



會長序辭

2016年是充滿挑戰和機遇的一年：環球政經局勢不明朗，對香港經濟與營商環境帶來不確定性；國家全面推進“十三五”規劃和“一帶一路”戰略，卻為本港工商界提供千載難逢的發展潛力。本會新一屆會董會於年內就任，我們既秉持中總愛國愛港優良傳統，鞏固“立足香港、背靠祖國、聯繫世界”的定位，也要承先啟後，全力推動會務創新，帶領中總邁向“多元化、專業化、年青化和國際化”發展。

積極應對營商環境變化

過去一年，外圍經濟下行壓力增加，香港作為高度對外開放的經濟體，難免受到考驗，特別是外貿、旅遊及零售等主要行業表現持續疲弱，均影響企業的經營部署。中美貿易關係在美國新總統上場後可能出現變化，加上英國正式啟動“脫歐”等因素，對本港工商界長遠發展更添變數。

本會一直關注經濟與營商環境變化，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訴求，致力維護工商權益。我們特別就退休保障、強積金對沖、工時政策等勞資議題舉辦交流活動，亦透過“中總論壇”、會董會講座和專題活動，積極發揮中總網絡優勢，與各地政府、本地及海內外工商團體緊密配合，協助企業了解市場訊息，探索發展新商機。

全面配合國家新經濟發展策略

去年，國家積極推進“十三五”規劃和“一帶一路”戰略；李克強總理在今年“兩會”更提出粵港澳大灣區發展規劃，為香港經濟發展帶來強大支持。香港位處粵港澳大灣區和海上絲綢之路重要據點，在國家深化改革進程中發揮關鍵的聯繫作用，而中總更是促進香港工商界參與國家發展的重要橋樑。

本會於去年曾舉辦“十三五規劃與香港機遇”高峰論壇，並組織訪問團前往中山、橫琴、甘肅、安徽和江蘇等地考察，以及出席廣交會、廈門投洽會等活動，協助會員了解當地最新發展和探索合作商機，全方位推進香港與內地加強經濟合作。我們亦接待了內地多個省市領導來訪，介紹本港情況並加強互動交流。

去年年中，我們加入中國工業經濟聯合會牽頭的“一帶一路工商協會聯盟”，共同探討在“一帶一路”沿線提供培訓和交流活動，並讓各地工商界深入了解“一帶一路”最新發展。我們亦參與合辦在北京舉行的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多元化發展。此外，本會繼續舉辦解讀“兩會”論壇，邀請專家學者剖析國家重要政策帶來的機遇。我們亦積極配合廣東自貿區發展，尤其是加強香港與前海、南沙、橫琴的工商經貿合作，並密切留意CEPA、服務貿易自由化，以至粵港澳大灣區建設的最新進展，為促進內地與香港互動發展共謀獻策。

深化東亞區域經貿合作

隨着東亞地區漸成環球經濟增長的重要動力，香港可善用與周邊地區及東盟國家的緊密聯繫，發揮推動企業“引進來、走出去”的橋樑作用。去年，我們舉辦一系列工商研討會和午餐交流活動，包括聯同特區政府於越

南胡志明市合辦午餐會，邀得前政務司司長林鄭月娥擔任演講嘉賓，探討港越兩地在東盟的發展機遇；我們亦與越南工商會在港合辦“港越商界交流會”並簽署合作備忘錄，越南總理阮春福亦應邀出席，為進一步鞏固港越經貿合作關係和促進東亞區域合作開拓龐大發展空間。

支持社會和諧穩定發展

近年，香港社會出現不少爭拗，對經濟民生及營商環境帶來負面影響。去年初，因應旺角暴亂及立法會“拉布”事件，本會刊登報章聲明並牽頭召開工商界聯合記者會，明確表達反對“拉布”、堅拒暴力的立場。我們亦多次發放新聞稿，強烈譴責立法會宣誓風波和鼓吹“港獨”等言行，並表達支持人大常委會就《基本法》第104條釋法的鮮明立場。

推動公益活動及青年發展

我們亦致力實踐社會責任，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，本會繼續透過“中總愛心行動”籌辦不同類型慈善活動，歷年累積贊助總金額達到2,800萬港元。

此外，中總十分重視青年培育工作。過去一年，我們繼續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。

去年是孫中山先生誕辰150周年，全國上下均舉辦多項隆重紀念活動，中總也積極參與，並聯同各界籌備大型展覽活動，承傳孫中山先生愛國精神，藉此加深市民和年青一代對孫中山一生貢獻及中國近代史的認識。

團結工商及社會各界力量

總結2016年，在全體會董鼎力支持、各委員會的悉心籌劃和會員的踴躍參與下，本會各項工作與計劃得到順利開展，我謹此向各位表達衷心感謝。同時，我亦對秘書處同儕的高效率工作和出色表現表示高度讚賞。

2017年，香港迎來回歸祖國及特區成立20周年紀念，本會將舉辦一系列慶祝活動，包括7月舉辦“香港高峰論壇”，邀請新任行政長官、內地及東亞各國部長級經貿官員和各地業界精英，共同探討在新形勢下香港與東亞地區的經濟合作機遇和發展方向，抓緊國家推進粵港澳大灣區、“一帶一路”等戰略發展帶來的龐大機遇。我們將繼續推動各項青少年學習交流與培育工作，加強他們對國家發展的認識和歸屬感；我們也會舉辦青年創科創業大獎，冀激發年輕人創意創新思維，也為本港工商界培育更多年輕人才，全力配合中央對加強港澳青少年培育工作的大方向。

中總將全力支持新任行政長官和配合新一屆特區政府依法施政，積極團結工商和社會各界，大力發展經濟、改善民生，並在“一國兩制”框架下帶領香港發揮獨特優勢，應對日益複雜的環球政經局勢帶來的挑戰，並加強對本地工商和專業服務支援，攜手在“一帶一路”、區域經濟合作等新領域下拓展新機遇。

第50屆會長



蔡冠深

Chairman's Statement

The year 2016 was one full of challenges and opportunities: the political and economic situations in the international community were volatile, which caused uncertainty to Hong Kong's economic and business environments; but meanwhile, China spared no effort to go ahead with its "13th Five-Year Plan" and the "Belt and Road" Initiative (B&R), which provided Hong Kong's industrial and commercial sectors with a once-in-a-lifetime chance of growth potential. The new term of Committee Members of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce (CGCC) took up office within this year. We will continue our fine tradition of loving the motherland and Hong Kong and strengthen our stance on "reaching out to the world with roots in Hong Kong and backing of our motherland". On the other hand, we will keep moving ahead by inheritance of the past, striving to innovate the Chamber's affairs so as to lead CGCC into a more diversified, professional, youthful and internationalized organization.

Proactively adapt to the changing business environment

Over the past year, downward pressure on the economy has increased. As a highly external-oriented economy, Hong Kong was inevitably challenged. Major industries like foreign trade, tourism and retailing were particularly hard hit, and their continued weak performances have affected the operation planning of enterprises. Moreover, Sino-US trade relations may undergo unanticipated changes after the new President came into office, and added to that factors like the official Brexit launch, we might as well expect the unexpected for the long-term development of Hong Kong's industrial and commercial sectors.

CGCC has been keeping a close watch on changes in economic and business environments, and has been duly conveying members' concerns to the SAR Government through consultation channels on the Policy Address, the Budget and other policies so as to safeguard the interests of the industrial and commercial sectors. We have organized exchange activities specially related to labour issues like retirement protection, MPF offsetting arrangements and the working hour policy. We have also hosted the "CGCC Forum", seminars for Committee Members and various thematic activities to fully utilize our networking advantage, ensuring greater coordination with local and overseas governments and organizations in the industrial and commercial sectors, so as to help enterprises understand market trends and to explore and develop new business opportunities.

Fully support China's new economic development strategy

China actively forged ahead with its "13th Five-Year Plan" and B&R last year while Premier Li Keqiang announced the development plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area during this year's NPC and CPPCC sessions. All this has provided powerful impetus to Hong Kong's economic development. Situated at a crucial foothold of the Greater

Bay Area and the Maritime Silk Road, Hong Kong plays a pivotal bridging role while China is deepening its reform process. And CGCC has always been a prominent bridge, encouraging Hong Kong's industrial and commercial sectors to participate in China's development.

Last year, CGCC organized the "Opportunities for Hong Kong in the 13th Five-Year Plan" summit and sent delegations to Zhongshan, Hengqin, Gansu, Anhui and Jiangsu, as well as participation in various events like the Canton Fair and Xiamen's China International Fair for Investment and Trade. All these helped our members grasp the latest developments and uncover opportunities for collaboration in these regions, accelerating comprehensive economic cooperation between Hong Kong and the Mainland. We were also visited by leaders from various provinces and cities from the Mainland, briefing them about Hong Kong's situation while strengthening interaction and exchange.

In the middle of last year, we joined the Belt and Road Industrial and Commercial Alliance initiated by the China Federation of Industrial Economics. Our aims were to explore the possibility of holding training and exchange events along the B&R routes and to help the industrial and commercial sectors understand more about the latest B&R development. We also co-organized the Cross Strait, Hong Kong and Macau Economic and Trade Forum that took place in Beijing, which not only explored how the cross-strait four regions could promote cooperation in various fields like economy, trade, finance, technology, culture and innovative development, but also facilitated the Greater China region's development in a more diversified manner. Moreover, we continued holding forums for elucidating the "Two Sessions", inviting experts and academics to analyze the opportunities arising from important national policies. We also keenly worked in coordination with the development of the Guangdong Free-Trade Zone, especially by promoting cooperation between Hong Kong and Qianhai, Nansha and Hengqin in industrial, commercial, economic and trade areas. We also kept abreast of the latest developments of CEPA, the liberalisation of trade in services and the construction of the Greater Bay Area, as well as offered advice on how to promote interactive development of the Mainland and Hong Kong.

Promote economic and trade cooperation in the East Asia region

As the East Asia region is gradually becoming an important momentum for global economic growth, Hong Kong could make optimum use of its close relations with neighboring regions and ASEAN member states, serving as an important bridge for foreign enterprises' venture into China and local enterprises' expansion abroad. Last year, we organized a series of industrial and commercial seminars as well as exchange luncheons, which included inviting former Chief Secretary for Administration Carrie

Lam to Ho Chi Minh City to speak on the commercial and investment opportunities that Hong Kong and Vietnam could explore in ASEAN. We also partnered the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry to organize the Hong Kong-Vietnam Business and Investment Forum in Hong Kong, in which Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyễn Xuân Phúc was also present at the invitation of CGCC. The two chambers signed a memorandum of cooperation, further consolidating the commercial ties between Hong Kong and Vietnam, as well as encouraging regional cooperation in ASEAN to unlock the enormous growth potential.

Support the harmonious and steady development of society

In recent years, the local economy, people's livelihood and the business environment have been adversely affected by numerous disputes in our society. Early last year, in response to the Mongkok riot and the filibustering incidence in LegCo, CGCC published a statement in newspapers and took the lead of the industrial and commercial sectors in convening a joint press conference to declare our stance against filibustering and violence. We also issued several press releases to severely criticize such behavior as the LegCo oath-taking fiasco and the advocacy of Hong Kong independence, and to show our support for the uncompromising position of the NPC Standing Committee in interpreting Article 104 of the Basic Law.

Promote community services and youth development

CGCC has also been devoted to fulfilling its social responsibility, leading its members to actively participate in community work, in a spirit of goodwill on behalf of the industrial and commercial sectors. In the past year, CGCC continued to hold various kinds of charity events via our "We Care • We Share Campaign", and the total fund raised over the years has reached HK\$2.8 million.

CGCC also attaches great importance to nurturing young people. Over the past year, we continued to build communication platforms to enhance young people's understanding of the motherland and interaction with the Mainland by funding Hong Kong students to go to the Mainland for internship, organizing training courses and exchange activities, including the "Internship and Exchange Program for Tertiary Students" and the "Young Astronaut Training Camp".

Last year marked the 150th anniversary of the birth of Dr Sun Yat-sen, and many major commemoration events were held throughout the country. Besides actively participating in these activities, CGCC also planned and co-hosted a large exhibition in commendation of the patriotic spirit of Dr Sun with the goal to deepen Hong Kong people and the younger generation's understanding of Dr Sun's lifelong contribution and the history of contemporary China.

Foster solidarity of industrial, commercial and other sectors

All in all, the various projects and schemes of CGCC were carried out smoothly in 2016, thanks to the staunch support of all our Committee Members, the meticulous planning by various committees and the active participation of members. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all. I must also highly commend our colleagues at the Secretariat for their optimum efficiency and outstanding performances.

In 2017, Hong Kong is commemorating the 20th anniversary of our return to the motherland and the establishment of the SAR. The Chamber will organize a series of celebratory events. One of which is the Hong Kong Summit to be held in July, in which the new Chief Executive, ministerial-level trade officials from the Mainland and ASEAN countries as well as elite professionals of various fields from different countries and regions will be invited. Together, they will examine opportunities for economic collaboration and directions of development for Hong Kong and the East Asia region under the new order, as well as how to leverage on the tremendous opportunities created by China's strategic developments like the Greater Bay Area and B&R. To complement the Central Government's efforts in youth training, we will continue to provide young people with all sorts of learning, exchange and training programs, as well as enhance their understanding of China's development and their sense of belonging. We will also organize a contest for youths in relation to innovation, technology and entrepreneurship, which aims at encouraging youngsters' creative and innovative thinking and nurturing more young talents for Hong Kong's industrial and commercial sectors.

CGCC will fully support the new Chief Executive, work in coordination with the new SAR Government's policy implementation in accordance with the law, unite the industrial, commercial and all sectors across society, as well as foster economic development and improve people's livelihood. We will also, under the framework of "One country, Two system", lead Hong Kong to leverage on our unique advantages so as to respond to challenges posed by the increasingly complicated economic and political situations in the international scene. Furthermore, we will offer more support to Hong Kong's industrial, commercial and professional services, so that all of us can join hands to explore the unprecedented opportunities in the new realms of B&R and regional economic cooperation.



Jonathan Choi
Chairman
(The 50th Term of Office)