繫合作。

積極反映工商界意見和訴求

要建構良好的營商環境,制訂適當的經濟與社會政策是當中的關鍵。因此,本會向來對政府提出的各項政策建議與修訂均十分關注。2010年,本會積極回應了包括最低工資、競爭條例、公司法、醫療改革及政制發展等多項對工商界影響深遠的政策諮詢與修訂建議,透過組織專責小組或相關委員會的討論,匯集會員及工商各業的意見和訴求,並向特區政府有關部門反映。

本會亦一如既往,就施政報告和財政預算案表達工商界的關注,並透過舉辦研討會、座談會與專題講座等,邀請內地和本港政府官員、專家學者、業界代表等,就經濟與社會最新發展形勢、工商各業的營商前景,以至涉及整體經濟與社會發展的議題集思廣益,為促進經濟持續發展出謀獻策。

積極推動社會和諧 加強年青一代的國民教育

促進工商界關心公益事務、締造社會和諧,是本會致力推動的目標之一。年內,本會透過"中華總商會愛心行動"持續推行連串慈善公益項目,包括為青少年組織參觀、遊覽和交流活動,藉以擴闊他們的視野,並讓他們感受社會人士的關愛和支持。"愛心行動"亦繼續在節慶、假日向有需要家庭及人士派發美食券和應節食品,並為重大事故受害者家屬提供經濟援助。

本會亦十分重視青少年的培育發展。為深化香港年青一代對國家的認識和歸屬感,本會於2010年贊助了多項國民教育相關活動,包括透過"大學生實習交流計劃",資助香港大學生到內地實習交流,親身體會國家的快速發展。本會亦連續第二年獨家贊助和參與合辦"少年太空人體驗營",資助香港中學生赴北京和西昌,學習航天科學知識和體驗太空人訓練。本會亦舉辦"青年國情體驗之旅",透過組織青少年參觀世博、亞運等活動,加深對國家發展的認識。

舉辦系列慶祝會慶活動

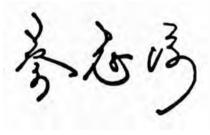
2010年,本會亦籌辦了一系列慶祝110周年會慶的大型活動,當中包括盛大會慶晚宴,邀請到中央及內地省市負責人、香港特區政府官員及本地知名人士、海內外華商團體代表等 蒞臨祝賀。本會更邀得祖國六位"神舟"航天員來港,為會慶活動增添光彩。此外,本會 更為中總大廈換上新裝,以全新面貌為會慶獻禮。

為配合"十二五"規劃作好準備

總結2010年,本會各項工作和計劃均得到全體會董的鼎力支持、各委員會的積極籌劃、以及全體會員的踴躍參與,在此我謹向各位表達衷心感謝。同時,秘書處為落實各項工作和計劃亦做了大量實務工作,我對各同儕的辛勤和高效率工作表示高度讚賞。

展望2011年,將是國家正式實施"十二五"規劃的首個年頭。本會將積極參與其中,並致力推動本港工商界與特區政府攜手努力,抓緊"十二五規劃"為香港帶來的契機,促進香港與內地經濟全面合作,為會員及本港工商界開拓內地市場探索新商機,共同為提升香港整體競爭力和推動國家長遠發展作出更大承擔。

第47屆會長



(蔡冠深)

Chairman's Statement

In tandem with the sustained rapid growth of the Mainland's economy, Hong Kong staged a robust economic recovery in 2010. Against this favorable backdrop, we celebrated our 110th anniversary and, on the century-plus foundation laid by our predecessors, we kept on exploring investment opportunities in China and overseas for our members. It was a year of hard work, but also one of fruitful rewards.

Hong Kong Economy Marching towards Full Recovery

In 2010, the Hong Kong economy emerged from the global financial crisis and strode towards full recovery. Driven by the stellar economic performance of the Mainland and Asia, Hong Kong's GDP grew by 6.8%, which was higher than the pre-crisis level. Other economic indicators showed encouraging performances as well: a 17.3% surge in exports due to global trade recovery, a remarkable 5.8% increase in private spending, and 8.1% growth in overall investment, as well as a significant drop in unemployment rate from 4.5% at the beginning of 2010 to 3.7% at year's end.

Quantitative-easing measures taken by European countries and the US, however, exposed the world to the pressure of inflation and escalating asset prices. In 2010, CPI went up 3.3% year-on-year in the Mainland, with raw materials and fuel prices rocketing by as much as 9.6% and prices of food and housing up by 7.2% and 4.5% respectively. Hong Kong's composite CPI climbed 2.4% in the same period, attributed to rising rents and ballooning prices of food, commodities and energy.

Closer Ties with National Economy

Coupled with higher costs of labor, raw materials and energy fuelled by inflation, the ongoing appreciation of the RMB brought challenges to Hong Kong enterprises. Fortunately, they were also given huge opportunities to tap into the Mainland market, thanks to China's fast-growing economy and the 12th Five-Year Plan that put the emphasis on bolstering modern service-industries and expanding domestic demand.

Over the last year, we worked hard to better equip Hong Kong to meet the development needs and strategies of the Mainland. Great efforts were also made to cement closer economic partnerships between Hong Kong and various Mainland regions. The PRD and YRD Committees, for instance, were established to promote exchanges between Hong Kong and major regional economies in the Mainland, while our Guangzhou Office continued to serve as a conduit for furthering the Guangdong-Hong Kong relationship.

During the year, our business missions and delegations visited many Mainland provinces and cities to identify opportunities for our member enterprises. In return, we played host to many visiting Mainland provincial and municipal leaders. Besides updating our guests on Hong Kong's business development, we also explored with them new areas for economic cooperation between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

In view of the formulation of the 12th Five-Year Plan last year, we came up with suggestions on Hong Kong's role in the context of the Plan and forwarded them to the Central Government and the HKSAR Government via different channels. In particular, we tendered a proposal on the "Hong Kong Five-Year Strategic Development Framework" to the HKSAR Government, making specific recommendations on how Hong Kong could draw up long-term strategies to support the Mainland's future development.

We are gratified that our efforts in fostering Hong Kong's economic integration with the Mainland were recognized by state leaders. Chairman Jia Qinglin of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference wrote to congratulate us on our 110th anniversary and to commend the CGCC's important contributions to the growth and prosperity of Hong Kong and the Motherland. Furthermore, Vice President Xi Jinping received the delegation formed by members of our new Committee and made complimentary remarks about the CGCC's irreplaceable role in maintaining Hong Kong's prosperity and stability.

Exchange Platform for Chinese Entrepreneurs Worldwide

While bringing Hong Kong and the Mainland economically closer, we also continue to pursue our mission of "reaching out to the world with roots in Hong Kong and the backing of the Motherland". Riding on the advantages of Hong Kong - a city that leverages the Mainland while engaging itself globally - we act as a bridge for cooperation between Chinese entrepreneurs overseas and Mainland enterprises.

During the year, we staged the Hong Kong Summit and the World Chinese Entrepreneur Leaders Summit. Well attended by prominent figures, experts and scholars from various sectors, the two summits facilitated interaction among Chinese entrepreneurs from Hong Kong, the Mainland and the rest of the world. We also continued with our preparations for the World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention (WCEC) to augment collaboration among Chinese entrepreneurs around the globe.

Channel for Business Community to Express Views and Wishes

A favorable business climate is not possible without hospitable economic and social policies. With this in mind, we are very attentive to Government policy proposals and amendments. In 2010, we responded to consultations and amended proposals on policy issues that would carry far-reaching business implications, such as the minimum wage, competition law, company law, medical reform and constitutional development. Ad hoc groups or committees were formed to study the issues, and we encouraged our members and various business sectors to express their views and preferences and provide feedback to the relevant departments of the HKSAR Government.

As always, we voiced the business community's concerns over the Policy Address and the Budget. Seminars, talks and symposiums were also organized for Mainland and Hong Kong Government officials, experts, scholars and industry players to share their insights into the latest economic and social trends and the prospects of different industries, and topics related to overall economic and social development. These events threw up ideas and stimulated inspiration as to how to sustain economic development.

Promoting Social Harmony, Giving Youth a Sense of National Identity

It is one of our missions to engage the business community in promoting social welfare and harmony. During the year, our We Care • We Share Campaign continued to organize an array of charitable events. For instance, visits, sightseeing and exchange activities were arranged for young people to broaden their horizons and to show them care and support from the community. Food coupons and festive treats were handed out to families and individuals in need during festivals, while financial assistance was provided for families of victims in tragedies.

We place a lot of importance on youth development. To enhance Hong Kong youth's understanding of the Motherland and their own sense of national identity, we sponsored a number of educational programs in 2010. By sponsoring Mainland study tours, our Internship and Exchange Program for Tertiary Students enabled Hong Kong undergraduates to gain first-hand experience of the rapidly evolving Mainland society. As the sole sponsor for the second year, we co-organized the Young Astronauts Training Camp that allowed Hong Kong secondary students to learn about aerospace sciences and receive astronautic training in Beijing and Xichang. Furthermore, local young people joining our national study tours had a chance to watch mega events such as the World Expo and the Asian Games.

110th Anniversary Celebrations

Last year, we held a variety of major events to celebrate our 110th anniversary. Among these was our gala dinner, which was attended by leaders from the Central Government and provincial and municipal governments of the Mainland, officials from the HKSAR Government, local celebrities and representatives from local and overseas Chinese business organizations. Adding to the jubilant atmosphere was the presence of six Chinese "Shenzhou" astronauts at these events. And the CGCC Building itself got into the party mood, being specially renovated for the occasion.

Efforts to Tie in with 12th Five-Year Plan

Our day-to-day work and planning activities in 2010 went smoothly, thanks to the unstinting support from all Committee Members, the meticulous efforts of our committees, and the wholehearted participation of our members. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of them. Thanks must also go to the Secretariat for carrying out all its work and fulfill its plans so diligently. Such dedication and efficiency is much appreciated.

Looking ahead, 2011 marks the commencement of the 12th Five-Year Plan. We will devote ourselves to driving the Hong Kong business community and the HKSAR Government to work hand-in-hand to grasp the opportunities that this presents. We will also make every effort towards enabling Hong Kong's full economic cooperation with the Mainland, so that our members and Hong Kong business in general can better tap the new windows of opportunity opening up in the Mainland market. Let's make an even greater commitment to enhancing the competitiveness of Hong Kong and to the long-term development of our country.

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Jonathan Choi Koon-shum Chairman (The 47th Term of Office)