

旅遊、文化及體育工作小組

Tourism, Culture and Sports Sub-group

工作目標及範圍

小組的工作目標是就加強粵港旅遊、文化和體育合作的政策和策略提供意見，藉以

1. 促進和便利粵港兩地旅客互訪；以及
2. 推動粵港兩地文化藝術和創意設計的發展和合作，並促進兩地人才資源的融合、本土經濟發展和文化創新。

工作範圍

1. 旅遊：推動改善有關基建、交通設施、出入境手續及過境設施，以便與廣東省不同地方連接起來，方便旅客來港或經香港前往其他海外的主要目的地；及
2. 文化：加強粵港兩地在演藝活動和文化方面的合作和交流，並促進兩地創意產業群聚區的發展。

工作進度及意見

旅遊

2005年，香港的旅遊業持續穩健增長，訪港旅客達2 300萬人次，較之前一年上升7.1%。由2006年5月1日起，“個人遊”措施延伸至內地44個城市，進一步覆蓋泛珠江三角洲地區餘下六個省會，有助進一步推高訪港旅客人次，為旅遊業帶來裨益。

為進一步刺激旅客流量，小組專注探討有關簽證的事宜，包括：

1. 處理因內地多程出入境簽證收費高昂，而影響了海外/商務旅客順道來港的意欲；及
2. 便利持有有效澳門通行證的內地旅客在同一行程內來港旅遊。

Objectives and Scope of Work

Objectives of the Sub-group were to advise on policies and strategies pertaining to the enhancement of cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong in the areas of tourism, culture and sports so as to:

1. promote visitor flow between Guangdong and Hong Kong; and
2. promote development and cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong in the area of arts, culture and creative design, and to enhance integration of human resources, local economic development and cultural innovation in both places.

Scope of work

1. For tourism, the scope of work was to promote enhancement in relevant infrastructure, transport facilities, entry/exit procedures and cross-boundary facilities to better connect various parts of Guangdong and facilitate passenger flow both into Hong Kong and via it to other key overseas destinations; and
2. For culture, the scope of work was to promote cooperation and exchanges in performing arts and culture, and facilitate the clustering for creative industries in Hong Kong and Guangdong.

Work Plan and Progress to Date

Tourism

Hong Kong's tourism industry continued to gain momentum in 2005, as visitor arrivals reached 23 million, representing a 7.1% growth compared with the previous year. With the extension of the Individual Visit Scheme (IVS) to the remaining six Pan-PRD provincial cities, Hong Kong had benefited from the increase in traveller flow under the expansion of the IVS to 44 cities from 1 May 2006.

To further boost tourism traffic, the Sub-group focused on visa-related issues including:

1. to tackle the negative impact of higher cost of multiple entry visa for overseas visitors/business visitors in the Mainland, who wish to visit Hong Kong as part of a trip to the Mainland;
2. to facilitate entry of Mainland visitors holding valid Macao permits to visit Hong Kong on the same trip.



此外，小組亦繼續尋求有關部門的支持，以准許香港旅行社根據《內地與香港建立更緊密經貿關係安排》(CEPA)，在內地(尤其是廣東省)，營辦國內和國外旅行團。

工作進度

小組已經向相關的政府決策局提出有關事項，並與廣東省旅遊局跟進內地多程出入境簽證收費影響海外旅客順道來港旅遊一事。廣東省旅遊局初步表示支持進行評估，以便研究是否可以調低簽證收費，鼓勵持有有效簽證的海外旅客，在同一行程內順道來港旅遊。

小組亦已向有關部門提出，准許持澳門"個人遊"通行證的內地旅客來港旅遊，現正等候回覆。

另外，根據CEPA第三階段的協議，香港旅行社和經營商須符合的資本額及每年總營業額已獲調低，相信有助香港經營商在內地擴展業務。而香港旅行社在內地營辦出入境旅行團的運作事宜，則會在CEPA的第四階段下繼續探討。

文化

香港特區政府民政事務局，透過粵港澳藝文合作高峰會，繼續與大珠三角地區的部門緊密合作，加強區內的文化交流，特別是有關演藝活動方面的交流和成立廣東戲曲資料中心。

工作進度

小組配合了政府的有關工作，亦希望有關方面在促進社區藝術/文化團體(非政府團體)交流方面進一步努力。至於以長沙灣服裝業群聚區為試點的建議，鑑於長沙灣工業大廈將於2006年底完成清拆，小組經商議後，同意由商務委員會進一步商討在香港推動設計行業的構思，務求令香港在區內創意/設計行業不斷發展的同時，繼續保持其領先的優勢。

In addition, the Sub-group continued to lobby for support from respective authorities to permit Hong Kong travel agencies to operate both inbound and outbound tours in the Mainland, in particular in Guangdong, under the CEPA arrangements.

Work progress

The Sub-group raised the issues with relevant Government Bureaux, and also pursued with the Guangdong Provincial Tourism Bureau on the negative impact of higher cost of multiple visas on visitors conducting side trips to Hong Kong. The Guangdong Provincial Tourism Bureau indicated initial support to review the visa fees with a view to encouraging overseas visitors holding valid passport to travel to Hong Kong on the same trip.

The subject of permitting Mainland visitors with valid IVS permits to visit Macao to also visit Hong Kong was raised with the relevant authorities and a reply is pending.

Under CEPA III agreement, the required paid up capital and annual turnover for Hong Kong's travel agencies and operators were lowered. The new arrangement would facilitate the expansion of business operation by Hong Kong operators in the Mainland. The operation of both inbound and outbound tours in the Mainland would continue to be reviewed and discussed under CEPA IV.

Culture

The Home Affairs Bureau of the HKSAR Government, through the GPRD Cultural Summit, continued its effort in working very closely with the GPRD authorities in enhancing cooperation in cultural exchange particularly in the area of performing arts and setting up of a Cantonese Opera information centre.

Work progress

The Sub-group complemented the works of the Government, and hoped that more efforts could be invested in promoting cultural exchange of community-led arts/cultural groups (non-government groups). With respect to the proposal to pursue a garment industry cluster in Cheung Sha Wan as a pilot project, in view of the demolition of the Cheung Sha Wan Flatted Factories completed by end 2006, the Sub-group agreed that the Business Council should further pursue how to maintain Hong Kong's leading edge in the creative / design sector in the region.



結語

商務委員會於本年4月檢討了轄下各個工作小組的未來工作範疇，經商議後，同意將旅遊、文化及體育工作小組的工作分別由跨境人流物流工作小組、服務業發展工作小組及科技、教育及人才資源工作小組跟進：

1. 跨境人流物流工作小組
 - i. 跟進有關簽證的事宜以促進人流，及文化交流；
 - ii. 方便前往大珠三角地區的海外旅客順道來港或前往大珠三角其他地點旅遊；及
 - iii. 方便持有有效簽證的內地旅客來港旅遊。
2. 服務業發展工作小組
 - i. 就《更緊密經貿關係安排》第四階段協議內，繼續與有關部門聯繫。
3. 科技、教育及人才資源工作小組
 - i. 加強大珠三角區"非政府"團體的文化交流；及
 - ii. 促進於文化/創意工業，並鞏固香港作為區內創意工業這類高增值工業中心的地位。

Conclusion

In April 2006, the Business Council reviewed the future scope of work of various Sub-groups, and agreed that the initiatives of the Tourism, Culture and Sports Sub-group would be followed up by the Cross-boundary Passenger & Cargo Flow Sub-group, Service Industry Development Sub-group and the Technology, Education & Human Resources Sub-group, respectively:

1. Cross-boundary Passenger & Cargo Flow Sub-group
 - i. visa related issues with a view to facilitating people flow and cultural exchange;
 - ii. facilitating overseas visitors travelling to GPRD to conduct side trips to Hong Kong or to other GPRD areas; and
 - iii. facilitating Mainland visitors holding valid visas to travel to Hong Kong.
2. Service Industry Development Sub-group
 - i. continue to pursue with relevant authorities on CEPA IV agreement.
3. Technology, Education & Human Resources Sub-group
 - i. Enhancing cultural exchange of GPRD 'non-government' groups; and
 - ii. Promoting cultural/creative industries and reinforcing Hong Kong's status as the regional centre of high value-add industries such as creative industries.

