

# 會長序辭



2015年，本港經貿、社會民生及政制發展均面對不少挑戰；然而，國家全面推動深化改革並積極構建區域經濟新格局，為香港未來發展注入嶄新動力。本會亦一如既往，全力協助會員企業和工商界把握國家發展新機遇，並為改善營商環境、促進本港經濟和社會穩步發展建言獻策。

## 團結工商及社會各界力量

去年年中，備受關注的政改議題告一段落。本會在年內對推動政制循序漸進發展不遺餘力，包括牽頭舉辦工商界論壇、向政府呈交意見書，並聯同主要商會進行問卷調查、刊登報章聲明和參與簽名活動等，明確表達本會支持普選的立場。

張德江委員長在去年7月接見中總訪京團時，亦讚揚本會貫徹愛國愛港優良傳統，支持行政長官和特區政府依法施政，並期望中總積極團結工商和社會各界，以實際行動配合特區政府聚焦經濟發展、改善民生，全面提升香港經濟實力和競爭力。

事實上，2015年環球及內地經濟表現反覆，香港亦難免受到一定影響，特別是出口下跌，訪港旅客持續放緩，令香港外貿和零售消費業務遇到不少挑戰。本會一直密切關注經濟和營商環境變化，並透過施政報告、財政預算案和各項政策諮詢途徑，適時向特區政府反映會員及工商界訴求，致力

維護工商權益。我們亦因應部分重大經濟政策和社會民生議題，包括就標準工時、強積金等對勞資關係和整體經濟有着深遠影響的課題積極表達意見。與此同時，我們繼續透過舉辦“中總論壇”、會董會講座和不同類型的專題活動，為促進本港經濟與社會持續發展提供互動交流平台。

## 全力抓緊國家發展新機遇

過去一年，國家積極籌備“十三五”規劃和推進“一帶一路”戰略發展，為香港帶來前所未有的新機遇。商務部與特區政府在CEPA框架下簽訂新的服務貿易協議，進一步把內地服務業市場對香港的開放範圍擴展至內地全境，為全面落實兩地服務貿易自由化邁出重要新里程。此外，廣東三大自貿區南沙、前海和橫琴正式掛牌啟動並提速發展，對深化粵港全方位合作締造重要基礎和新動力。

本會亦積極引領會員企業和工商界配合國家發展部署，全方位推進香港與內地主要經濟區域加強合作。過去一年，本會除赴北京拜會中央領導人外，亦透過組織考察團前往上海、廣東、湖北和黑龍江等地，並出席廣交會、中博會、廈門投洽會及廣東自貿區掛牌儀式等大型活動，了解當地最新發展情況和探索合作商機。我們亦接待了內地多個省市來訪領導及代表，介紹本港情況並加強彼此互動交流。

此外，本會去年繼續舉辦解讀“兩會”論壇，邀請專家學者剖析國家重要政策帶來的機遇；我們亦主辦海峽兩岸暨港澳經貿論壇，探討兩岸四地在經貿、金融、科技以至文化及創新發展等不同範疇加強合作，促進大中華地區邁向更全面和多元化發展。

## 強化對外區域聯繫與合作

隨着“一帶一路”建設的不斷推進，加上亞投行正式成立，標誌着國家對外開放將進入嶄新階段。面對全球格局新變化，香港應可更好地發揮國際金融中心和區域貿易樞紐的優勢，善用與海外特別是周邊地區及東盟國家的緊密聯繫，為內地企業“走出去”發揮橋樑作用。



事實上，本會亦不斷深化與周邊區域的經貿合作，特別是積極加強與華人華商的聯繫交流。去年，我們聯合特區政府及多家機構於新加坡舉辦“香港一新加坡伙伴合作午餐會”，探討港星兩地合作新機遇，以及在促進東盟區域合作發揮更大作用。本會更與越南工商會簽署合作備忘錄，推動兩地在多個領域建立交流合作機制。

此外，本會繼續肩負“世界華商大會”召集人組織3名成員之一的責任和使命，積極團結海內外華商。年內，本會組團赴印尼參加第13屆世界華商大會，共同探索內地、東盟和國際市場的發展商機。我們亦出席了在北京召開的首屆世界華僑華人工商大會，獲李克強總理親切會見。

### 推動社會公益與青年培育

除關注工商經貿發展，中總更致力實踐社會責任，帶領會員積極參與社會公益事務，傳遞工商界愛心。過去一年，本會舉辦了10多場慈善公益活動，招待4,000名長者、基層家庭及不同的弱勢社群。2015年適逢是中總成立115周年，我們更特別向有需要基層市民派發11萬5千袋香米，以表關懷。本會亦繼續舉辦“開心消費慶回歸”活動，去年參與的商戶倍增，讓市民大眾盡享購物及消閒娛樂優惠。

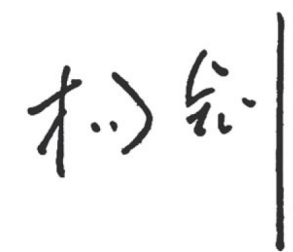
中總亦十分重視青年培育工作。過去一年，我們繼續透過資助本港學生赴內地實習、舉辦培訓班和交流活動等，包括贊助“大學生實習交流計劃”、“少年太空人體驗營”等項目，為加深年青人對祖國的認識、促進與內地互動構建交流平台。

去年，全國上下進行了多項抗戰勝利70周年紀念活動，中總也積極參與，並聯同各界籌備大型展覽活動，共同銘記歷史、緬懷先烈，冀藉此提升年青一代認識國情，弘揚愛國愛港精神。

總結2015年，國家進一步邁向更多元和全面深化發展，為本港經濟以至營商環境帶來不少新機遇。中總在過去115年來，積極推動會員及工商界參與祖國建設，並為促進香港繁榮穩定不懈努力，中央領導及特區政府均予以高度肯定。事實上，去年本會各項工作和計劃得以順利完成，有賴全體會董和社會各界鼎力支持、各委員會的悉心籌劃以及全體會員積極參與，對於各界的團結一心與無私奉獻，我謹此致以衷心感謝。同時，我亦要讚揚秘書處同儕為落實各項工作目標所付出的辛勤努力。

展望新一年，中總將延續前輩先賢愛國愛港的優良傳統，致力服務工商、回饋社會，共同構建和諧香港。我們更會與全體成員攜手努力，積極配合國家和香港發展步伐，抓緊“十三五”規劃、“一帶一路”戰略發展帶來的機遇，為祖國和香港的繁榮發展作出最大貢獻。

第49屆會長



楊 釗

## Chairman's Statement

In 2015, Hong Kong faced many challenges in economic, trade, people's livelihood and constitutional development. However, China's comprehensive deepening of reform and active building of a new regional economic landscape also injected new impetus for Hong Kong. As always, the Chamber gave full assistance to member companies and the business community to capture the new opportunities arising from China's development and made suggestions to improve the business environment as well as fostering a stable economic and social development for Hong Kong.

### Uniting the strengths of the business community and society

In the middle of last year, the constitutional reform issues that had been in the spotlight came to an end. During the year, the Chamber spared no effort to promote a gradual and orderly constitutional development, including taking the lead to organize business forums and making submissions to the Government, in addition to joining hands with other major chambers of commerce on questionnaire surveys, press statements and signature campaigns to clearly express the Chamber's stance on supporting universal suffrage.

When meeting with the Chamber's delegation to Beijing in July last year, NPC Chairman Zhang Dejiang commended the Chamber for upholding our fine tradition of loving the motherland and Hong Kong in supporting the Chief Executive and the HKSAR Government to govern according to law. He also looked forward to the Chamber actively uniting the business community and society to take concrete actions to support the Government in focusing on economic development and improving people's livelihood in order to enhance Hong Kong's overall economic strength and competitiveness.

As a matter of fact, Hong Kong was inevitably affected by the volatility of the global and Mainland economies in 2015. In particular, the decline in exports and continued slowdown of visitors had posed many challenges to Hong Kong's foreign trade and retail businesses. While closely monitoring the changes in the economic and business environments, the Chamber kept submitting the opinions of member companies and the business community on the Policy Address, Budget and other policy issues to the HKSAR Government in a timely manner in order to safeguard their interests. We also expressed our views on certain major economic policies and social livelihood issues that have far-reaching impact on employment relations and the overall economy, including the standard working hours and the MPF. Meanwhile, we continued to provide interactive communication platforms for promoting Hong Kong's sustainable economic and social development through such activities as the "CGCC Forum", Seminars for Committee Members and various thematic talks.

### Seizing new opportunities arising from national development

Over the past year, China's active preparation for the "13th Five-Year Plan" and promotion of the "One Belt and One Road" strategic development had brought unprecedented new opportunities for Hong Kong. The Ministry of Commerce and the HKSAR Government signed a new service trade agreement under the CEPA framework to further open up the market of the Mainland's service sectors to Hong Kong and extend the liberalization measures nationwide. This is an important milestone for full liberalization of trade in services between the two places. In addition, the official unveiling and surging development of Guangdong's three free-trade areas Nansha, Qianhai and Hengqin created an important basis and new impetus for deepening of all-round cooperation between Guangdong and Hong Kong.

The Chamber also actively guided member companies and the business community to support China's development in order to promote all-round cooperation between Hong Kong and the major economic regions in the Mainland. Over the past year, besides visiting Beijing to meet with the Central Leadership, the Chamber also organized delegations to Shanghai, Guangdong, Hubei and Heilongjiang. Moreover, we attended large-scale events including the Canton Fair, Expo Central China, Xiamen Fair for Investment and Trade, and the unveiling ceremony of the Guangdong Pilot Free Trade Zone to learn the latest local developments and explore cooperation opportunities. We also met leaders and representatives from different Mainland provinces and cities to brief them on Hong Kong's situation and strengthen mutual interaction.

Furthermore, the Chamber went on holding forums on elucidating the NPC and CPPCC sessions, inviting experts and academics to analyze the opportunities arising from important national policies. We also staged the Cross-Strait cum Hong Kong and Macao Economic and Trade Forum to discuss strengthening cross-strait cooperation among the four places in various aspects such as trade, finance, technology, cultural and innovation in order to drive the Greater China region towards a more comprehensive and diversified development.

### Strengthening external regional ties and cooperation

The continuous progress of the "One Belt and One Road" strategic development and the formal establishment of the AIIB marked a new stage of China's opening up. Faced with the new changes in the global landscape, Hong Kong should capitalize on its strengths as an international financial centre and regional hub for trade and make the best use of its close ties with other regions, particularly the neighbouring regions and ASEAN countries, to serve as a bridge for Mainland enterprises to "go global".



In fact, the Chamber never stopped in deepening economic and trade cooperation with the neighbouring regions, especially with overseas Chinese entrepreneurs. Last year, we joined hands with the HKSAR Government and several organizations to hold the “Luncheon on Hong Kong-Singapore Partnership” in Singapore to discuss new cooperation opportunities between the two places, as well as to play a greater role in promoting regional cooperation with ASEAN. The Chamber also signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce to promote mutual exchanges and cooperation in various fields.

In addition, as one of the three convenors of the World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention, the Chamber continued to fulfill our due responsibilities and mission to strengthen exchanges and cooperation among Chinese businesses at home and abroad. During the year, the Chamber organized a delegation to Indonesia to attend the 13th World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention to explore business development opportunities in the Mainland, ASEAN and international market. We also took part in the first World Overseas Chinese Industry and Commerce Conference held in Beijing, where we met with Premier Li Keqiang.

### Promoting social welfare and youth development

On top of focusing on the development of industry, commerce and trade, the Chamber is also committed to the fulfillment of social responsibilities by leading members to actively participate in social affairs to convey our care for the society. Over the past year, the Chamber organized more than 10 charitable activities for 4,000 elderly, underprivileged families and various disadvantaged groups. 2015 marked the Chamber’s 115th anniversary, we especially distributed 115,000 bags of rice to needy grassroots residents to express our care. The Chamber also continued to hold the “Special Offer Campaign for Celebrating Reunification Anniversary”. Last year, the number of participating retailers doubled, providing the public with special offers of shopping and leisure entertainment.

The Chamber attaches great importance to nurturing young people. Over the past year, we kept building communication platforms to enhance young people’s understanding of the motherland and interaction with the Mainland by funding our students to go to the Mainland for internship, training courses and exchange activities, including the “Internship and Exchange Program for Tertiary Students” and “Young Astronaut Training Camp”.

Last year, a series of events in celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the Victory of the Chinese People’s War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War was held across the country. The Chamber also played an active role by

organizing large-scale exhibitions with various sectors to keep history and our martyrs in mind in order to enhance the younger generation’s understanding of our country and carry forward the spirit of loving the motherland and Hong Kong.

To conclude, in 2015, China’s further step towards a more diversified and comprehensive in-depth development had brought a lot of new opportunities for Hong Kong’s economy and business environment. Over the past 115 years, the Chamber has been actively encouraging members and the business community to participate in the development of the motherland and making unremitting efforts to promote Hong Kong’s prosperity and stability, which have received a high degree of recognition from the Central Leadership and the HKSAR Government. Indeed, without the full support given by all our committee members, the meticulous planning by the various committees and the active participation from member companies, the Chamber’s tasks and schemes could not have been fulfilled. I would like to thank them for their concerted efforts and selfless dedication. I would also like to commend our colleagues at the Secretariat for their diligence and hard work to accomplish the various tasks and objectives.

Looking ahead, the Chamber will continue the fine tradition of loving the motherland and Hong Kong and focus on serving the business community and contributing to the society, working together to build a harmonious Hong Kong. We will also join hands with all our members to actively keep pace with the development of China and Hong Kong to capture the opportunities arising from the “13th Five-Year Plan” and “One Belt and One Road” initiatives in order to contribute further to the prosperity and development of China and Hong Kong.



**Charles Yeung**  
**Chairman**  
**(The 49th Term of Office)**