

主席報告 Chairman's Statement

大珠三角商務委員會於去年三月由行政長官委任成立, 目的是在政府架構以外提供一條民間渠道,就如何加強香港與 廣東省的經濟和其他領域的合作,向行政長官提供意見。本報 告是委員會的第一份年報。

This is the first annual report of the Business Council. Appointed by the Chief Executive in March

last year, the Business Council serves as a private sector channel alongside the government mechanism to give advice to the Chief Executive on strengthening Hong Kong and Guangdong cooperation in economic and other arenas.

粤港合作對香港一向極為重要。粵港兩地水陸相連,唇齒相依,在社會和經濟發展方面一直緊密合作,彼此憂戚與共,互惠互利。

身為商務委員會的主席,可以和大家分 享商務委員會對大珠三角日後發展的願景, 實在深感榮幸。

香港和廣東省的關係

香港自1997年回歸祖國後,實行"一國兩制",在經濟上與珠三角日漸融合,逐漸不斷擴大而成為大珠三角地區。大珠三角包括香港特別行政區、澳門特別行政區 廣東省九個市。區內人口約4 900萬,本地生產總值超過24,830億元人民幣(3,000億美元),出入口貨物總值佔全國的三分一以上。大珠三角取得如此強大的經濟實力,全賴珠三角的生產基地與香港這個金融、貿易和物流中心協作,互動互補。

我們認為,日後國際間的競爭將不再是 個別城市間的較量,而是以經濟區之間的競 爭為主,個別城市的經濟規模有限,難以參 **The** cooperation between the two sides has always been an important subject for Hong Kong because we are more than just neighbours. We are also close partners in terms of social and economic development. In many ways we are interlinked and benefit mutually from our strong ties.

As the Chairman of the Business Council, it is a great honour for me to share with you the Business Council's vision on the future development of the GPRD.

Hong Kong and the Guangdong Province

Through reunification with the Mainland of China in 1997, Hong Kong today operates under the "one country, two systems" principle and has become economically more and more integrated with the PRD. The result of this integration has spurred the enlargement of the PRD into the GPRD, which encompasses the HKSAR, the Macao Special Administrative Region and nine municipalities of the Guangdong Province. This region has a population of about 49 million with a Gross Domestic Product of over \$2,483 billion yuan (US\$300 billion). It also accounts for over one-third of China's total imports and exports. It is really due to the synergy between the manufacturing base in the PRD and Hong Kong as a financial, trade and logistics centre that this region has risen as a powerful economic force.

與全球性的競爭,只有由中心樞紐配合 周邊腹地構成的經濟區,才有實力在國際上爭勝。大珠三角經濟區發展蓬勃, 充滿活力,已經成為推動國家經濟發展 的強大動力。

新時代,新伙伴關係

國家加入世界貿易組織(世貿),又 與香港實施《更緊密經貿關係安排》 (CEPA),為我們帶來無限商機;不過, 全球一體化步伐加快,加劇了各地之間 的經濟與科技競爭,令我們遭到前所未 有的挑戰。因此,在步入新時代之際, 面對全新局面,香港和廣東省都必須重 新定位,以提高整體的競爭力。

我們深信,香港可以繼續發展成國家的主要服務中心。香港在服務業方面具備豐富的專業知識和穩健的經驗,非適合為本地市場以至大珠三角地區為本地市場以至大珠三角地區為本地市場以香港的金融服務。舉例來說,香港與生人各類是無務。因此,我們在重新定位時,基業不是採取措施,推動香港為大珠三角地區提供服務。

In our view, future competition in the world will not be city versus city because a city does not have the critical mass to compete on global scale. Instead, competition between economic zones consisting of a hub together with a hinterland is likely to prevail. The GPRD, as a vibrant economic zone, has become a very dynamic driver of the country's economy.

A new era, a new partnership

China's entry to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the implementation of the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) has presented us with huge opportunities. However, the accelerating pace of globalization has sharpened worldwide economic and technological competition and brought about unprecedented challenges. Hence, as we enter a new uncharted era, both Hong Kong and the Guangdong Province will have to re-position ourselves so as to enhance our overall competitiveness.

We are convinced Hong Kong will continue to develop into a key service centre for China. With ample expertise and solid experience, Hong Kong's service sector is well placed to service the local market and the GPRD region as a whole. For instance, our financial service sector has been supporting the extensive activities of the enormous manufacturing industry in the PRD. Therefore, one key element of our re-positioning must be to take measures to promote Hong Kong's supply of services to the region.

We fully support the HKSAR Government's plans to position Hong Kong as a logistics hub of the region. With our well-established strengths in global trade – in terms of infrastructure, knowledge, sound experience in management, reputation and track record – Hong Kong can, and must aspire to be the supply chain management centre of the region. Moreover, we shall also position ourselves as an information centre that coordinates trade-related activities in the region, thereby creating and adding value to each and every transaction. That, I believe, will be the surest way to maintain our values, competitive edge and leadership in regional and global trade.

今時今日,粵港兩地的合作已不限於出口製造業。整體而言,大珠三角地區需要在科技、創意、管理三方面更進一步。現時表越來越多科技公司設法在大珠三角開展後務。經過過去二十年製造業的蓬勃發展,大珠三角地區現正致力邁向多元化發展,大珠三角地區現正致力邁向多元化發展,更上一層樓。我們相信,大珠三角顯然會朝着高增值的知識型經濟發展,亦將為粵港兩地開拓無限商機,使兩地的經貿關係更形緊密。

香港與廣東省在國家融入世界經 濟體系方面所發揮的作用

長久以來,香港和廣東省一直是國家對外的窗口。我們認為,隨着國家在國際商貿活動日趨活躍,兩地的窗口地位仍然會十分穩固。再者,在未來十年及以後,國家的齊將會蓬勃發展。國家也需要與全球經濟融合和發展東北與西部省份,勢將帶來各種挑戰和機遇。香港和廣東省具備相關的經驗,優良往績和先進的基建,將可發揮推動發展的作用,並大大受惠於這些發展所帶來的機遇。

由於國家現已加入世貿,將會開放其擁有13億人口的市場,所以一般預期國家與世界各地的貿易額將會激增。有見及此,發展大珠三角成為物流樞紐,已變得刻不容緩。在這方面,香港具備條件和潛力足以成為區域物流樞紐,與珠三角互動互補。兩地聯手,將可為區內的貿易活動帶來增益,合力把大珠三角發展為內地和亞太區的物流中心。

Today, the Hong Kong - Guangdong partnership has developed beyond the sphere of manufacturing for export. The region as a whole needs to advance in terms of technology, innovation and management. More and more IT firms are seeking to establish themselves in the GPRD. After the manufacturing boom in the last two decades, the GPRD is also actively seeking ways to diversify and rise to the next level of development. We believe the obvious direction is the knowledge-based economy that promises higher value-added. In this regard, we see enormous opportunities for both Hong Kong and Guangdong to forge an even closer partnership.

Hong Kong's and Guangdong Province's Role in China's Integration with the World Economy

Traditionally, both Hong Kong and the Guangdong Province have been China's windows to the outside world. We consider that role will remain strong as China becomes a major component of international trade and commerce. Furthermore, the next 10 years and beyond will be exciting times for the Chinese economy. The need for China to integrate with the global economy and to develop the Northeastern and Western provinces will give rise to both challenges and opportunities. With their established experience, track record and advanced infrastructure, Hong Kong and the Guangdong Province are well equipped to play the role of a catalyst in these developments, and as a result, will benefit greatly from the opportunities that arise.

It is generally expected that the volume of trade between China and the rest of the world will drastically increase now that China is a WTO member and will open up its 1.3 billion - population market. Under such circumstances, the urgency for the GPRD to become a logistics hub is very obvious. In this regard, Hong Kong's capabilities and potential as a regional logistics hub will complement those of the PRD. Together we can be one single value creator for trade activities across the region and build the GPRD into the logistics centre for the Mainland and the Asia Pacific region.

粤港融合,一直能發揮互利互惠、 相輔相成的作用。展望未來,這種融合 關係將可繼續讓兩地受惠,所以兩地更 應加強合作,融合為一,拓展世界市 場。

落實措施,加強合作

為加強大珠三角的競爭力,以及謀求持續發展,香港和珠三角必須更緊密地合作。我們認為各方應齊心協力,一同解決對區內構成影響的重要問題。

首先,能否建設覆蓋全面的多元運輸網絡,令整個珠三角地區的交通號無阻,是成功落實區域合作的關鍵調理。此,香港和廣東省需要進一步協調,基建設施的運輸網絡,應付越見頻繁也個四人流和關東。此外,香港必須與廣東省的內有關政府部門保持緊密聯繫,務求去除一切障礙,做到人便其行,貨暢其流。

另一項備受大家關注的事宜,是環境污染問題。每況愈下的空氣質素,,同時亦減低大珠三角對海外投資者和旅客的吸引力。空氣污染的問題主要源於區內運輸和大量工廠產生的污染物,因此,粵港政府和民間機構必須攜手合作,採取前瞻性的措施,改善兩地空氣質素。

其次是人才資源的問題。我們正處 於全球一體化的新時代,必須培養具備 所需技能的人才,以便在區內運作。我 們認為香港應致力發展成為區內的優 秀人才集中地,吸引來自內地和世界各 地的頂尖人才,為大珠三角以至全國服 The integration between Hong Kong and the Guangdong Province has been mutually rewarding and reinforcing. For integration to remain beneficial to both sides, the two economies should foster cooperation and compete together as one entity in world markets.

Initiatives for future cooperation

In order to enhance the competitiveness of the GPRD and to ensure growth in the longer term, Hong Kong and the PRD have to reinforce their partnership. In our view, there are some key issues that have regional implications and therefore require joint concerted efforts of all parties in the region.

First, the key to successful regional cooperation lies in the ability of building an all-encompassing multi-modal transport network, such that the region will have a high level of mobility. In this regard, there is a need for Hong Kong and the Guangdong Province to further coordinate developments in advanced infrastructure with a view to establishing an integrated transport network that facilitates the increasing flow of people and goods. Moreover, Hong Kong shall work closely with its counterpart in the Guangdong Province on a long-term and continuous basis to remove any barriers which may hinder or interrupt the efficient movement of people and goods.

Another issue, which we believe is close to the heart of many people, is the problem of the environment. The deterioration of air quality in particular threatens not only people's health and quality of life, but also the GPRD's attractiveness to international business and tourists. Much of the problem is due to pollutants that originate from transport and extensive manufacturing in the region. Hence, there must be a concerted effort between governments of both sides and the private sector to take forward-looking measures that can improve our air quality.

Next is about human resources. In the new globalisation era, we need to build our own human resources with the requisite skills to operate throughout the region. Our view is that Hong Kong should strive to become a centre of quality human resources for the GPRD and the whole country, and as such, shall attract the best talents from China

務。為此,香港和廣東省須在發展教育及人 才培訓方面加強合作。

另一方面,很多內地企業已為拓展國際市場作好準備。隨着國家加入世貿,民營企業投資國外的項目已有所增加。由於兩地為鄰,廣東企業可輕易通過香港這個窗口走向地區和全球市場。吸引更多廣東民企來港經營,會有助推動本地經濟,鞏固香港的中介角色,來港經營的內地企業亦能借助本港穩健的金融市場、支援服務和覆蓋全球的交通網絡,走向世界,可謂一舉兩得。

總結

大珠三角地區對投資者和商人日見重要。這個地區擁有無限潛力,可以成為推動國家經濟發展的一股重要動力。香港是廣東省的長期伙伴,可以促進區內的經濟增長和發展,並因而受惠。與此同時,我們須審

and around the world. To achieve this, there is a need to strengthen cooperation between Hong Kong and the Guangdong Province in developing education and manpower training.

The final point is about new potential for Hong Kong and Guangdong enterprises. Within two decades after the economic opening of China, about 80 percent of Hong Kong's manufacturing had shifted to the Guangdong Province. Today, there are over 80 000 Hong Kong controlled factories in Guangdong, employing more than 11 million people. The majority of them are export-processing enterprises set up in the 1980s and 1990s, with products destined for overseas markets. However, as China gradually opens up its vast market, coupled with its rising income and increasing consumer demand, the Mainland has become Hong Kong enterprises' biggest potential customer. Opening the fast-growing Mainland market to these export-driven enterprises will not only provide a greater sales market for Hong Kong businesses, but also serve as a catalyst that will drive domestic consumption in the country.

On the other hand, many Mainland enterprises are ready for expansion into the international market. China's accession to the WTO has increased the number of outbound investments from private enterprises. The proximity to Hong Kong makes it easy for Guangdong enterprises to use Hong Kong as the gateway to regional and global markets. Attracting more Guangdong private enterprises to establish business in Hong Kong will bring benefits to both sides. This will help boost the local economy and fortify Hong Kong's intermediary role. Mainland enterprises on the other hand that set up businesses in Hong Kong will benefit from our well-established financial markets, support services and our global reach.

Conclusion

The GPRD is becoming an increasingly important region for investors and businessmen. It has unlimited potential in playing a key role in driving the economic growth of China. As the Guangdong Province's lifelong partner, Hong Kong has the ability to facilitate the region's growth and development, and will all gain as a result. At the same time, we should be mindful of region-

慎處理一些因經濟發展而衍生的地區性 問題,例如可持續發展,並積極謀求對 策。我們必須緊記,地區融合並非單為 了經濟利益和回報,也必須尋求共識和 彼此分擔責任。

因此,兩地政府必須有開放的態度 和遠大的目光。在這方面,我認為民間 的參與不可或缺。我身為商務委員會的 主席,定必與全體委員一起探討更多方 法,促進粵港關係和商機,為兩地開創 互惠互利的局面。

鳴謝

遇國經

大珠三角商務委員會主席 馮國經 二零零五年五月 wide issues such as sustainable development that may arise from economic prosperity and we all need to proactively contribute to solving them. After all, integration is not just about economic benefits and gains. It is about the sharing of a common vision and the sharing of responsibilities as well.

It is therefore important for governments on both sides to have an open mind and a shared long-term vision. In this regard, I think participation of the private sector is essential. And as the Chairman of the GPRD Business Council, I and fellow members will be looking for more ways to foster relations and business opportunities that will be mutually beneficial to both sides.

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the Business Council, I would like to extend my gratitude to every member of the Business Council and the staff officers. All our endeavors would not have been possible without their commitment and dedication to the Business Council. I also wish to thank the Secretariat for its efforts and support in ensuring the smooth operation of the Business Council. Finally, I would like to thank the efforts of the HKSAR and Guangdong governments, and the CCPIT Guangdong Sub-Council in fostering cooperation between Hong Kong and the Guangdong Province.

Dr Victor Fung Chairman The Greater Pearl River Delta Business Council May 2005