



會長序言

2023年是香港邁向疫後全面復常的關鍵一年。特區政府推出多項提振經濟、優化營商環境的政策措施，積極招商引資、匯聚人才，配合國家擴大高水平對外開放、推動高質量發展步伐，為香港帶來源源不絕新機遇。本會亦積極發揮融入國家、對接國際的商會網絡功能，進一步鞏固和提升香港發展動能和競爭優勢，在世界各地全方位說好中國和香港故事。

擔當“內聯外通”橋樑

十四屆全國人民代表大會一次會議選舉產生新一屆國家領導，習主席重申堅定不移推動高質量發展、推進中國式現代化建設，更強調要扎實推進“一國兩制”實踐，高度重視香港的雙向橋樑作用，這無疑為香港未來發展打下重要“強心針”。

為全面配合國家高質量對外開放發展戰略，本會透過不同類型的考察交流活動，以民間外交方式推動與內地及國際緊密合作。我們先後組團前往廣東、雲南和長三角等地區，拜訪政商領導，探索香港與內地企業在疫情後和環球政經新格局下全面深化合作的發展空間。本會更與內地多個商協會合辦交流座談會，從金融、專業服務、創新科技、先進製造業以至文化產業等不同領域，探索香港跟粵港澳大灣區、長三角、京津冀以至海南自貿港等市場合作新機遇，並促成多個現代專業服務項目發展。

本會在強化與國際聯繫亦發揮重要功能，年內組織商務代表團前往越南、日本、韓國等亞洲國家，中東科威特、卡塔爾、阿聯酋三國，以及德國、比利時、法國、英國等歐洲國家，推動與內地和海外多家商會簽訂合作備忘。本會更推動科威特投資局、迪拜商會等來港設立辦事處，促進更多中東企業落戶香港，開拓大灣區和內地投資商機。

發揮華商網絡優勢

華商力量對全球經濟發展舉足輕重，在推動區域互動合作更扮演重要的參與者、促成者和貢獻者角色。本會年內接任新一屆世界華商大會秘書處，未來五年將繼續深化香港工商界及海內外華商構建龐大網絡，推動世界華商大會成為全球華商交流互動重要平台。新生代青年華商更是深化中外友好往來、加強商貿合作以至文化交流的務實推動者和接班人。本會舉辦世界青年華商論壇，邀請本地官員、海內外青年華商領袖、專家學者交流討論，探討善用香港功能優勢，對接大灣區和“一帶一路”市場商機，通過各地青年華商互動，為深化區域合作注入新動力。

此外，本會與各國駐港領事館、外國商會及華商團體一直保持緊密聯繫，透過組織交流拜訪活動、舉辦大灣區專題講座等，為各國工商企業開拓香港和內地市場、深化彼此合作鋪橋搭路。

激發香港發展動能

為全面配合香港邁向由治及興新局面，本會致力推動會員企業及香港工商界落實增強發展動能的相關工作，包括與多家商會合辦激發香港“興”的動能座談會，探討如何對接“十四五”規劃、大灣區建設和“一帶一路”高質量發展等國家戰略，並推動不同產業領域簽署多個合作項目，為促進企業加大在港業務投資發揮牽頭引領作用。

年內，中央領導來港視察，本會獲邀出席相關交流活動，就吸引海內外投資、提升本港長遠競爭優勢等範疇向領導人反映意見。我們亦一如既往，透過施政報告、財政預算案等各類政策諮詢途徑，為進一步完善本港營商環境、支援工商企業發展、深化與內地交流合作等提出建議。

助力改善民生發展

中總不僅着眼工商經貿發展，也十分重視社會和諧共融。我們與多家商會合辦工商界助力改善民生座談會，並聯同本港多家企業代表，分享在助力民生發展的工作和展望。本會更代表宣讀倡議書，籲工商界積極投放資源，履行企業社會責任，貫徹落實習主席對切實排解民生憂難的期盼。

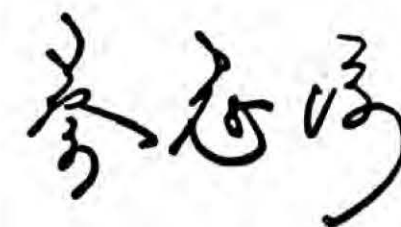
本會亦持續配合特區政府的關愛社群活動，進一步構建官、商、民伙伴協作關係，並透過“中總愛心行動”，組織各式各樣慈善公益活動，為社會有需要社群提供支援。我們也十分重視教育培訓，包括資助本地大學生參加內地實習交流、獨家贊助少年太空人體驗營等，讓本港青少年親身感受祖國一日千里的發展。

配合國家發展新局

總結2023年，中總積極發揮“內聯”內地市場的紐帶功能，也高效擔當“外通”國際的橋樑角色，積極推動產業創新發展，推動香港落實增強發展動能。

踏入2024年，《維護國家安全條例》刊憲生效，並與香港國安法相互配合，為維護國家安全提供更堅實法律屏障，讓本港可以全神貫注發展經濟、改善民生。在迎來國慶75周年的重要時刻，中總亦將努力秉持“立足香港、背靠祖國、聯繫世界”的定位，積極推動會員企業和香港工商界更廣泛參與國家加快發展新質生產力、擴大高水平對外開放、實現高質量發展等目標，讓香港在中國式現代化進程中更好發揮獨特優勢。

第53屆會長



蔡冠深

Chairman's Message

2023 proved to be a crucial year in Hong Kong's journey toward full recovery after the pandemic. The HKSAR Government introduced a succession of policy measures to invigorate the local economy, including those aimed at enhancing the business environment and attracting global businesses, investments and talents to the city. By aligning its development with the country's strategy of expanding the scale of high-level opening up and accelerating high-quality development, Hong Kong is embracing opportunities galore. In line with the government's efforts during the year, CGCC leveraged its extensive network and connections to help Hong Kong deepen its integration into the country, expand and strengthen its international ties, consolidate its competitiveness and inject new growth impetus to the economy. With passion and conviction, we shared the good stories of China and Hong Kong with the rest of the world.

Acting as a bridge between the Mainland and the rest of the world

In March 2023, leading officials of state institutions were elected and endorsed in the first session of the 14th National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China. In his impactful speech at the meeting, President Xi Jinping restated that the country must unwaveringly promote high-quality development and speed up Chinese modernization. He also stressed that the policy of "One Country, Two Systems" should be fully, faithfully and resolutely implemented in Hong Kong, highlighting the distinctive role of the special administrative region as a two-way bridge between the Mainland and the rest of the world and casting a vote of confidence in Hong Kong's future.

To support the country's high-level opening up strategy, CGCC endeavored to foster closer cooperation between Hong Kong, the Mainland and the rest of the world through people-to-people diplomacy. To this end, we conducted a wide range of study trips and exchange activities last year. These included delegations to Guangdong, Yunnan and the Yangtze River Delta (YRD), where we sat down with political and business leaders to explore opportunities for deeper, more comprehensive cooperation between Hong Kong and Mainland businesses in the post-pandemic era as well as in the new global political and economic landscape. We also organized meetings including conferences and roundtables with Mainland business associations to identify new opportunities for Hong Kong to cooperate with various economic regions including the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area), the YRD, the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region and the Hainan Free Trade Port. The events examined possible cooperation in different industries, from finance to professional services,

innovation and technology (I&T), advanced manufacturing and culture, leading to fruitful results including multiple modern professional services cooperation projects signed between Hong Kong and Mainland businesses.

On the international level, CGCC contributed to stronger connections between Hong Kong and various countries. We organized business delegations to Vietnam, Japan, Korea in Asia, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates in the Middle East, and Germany, Belgium, France and the UK in Europe, signing memoranda of cooperation with several chambers of commerce in the process. In the Middle East, we lobbied for the Kuwait Investment Authority and the Dubai Chamber of Commerce to set up an office in Hong Kong. Their presence is expected to encourage more Middle Eastern businesses to use Hong Kong as a base to tap the investment opportunities in the Greater Bay Area and the Mainland at large.

Leveraging the global network of Chinese entrepreneurs

Chinese entrepreneurs wield a significant influence in global economic development. When it comes to regional exchange and cooperation, their roles are not limited to participants; they are also important facilitators and contributors. In 2023, CGCC took over as the secretariat of the World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention (WCEC). Over the next five years, we will continue to strengthen the WCEC network of Hong Kong businesses and Chinese businesses worldwide and uphold the WCEC as an indispensable communication and exchange platform for Chinese entrepreneurs from all over the world. The work of promoting Sino-foreign business relations and trade cooperation and even cultural exchange will be succeeded by the younger generation of Chinese entrepreneurs. Targeting this group, CGCC organized the World Young Chinese Entrepreneurs Summit and invited Hong Kong officials, young Chinese business leaders in both the Mainland and overseas, as well as experts and scholars to the event to discuss how Hong Kong can leverage its strengths and advantages to plug into the markets in the Greater Bay Area and the "Belt and Road" Initiative (B&R). Through fostering interaction among young Chinese entrepreneurs, the event injected new impetus to the promotion of regional cooperation.

Meanwhile, CGCC has been staying in close touch with various consulates, chambers of commerce and Chinese business organizations in Hong Kong. Through organizing exchange activities and visits, talks themed on the Greater Bay Area and other programs, we opened doors for foreign businesses to explore the Hong Kong and Mainland markets and laid the ground for greater cooperation.

Boosting Hong Kong's growth momentum

As Hong Kong embarked on a new journey advancing from stability to prosperity, CGCC has been calling for its members and the local business community to implement work aimed at increasing growth impetus for Hong Kong. For instance, we joined hands with other chambers of commerce to organize a symposium on stimulating the driving force of prosperity in Hong Kong to explore ways for Hong Kong to stay in step with the "14th Five-year" Plan and national strategies including the construction of the Greater Bay Area and the high-quality development of the B&R. We also facilitated the signing of cooperation projects in different industries, setting an example for businesses to expand their investments in Hong Kong.

During inspection visits of Central Government leaders to Hong Kong, CGCC was invited to attend related exchange events. We made use of these occasions to express our views to the leaders on areas like attracting investments to Hong Kong and elevating the city's long-term competitiveness. And like before, we offered our recommendations through consultations on the Policy Address, the Budget, and other policies on topics such as improving the business environment, supporting the development of local businesses and deepening exchange and cooperation with the Mainland.

Contributing to livelihood improvement and social development

CGCC is concerned with not only business and trade development but also social harmony and inclusion. Together with various fellow chambers of commerce, we organized a seminar to explore what businesses can do to improve people's livelihood. Joining representatives from various Hong Kong companies, we shared our work in promoting social progress and hopes in this regard. CGCC, on behalf of all the participating chambers of commerce, also read out the proposal which urged the local business community to invest resources to undertake their corporate social responsibilities and meet President Xi's expectations for Hong Kong to improve people's livelihood.

The Chamber continued to support the HKSAR Government's community-caring efforts and strengthen cooperation between the government, the business sector and the community. Through the "We Care • We Share" campaign, we organized a diverse range of charity activities to provide support for those in need in our society. Attaching great importance to education and training, we continued to sponsor local university students to go on internships in the Mainland and

remained the sole sponsor of the young astronaut training camp organized by the Hong Kong Space Museum in association with the Beijing-Hong Kong Academic Exchange Center, so as to offer local youths a first-hand experience of the rapid, impressive development of the Motherland.

Dovetailing with the country's new development framework

To summarize our accomplishments in 2023, CGCC effectively promoted stronger connection between the Mainland and the rest of the world, helped foster industrial innovation and development, and contributed to boosting Hong Kong's growth momentum.

In 2024, the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance took effect upon gazettal. Together with the National Security Law of Hong Kong, the ordinance bolsters the legal protection for national security, allowing Hong Kong to focus on developing its economy and improving people's livelihood. On the eve of the country's 75th anniversary, CGCC strives to consolidate its positioning as a chamber of commerce that "reaches out to the world with its roots in Hong Kong and backing from the Motherland". We will actively mobilize our members and the business sector to participate more extensively and contribute to the country's pursuance of various goals including accelerating the development of new quality productive forces, expanding high-level opening up, and achieving high-quality development, allowing Hong Kong to play its unique role in Chinese modernization even better.



Jonathan CHOI
Chairman
(The 53rd Term of Office)